LCS ANNUAL REPORT 2025-2026







LIFEGATE
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

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.

OPENING WORD



Dr. Courtney Hunsberger
SUPERINTENDENT

It has been an exciting season at Lifegate Christian School as we continue to see the Lord at work through our mission. We remain committed to equipping students to impact the world for Christ through strong academics and a firm foundation in God's Word. Serving as superintendent, I am continually grateful for the way God works through our staff and the meaningful academic and spiritual growth we see in our students.

This year, our theme verse was Ephesians 2:10, reminding us that we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for good works. Our prayer for each student has been that they would come to understand they are intentionally created by God and called to live with purpose. It has been a privilege to watch this truth in conversations and learning throughout the school.

We are thankful that God continues to bring families who desire a Christ-centered education to Lifegate Christian School. For the 2025-26 school year, we were excited to open an additional fourth-grade classroom, which has allowed us to welcome more students into our growing community. With this continued growth, we have also expanded our team with several new staff members who have quickly become valued members of the LCS family. We were also pleased to welcome a new middle school principal this year, strengthening our leadership and further supporting our middle school students and staff.

We understand that enrolling at Lifegate Christian School represents an investment for families, and we are sincerely grateful for the trust they place in us. Their partnership and commitment to Christ-centered education are a blessing. As we continue to grow, we remain focused on serving our students well and work hard to point them to Jesus every day. We pray that the Lord will continue to guide our school and grant us wisdom in all that we do.

THE LCS TEAM

LCS LEADERSHIP TEAM

Dr. Courtney Hunsberger, Superintendent
Mrs. Nancy Johns, Elementary Principal
Mrs. Kat Duvall, Middle School Principal
Katie Frankl, Director of Operations
Amee Yost, Director of Student Services

LCS BOARD

Andrew Hunt (LCS grad '01, '37)
Amie Gamboian
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)
Sean Keith ('12, '15, '17, '23)

( ) Year kids graduated/will graduate from LCS
(*) Year grandkids graduated/will graduate from LCS

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

MEASURES OF ACADEMIC PROGRESS (MAPS) SCORES

		LCS Average	National Average
Elementary	Language Arts	211	200
	Reading	209	200
	Math	213	208
Middle School	Language Arts	223	212
	Reading	221	214
	Math	233	223

*based on Spring 2026 testing results & 2025 national averages



Middle School Honor Roll

Math Olympics

LCS hosted a math olympics competition for Omaha area Christian schools. The middle school students who qualified for this day participated in individual and team math competitions.
We won the 6th grade live buzzer round and came in 2nd in both 7th and 8th grade! It was such a great day celebrating our young mathematicians.

Science Bowl

We had three LCS teams participate in the National Science Bowl at Concordia University this year. Team 1 advanced to the championship bracket and finished in the top 6 out of 34 teams. We are proud of all three teams! They worked hard preparing for this event.













Lifegate Speech

Congratulations to Lifegate Speech students Maxwell Hunter, Meredith McDonald, Sylvie Boldt, and Preston Adoukonou for competing at the Junior Central Players Tournament on Saturday, May 2nd. Maxwell Hunter won 4th place in Dramatic Interpretation and Sylvie Boldt won 6th place in Informative Speaking! We are so proud of you all!

CONGRATS CLASS OF 2026!

Graham Adams
Han Aguirre
Andrew Beard
Myles Berry
Sylvie Boldt
Chase Brooks
Hudson Bryant
Judah Bundy
Liam Campbell
Kyndal Christensen
Claire Deaver
Kaelynn Edwards
Jackson Failla
Madelynn Ferris
Jayde Fuller
Andrew Greunke
Taedyn Houghton
Jack Hunsberger
Amelia Jenkins
Rachel Johnson
Lydia Julch
Von Lewis
William Loghry
Jesse Matovu
Gabrielle McGee
Shania McPherson
Jackson Miller
MaKella Morehouse
Adalynn Moulton
Brody Palmquist
Jewel Perez
Macy Perkins
Madison Perry
Hudson Powell
Graham Ricketts
Cora Samuelson
Landon Showers
Levi Smith
Graham Snyder
Katelyn Sovine
Norah Stahlecker
Teagan Stanger
Micah Staub
Grant Stritt
Alyse Vacanti
Audrey Vander Vorst
Everette Von Gillern
Samuel Wagoner
Josie Walz
Mira Wampler
Gia Woodhead
Mia Wrinkle
Chandler Yost



POSITIVE IMPACT









City Serve

City Serve is about ONE church working together for the good of ONE city. City Serve isn't an event, but a movement of people who declare in word and action, "*We love OUR city*," and are committed to seeing it flourish!

Here are some of the ways we partnered with our city:

- Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade - Blessed over 550 neighbors
- 3rd and 4th served and loved residents at assisted living facilities
- 5th grade did yard work at Kings Garden, a ministry that serves the community in Valley
- 6th served at the Open Door Mission
- 7th grade served at Cross Training Center, a vocational training center for the underprivileged
- 8th grade served at Camp of the Good Shepherd to clean and restore the camp

Gospel Girls Running Club

Our Gospel Girls Running Club celebrated the end of their season with a 5K race, capping off two months of hard work and twice-weekly practices. Centered on the theme "Run Your Race," the girls learned that perseverance, faith, teamwork, and supportive friendships help them stay focused on the path God has set before them. They finished the season stronger physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually.

