



LIFEGATE
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

ANNUAL REPORT

2023 - 2024



www.lifegate.school
402.333.5153

OPENING WORD

The Lord continues to bless His school. As superintendent of Lifegate Christian School, I have the privilege of watching God guide and direct LCS as He blesses us each and every day. One of His blessings is the growth of our school. The leadership oversees the challenge of making sure we have adequate space for all the students who desire the excellent Christian education we offer.

Another obvious blessing from the Lord is the staff He sends to us. Whenever we have a need, He supplies us with another quality staff member. One example of that is the transition of our current elementary principal, Dr. Michelle Lundgren. Dr. Lundgren will be retiring this year after 37 years of service in Christian education.

Dr. Lundgren has contributed greatly to maintaining the quality of our school and will be greatly missed. God has led us to another top-notch administrator to fill this position. Mrs. Nancy Johns, who has taught at LCS for 10 years, will be taking the lead in our elementary school. Nancy will uphold our excellent program, and she will bring some fresh and creative ideas as well.

We seek to faithfully serve our students and their families every day, and we feel supported and loved by them. We know that the opportunity of attending Lifegate Christian School comes at a cost. Over and over we see our families commit to whatever it takes in order to have their children attend LCS. We never take their sacrifice lightly. We will always strive to meet the wide variety of student needs while surrounding them with the love of God as we instruct them to always follow Him.

Please join us in praying for this next school year. May the Lord continue His protection and supply us with His wisdom each and every day.



Courtney Hunsberger
SUPERINTENDENT

THE LCS TEAM

LCS LEADERSHIP TEAM

Courtney Hunsberger, Superintendent
Dr. Michelle Lundgren, Elementary Principal

Katie Frankl, Director of Operations
Amee Yost, Director of Student Services

LCS BOARD

Andrew Hunt (LCS grad '01)
Bill Swartzendruber ('95, '98, '18*)
Brenda Rouse ('08, '12, '17)
Cameron Thomas ('09, '11, '15, '17)
Connie Bissen
Dan Jackson ('01, '03, '06)
Eric Gayer ('18, '21, '25)

Greg Scaglione ('09, '10, '12)
Les Beauchamp ('03, '07, '28*, '29*, '30*, '35*)
Micah Eldridge ('22, '24, '25, '27)
Mike Ballard ('12, '13, '14, '16, '17)
Mike Hintz
Sean Keith ('12, '15, '17, '23)

() Year kids graduated/will graduate from LCS

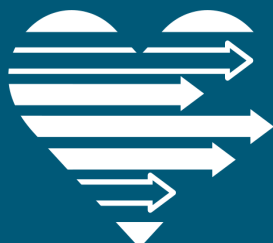
(*) Year grandkids graduated/will graduate from LCS



CHRIST-CENTERED



EXCELLENCE



UNITY



PARTNERSHIP



RELATIONSHIP

EQUIPPING STUDENTS

++ TO MAKE A ++

POSITIVE

IMPACT

ON THE WORLD

THROUGH

ACADEMIC
EXCELLENCE

AND AN

IDENTITY

ROOTED IN

GOD'S
WORD.



CONGRATS CLASS OF 2024!

Claire Asher
 Audrey Boldt
 Justin Carter, Jr.
 Gianna De Fini
 Luke Demmel
 Avery Denker
 Evelyn Doughman
 Charlie Eldridge
 Evie Elsaesser

Eliza Flores
 Arianna Godlewski
 Lillian Gordon
 Stella Grob
 Micah Grush
 Clara Guderian
 Terrell Harrington
 Nolan Hindsale
 Alaina Hoskins

