



December 2018

Head of School Christmas Letter

The school's hallways are eerily void of the sounds of children who breathe life and energy into our daily routine. These brief, somewhat solemn moments in the life of a school afford the opportunity for genuine reflection on the real story of Christmas. How blessed we are to live in a nation that allows us to freely honor the Christ born two millennia ago in a small Judean village, a baby sent by God for one purpose - to save us.



If you are still contemplating the perfect gift for your child this Christmas, take satisfaction as you shop in knowing you have already given it. Gadgets, family trips, and current fashion trends temporarily satiate young appetites and bring us joy as parents in the giving. There is certainly nothing wrong with this practice as a part of the larger celebration of Christ's birth, but we cannot dispute these gifts are temporal, and that your gift of a Christ centered education with its quality scholastics and mature cocurricular programs will continue its giving long after this Christmas season is over. The gift of educating your student in a school with liked minded families who share similar values, morals, and ethics based upon God's unchanging word is difficult to put a price tag on.

Theological pundits inform us we are in a post Christian era; therefore, Christian schools offer the *only* alternative to our nation's private and public secular schools for parents who want their children taught there are still such things as moral absolutes. That may not have been true twenty years ago, but the

progressive, pluralistic influences in today's secular schools are rapidly accelerating and now teach social constructs like "relative morality" while nurturing a "culture of offendedness." The historical definition of "offendedness" and "harmful" have been radically altered from one that originally meant physical harm to one that means emotional harm based upon the "perception of the offended" (Mohler, 2008). The great commission requires us as believers to share the gospel and speak openly about Jesus and our faith; therefore, there is no way for us to avoid offending those who are offended by our Savior and His cross.

One recent and ridiculous example of the growing culture of offendedness includes this year's attack on the 1964 stop-motion movie classic *Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer* and its inferred messages of bullying and failure to celebrate diversity (the "offense" against diversity was imparted by Donner, Rudolph's father, because he concealed Rudolph's red nose with black

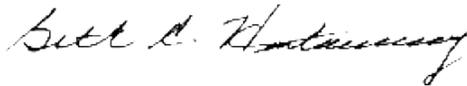


Rudolph and his father, Donner, in the 1964 stop motion classic movie, *Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer*.

soot so he would look more like the other reindeer). This would be funny if it wasn't true, but we should not be surprised. This is the path we are on as a result of removing the Bible from our public schools starting in 1948 when mandatory religious instruction was ruled unconstitutional in *McCullum v. Board of Education*. Contrary to what is being taught in public and secular private schools today, the first amendment to the constitution does not remove the practice of religion from the public square but rather prevents government from establishing a religion.

In Matthew 5:15 the Bible states, "He calls us to light up the world with good works, so that in doing so we draw people to glorify God." As the salt and light in a society growing more politically correct, pluralistic, and "offended," wishing someone a Merry Christmas can serve as a catalyst for a grace filled, truthful discussion about Christ's perfect life. God's word tells us we are of this world but set apart, so let us transform and not capitulate to the culture around us. Merry Christmas Prince families; may this Christmas break afford you the opportunity to create wonderful, lasting family memories.

In His service,



Seth Hathaway
Head of School

Reference:

Mohler, R.A. (2008). *Culture Shift*. Colorado Springs, CO: Multnomah

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[Student Centric Learning and the Changing Role of Teachers](#)

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