Honor Band

Congratulations to 13 of our students for being selected to perform in the Wayne State Honor Band Saturday, January 24th at Wayne State College! Each student was chosen by competitive audition from among students across Iowa, South Dakota, and Nebraska! They learned a lot, working hard to rehearse all day, and put on a great concert that evening, representing LCS very well.

Finding Nemo Jr.

Congratulations to the cast of Finding Nemo Jr! This cast worked tirelessly all semester to put together this fantastic production. Their contagious joy shone bright in their performance! Thank you to Mrs. Plugge and Mrs. Hintz for directing this remarkable show!

ROOTED IN GOD'S WORD

THEME VERSE

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

Ephesians 2:10

Chapel

Chapels are a time for our students (representing 65 churches in the metro area) to come together to worship Jesus and grow deeper together in a chapel theme. Our hope and prayer is for our students to enjoy coming to chapel because of the energetic worship, deep teaching, and interactive messages. This is a time to be unified in Jesus and also a time that we can bridge the church and school through themes and speakers. 2025-2026 ALL School Theme: CREATED WITH PURPOSE. Our vision is for every student to deeply embrace their identity as God's intentional creation, designed on purpose, to live out His purpose.

Lions Den

Our Lions Dens met 4 times this year. These dens are groups of multi-age students who are supervised by teachers. During the time set aside for the groups to meet, the middle school students are leading and teaching the younger students. The objective for our LCS Lions Den time is to build school spirit and to connect younger students with some of our strong middle school leaders through Bible lessons and games.