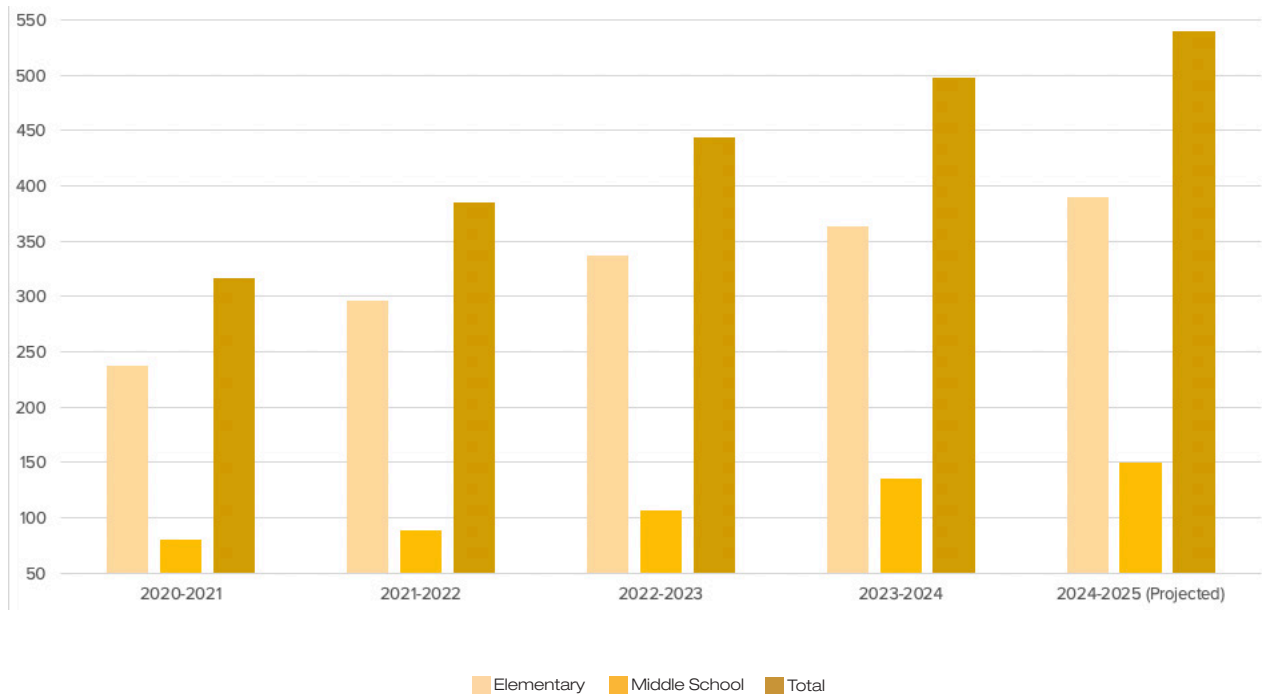
Isabelle Hunter
 Alea Jensen
 Esther Johnson
 Lexie Koch
 Aliyah Krause
 Braxton Norman
 Sarah Ondrovich
 Graham Perkins
 Abigail Reinert

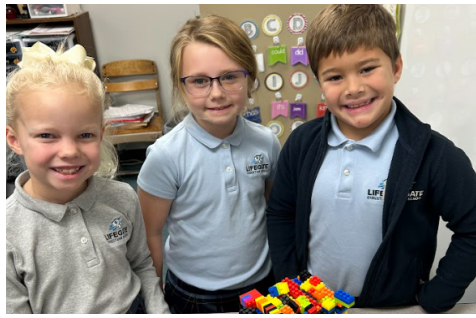
Jordan Rogers
 Bennett Rubingh
 Addison Sovine
 Alexandria Streff
 Emery Van Ginkel
 Autumn Walsh
 Aubrey Watters
 Neely Willmer
 Adelayna Wrinkle



LCS AT-A-GLANCE

ENROLLMENT





THIS YEAR'S HIGHLIGHTS

- LCS was a Best of Omaha Winner for Best Private Elementary in 2022, 2023 & 2024. Thank you to our teachers and families for making LCS a great experience for so many!
- We completed a new AV system in the cafeteria and use the technology daily for special announcements, meetings, and other important communication pieces.
- We sent our largest group of 8th graders to Washington DC in September: 33 students, 12 parents, and 3 staff members.
- LCS continues to grow. We added an additional section of 2nd grade and 6th grade to accommodate even more students this year.
- Our Celebration fundraising event featured the band Unspoken and raised \$90,847 for our expansion project.
- Our annual Fall Fundraiser brought in \$99,643 and was designated to the school's expansion project as well.
- Our 7th grade "Blue" volleyball team finished in 1st place in the PAL tournament. The 6th grade "Blue" and 7th grade "White" volleyball teams placed 2nd.
- Both of our 6th grade boys basketball teams won their respective leagues. The 7th grade boys basketball team won their tournament. The 8th grade boys earned 2nd place in their tournament.
- Our Track & Field team (in partnership with Concordia) had an excellent season and a handful of LCS students broke school records this spring.