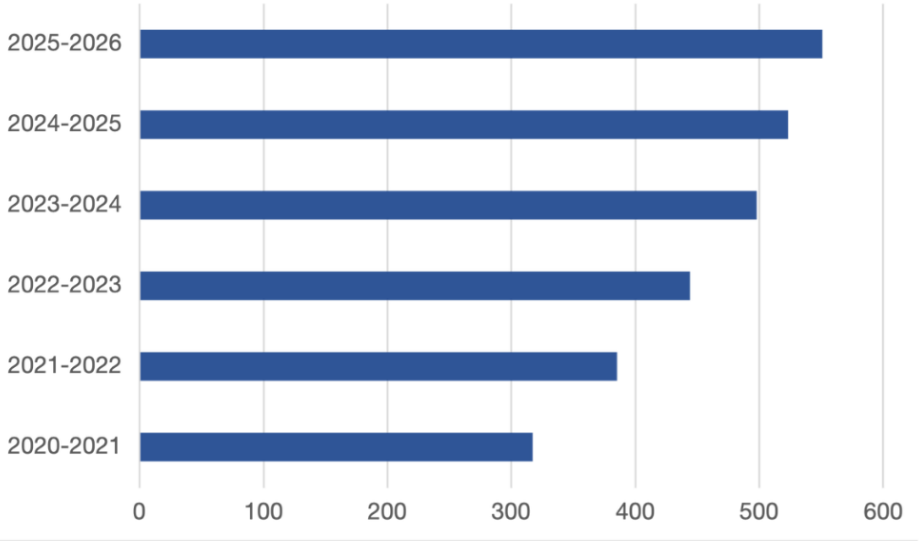




KEY METRICS

ENROLLMENT

2025-2026 Total: 551 Students
Elementary: 406 | Middle School: 145



551
Students

79%
Staff Retention

86%
Student Retention

65
Churches Represented

49
New Families

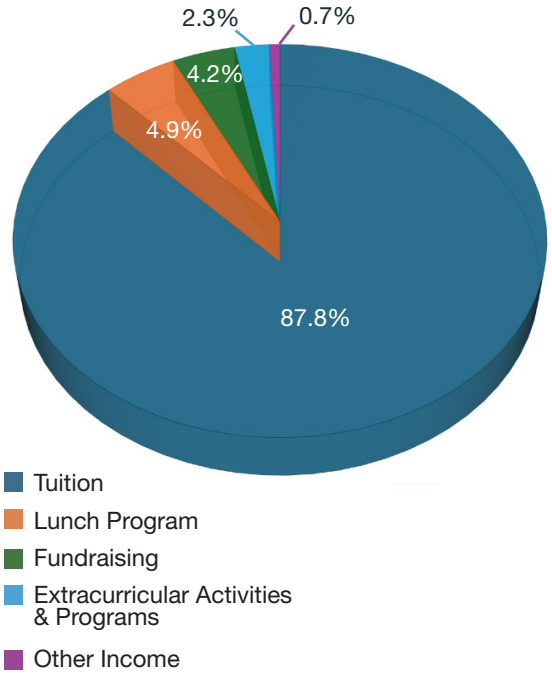
42
Zip Codes Represented

2025-2026 AVERAGE TUITION % INCREASE

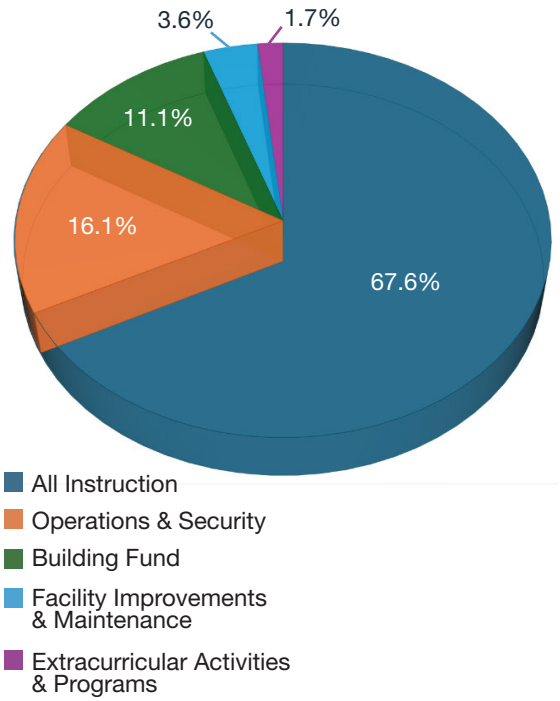
	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027
Other Comparable Christian Schools	5.1%	6.4%	5.1%
Lifegate Christian School	4.5%	3.0%	3.0%

- Our tuition increases remain competitive among private Christian schools in Omaha.
- This comparison reflects published tuition rates for the current school year.

INCOME
$ 4,678,710



EXPENSES
$ 4,500,178



TUITION ASSISTANCE

$ 87,495.00
Total assistance awarded

38
Total families served

$ 2,302.50
Average awarded

We are grateful for the support that makes tuition assistance possible through Celebration and generous donations from our community.

COST TO EDUCATE

$ 5,630.49
LCS instruction cost per student

$ 8,333.66
LCS all expenses per student

$ 17,664.50
2023-2024 Nebraska State average cost per student

Our goal is to provide an excellent education while remaining financially responsible.

ACCOUNTABILITY

A financial audit is performed annually by an independent outside auditor.

The annual budget is reviewed and approved by Board leadership.

Financial reports are reviewed regularly, and internal controls support ongoing oversight.



We are thrilled to announce that **Colton Dixon** will be joining us for our Celebration Concert this fall on Friday, November 6th! Mark your calendars and get ready for an incredible night of worship, joy, and community. Colton Dixon is a contemporary Christian rock and pop artist who rose to national attention as a top-seven finalist on Season 11 of American Idol. Known for his faith-centered music and powerhouse vocals, he has built a successful career with multiple Dove Awards and #1 hits, including songs like "*Build a Boat,*" "*Miracles*," and "*Up + Up*." We are so excited to host Colton Dixon here and hope you will be able to join the Celebration!

Our goal is that any family in the Omaha area who desires to attend Lifegate Christian School and wants their child to be taught through a biblical worldview will be able to enroll. However, finances can be a challenge for many of our families. The proceeds from this event will go directly toward our tuition assistance program. This will allow us to partner with families and make tuition more accessible for those who would not be able to enroll without the help of others.

If you're interested in sponsoring this event, learning more about sponsorship opportunities, or helping plan the event, we'd love to hear from you! Please email Kristine Houghton at khoughton@lifegate.school to get involved.

ALUMNI

For Ashlee and Alex Beber, Lifegate Christian School has been part of their story from the very beginning.

Ashlee attended Lifegate from preschool through fifth grade, while Alex was a student from preschool through third grade. Their families became close through the school community, and although they never imagined they would one day marry, they're told they sat side by side on the first day of kindergarten. Today, they laugh about Ashlee circling Alex's photo in her first-grade yearbook—proof, they say, that God was writing their story long before they knew it.

As parents of two Lifegate students, Teagan and Hudson, they're grateful their children are experiencing the same Christ-centered foundation and close-knit community that shaped their own lives.



"We wanted them to have the same foundation we did," Ashlee shares. "To know truth, grow in their relationship with Christ, and experience the kind of friendships and support that last a lifetime."

For the Bebers, Lifegate's impact extends far beyond the classroom. Daily prayer, Bible classes, chapel, and teachers who intentionally disciple students have played a significant role in strengthening their children's faith. Just as meaningful are the relationships that define the school community.

When Ashlee unexpectedly lost her father, those relationships became a tangible expression of Christ's love. Friends cared for their children, delivered meals, and met practical needs without hesitation. Teachers walked alongside their family with compassion, even finding thoughtful ways to help their son process his grief at school.

"I honestly don't know how we would have navigated that season without this community," Ashlee says.

Asked which of Lifegate's core values best reflects their experience, the answer comes quickly: Relationship. Their relationship with Christ has remained at the center of every season, while friendships formed through Lifegate have become lifelong sources of encouragement, support, and family. For the Bebers, Lifegate isn't simply the place where they went to school, it's the community that has shaped generations of their family and continues to point them toward Jesus.

TCS/LCS Alumni? Connect with us!

TCS/LCS ALUMNI

LIFEGATE
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