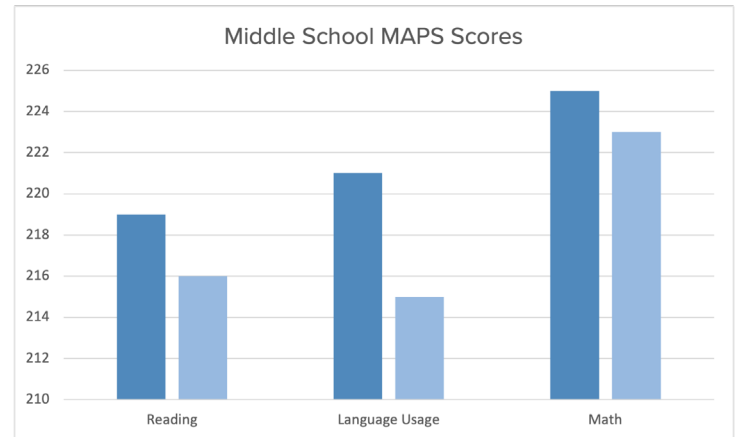
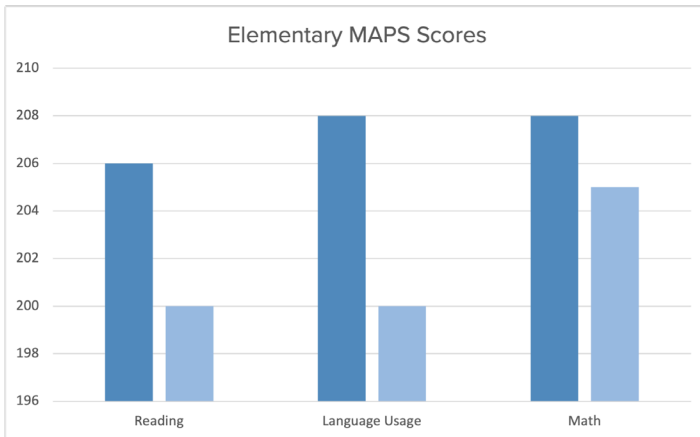




- Tuition assistance is essential for some of our families to begin or remain at LCS. We had 35 families receive tuition assistance allowing 54 students to attend.
- LCS students participated in our annual city-wide event, City Serve, which included blessing bags for our Wycliffe neighbors, Bingo at Brookstone Meadows Nursing Home, outdoor clean up at Kings Garden Healing Path, serving meals at Open Door Mission, and indoor/outdoor maintenance at Camp Rivercrest.
- LCS had eight students qualify for Wayne State Honor Band and four students qualify for Blair Honor Band this year.
- Grandparent's Day was a great success- thank you to the more than 325 grandparents of our students who participated!
- Our elementary Christmas program was so well attended it resulted in a completely full sanctuary and an overflow area for live streaming.
- We hosted our first holiday themed elementary school dance in December called *Jingle & Jive*. Fun was had by all!
- Our middle school musical, *The Greatest Show*, featured the largest cast for a school production in many years.
- **Thank you to our amazing PTO Members this year: Christine Gladman, Kristine Houghton, Raeleigh Larson, Kristine Koch, Grace Wulf, Katy Butler and Reggan Simons, for serving the parents and teachers through prayer, fellowship and fun!**



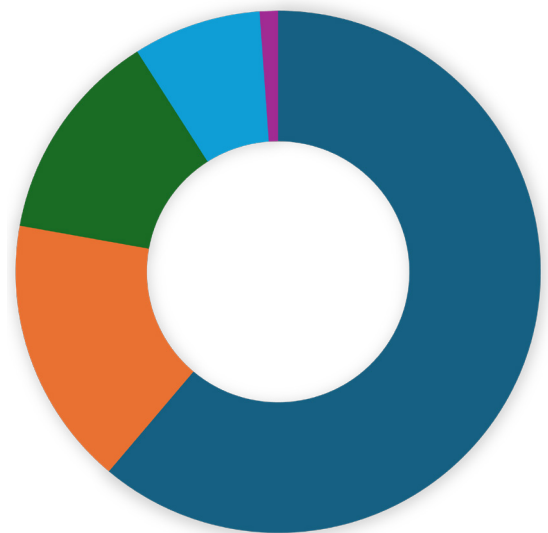
MEASURES OF ACADEMIC PROGRESS (MAPS) SCORES



■ LCS ■ National Average

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

- All Instruction (61.14%)
- Facility Improvements & Maintenance (16.68%)
- Operations & Security (13.15%)
- Expansion Phase 1 Completion (7.89%)
- Before & After School Program (1.13%)



- Lifegate Christian School views instruction as the most important line item of our budget. 61% of our budget is spent on direct instruction of our students.
- All of our teaching staff have a teaching certification and 63% of them have a master's degree or beyond.
- Since faith-based schools receive little to no federal or state funding, many private schools cannot match the pay of public schools. While our teachers may be able to make more elsewhere, we are so thankful for a staff, who doesn't view their role as a job, but as a ministry.
- In 2022-2023, the average cost to educate a child in the state of Nebraska was \$16,213. In contrast, LCS spends \$8,647.81 per student per year. We work hard and are proud of our team for being able to offer a similar quality education at a lesser cost.
- In 2019, Lifegate Church committed to updating all of their kids spaces (including the school). This space created a more safe and secure space while providing a more conducive learning environment.
- As we continue to grow and expand, we stay committed to building improvements and updates. Some of our most recent projects have included branding, a taller and updated fence for our field, and remodeled locker rooms.



We are so excited to have Jordan Feliz joining us for our Celebration Concert on Friday, November 8th! Not only is this going to be a fun family event, it is also our largest fundraising effort of the year. Watch for tickets coming soon and invite your friends to come too!

**Jordan
Feliz**



Jordan Feliz is a Christian pop artist whose music is a blend of folk rock and soul. His album, Future, secured the #1 spot on the Billboard charts for Top Christian Hits. Other popular songs include The River, Next to Me, The King is Alive, and Beloved.

If you are interested in being a corporate sponsor or learning more about how you can partner with us, please reach out to Katie Frankl: kfrankl@lifegate.school.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

With a school history spanning 34 years, it's amazing to see the impact of Christian education within our LCS families. Parents who sent their children here many years ago now get the privilege of watching their grandchildren receive the same benefits; former students have now become LCS parents themselves and the generational impact continues. Currently, 35 of our school parents are LCS/TCS alumni and it's a joy to be a part of this legacy.

"The reason we chose to send Leighton to Lifegate was to not only receive a great education but to have a spiritual education. With that, we wanted Leighton to be surrounded by teachers who would help her grow in her relationship with God. I knew Lifegate would provide this as they did for me when I went to Trinity (LCS) Kindergarten - 8th grade. My parents chose to send me to Trinity (LCS) and because of that I was able to create a foundation in Jesus and dig deeper in my relationship with Him. This is what we want for Leighton and why we chose Lifegate. We have already seen her grow and ask so many more questions because of what she is being taught both spiritually and educationally."



Michelle (Janis) Hansen
TCS Class of 2007



Lindsey (Hilgenkamp) Newton
TCS Class of 1997

"Sending our three children to Lifegate was an easy decision for my husband Dan and me because it's an incredible community where following Jesus takes top priority. My brothers and I attended TCS in the 90s, and while much has changed since then, the core values of Christ-centeredness, integrity, and excellence remain. As a teacher in a public school, I envy the ability to pray with students and guide them with a Biblical perspective. Although I cannot outwardly address this Christian worldview with my students, I am grateful to ensure that my own children are taught with the foundations of our faith being front and center."



**TCS/LCS Alumni?
Connect with us!**



LIFEGATE
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
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