

BBA

BEREAN BAPTIST ACADEMY



YEAR IN REVIEW 2023-2024



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Spiritual Citizenship

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Citizenship. Scholarship. Leadership.

Academy Leadership

DR. JACK FARMER

SUPERINTENDENT

SANDRA ADAMS

PRESCHOOL PRINCIPAL

CALEB WARREN

ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL



LORETTA NALLY

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

JAMIE DAVIS

MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

DR. ANNIE LEVENS-MORRIS

UPPER SCHOOL DEAN OF STUDENTS



LAUREN WHITING

UPPER SCHOOL DEAN OF ACADEMICS

TYRONE SMITH

FINANCE DIRECTOR

DANIEL KNOX

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

DON ADAMS

ADMISSIONS DIRECTOR

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

Pastor Sean Harris
Dr. Steve Wilson
Dr. Mike Boarts
Dr. Jack Farmer

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

Dr. Steve Wilson, Chairman
Dr. Jack Farmer, Superintendent
Angela Hylland
Nate Gantt
Jeff King
Autumn Lewis
Susan Mosley
Nadia Shay

Superintendent Reflections

Entering the 2023-2024 school year, the hunt for a 7th - 12th grade principal proved daunting. Our school's diverse demographic, encompassing military and civilian families, local and international students of every ethnicity, and a wide economic spectrum, demanded a leader with multifaceted skills and deep life experience. Finding no standout candidate among the applications, I recalled the strategic ethos of Moneyball, the 2002 Oakland A's saga. Facing player losses, they rebuilt their team around statistical insights, leading to unexpected success in the American League that brought them to the championship series. Inspired by this, I developed the role of Deans, each one collectively embodies the qualities needed for leadership. They blend principal-level coverage with intimate knowledge of our vision and students, and will continue to undergo training to fulfill future principal roles.

In tandem, our approach to teacher support evolved significantly. Introducing periods of silence and protecting planning periods rejuvenated our faculty, enhancing their readiness both professionally and emotionally. Recognizing the holistic needs of educators, we incentivized fitness goals and fostered a culture of well-being through integrated initiatives spanning professional growth, physical health, relaxation, and spiritual enrichment. As we expand these efforts into student life, starting with a pilot program for grades 7th - 12th, we aim for a balanced educational environment that nurtures every facet of our community encouraging each person to treat their body as the temple of the Lord.

Another pivotal development was engaging with parents more directly. Overcoming initial hesitations, I started morning coffees. The positive feedback affirmed our shared commitment to nurturing relationships and fostering unity within our school community. Looking ahead to the 2024-2025 school year, these initiatives promise to deepen our bonds and propel BBA towards excellence. I cannot wait to launch the Parent Teacher Fellowships.

As we reflect on the achievements and lessons of the past year, I anticipate a year of growth and collaboration. Together with our dedicated staff, supportive parents, and resilient students, we are poised to make BBA a beacon of educational excellence. Here's to a promising future for our Bulldogs!



Dr. Jack D. Farmer
School Superintendent

Year in Review Snapshot

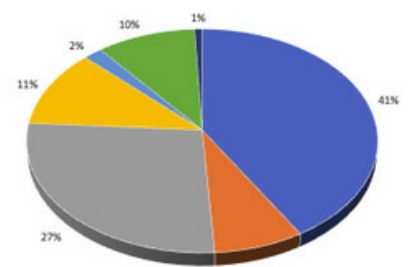


ENROLLMENT BY DEPARTMENT

Preschool	61
Elementary	292
Middle School	105
Junior High	93
High School	153

704

Demographics



- African American ■ Asian ■ Caucasian ■ Hispanic
- Native American ■ Other ■ Pacific Islander

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

25+ International Students
 8 Countries
 4 Continents

Spiritual Citizenship



2023 Fall High School Spiritual Retreat at Camp Anchorage

The Mission of Citizenship

BY CALEB WARREN

Why does Berean Baptist Academy exist? Most families might first answer that it is to equip students with important skills and knowledge for life. Although this is important, consider what Christ said in Matthew 16:26: “For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?” If we applied that concept to education, we could also say it this way: “What good it is for a student to receive quality education but lose his soul? What good is it for a child to graduate with honor or receive a distinguished enrollment offer but forfeit his soul?” This is the driving question of Kingdom Education which seeks to first lead a child to Christ, then build up a child in Christ, and gradually equip the child to serve Christ.

The mission of Berean Baptist Academy is directly tied to this fundamental outcome. BBA exists to establish a culture that guides students of Berean Baptist Church families, the local community, and global partners through an education that 1.) encourages **citizenship in Christ’s Kingdom** by exalting Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and equipping Citizens to Live Holy, 2.) expects a commitment to **excellence in scholarship**, and 3.) epitomizes **steward-leadership** for the glory of God and the advancement of the Kingdom of Christ. Sadly in Christian education, a school can easily lose its focus of spiritual citizenship in pursuit of other things. The program at Berean is specifically designed to encourage spiritual citizenship in Christ’s kingdom. This is the philosophy that drives staffing, programs, and curriculum design at Berean.

“Encouraging **Citizenship in Christ’s Kingdom by Exalting Jesus as Savior and Lord and Equipping citizens to live holy ... ”**



In 2009, BBA created a student enrichment opportunity that is paramount to the school's mission. Get Acquainted Days (GAD) is a weekend retreat at one of BBC's ministry partners, The Anchorage Christian Camp, in Lake Waccamaw, NC. The upper school students and teachers participate in various team-bonding exercises, earning winners points. The entire weekend is one giant competition, but the chapel sessions and small group breakouts are the heart of the retreat. Each year, the Superintendent selects a spiritual theme that informs all sessions. The pastors of BBC and the Superintendent lead the sessions and interact with the students and faculty throughout the retreat. This relaxed environment with a spiritual emphasis launches the school year's theme and focus of all chapel messages for the year. Graduates consistently report this event as a spiritual highlight of their time at BBA.

Imago Dei

2023-2024 Theme: God's Image Restored

BY DR. JACK FARMER

There are four significant trees mentioned in the Bible: the earthly Tree of Life in the Garden of Eden, the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil in Eden, the Cross of Calvary (also known as the accursed tree on which one hangs), and the Tree of Life in the Eternal Kingdom. Adam and Eve had access to the earthly Tree of Life, but they chose to eat from the Tree of Knowledge, which was forbidden. In doing so, they marred the image of God bestowed upon them, and sin and death reigned until Christ's redemptive work on the cross.

When Christ died on the Cross of Calvary, He removed the curse for those who recognize Him as Savior and who yield to Him as Lord. These believers, His followers, are granted the rights of inheritance and entrance into the Eternal Kingdom, gaining access to the ultimate Tree of Life for eternity.



Reflecting on
this profound
truth shared at
GAD, what will
you do with
your life?

Student Profile

Growing
Disciples



Responsible
Citizens



Academic
Excellence



Discerner of
Truth

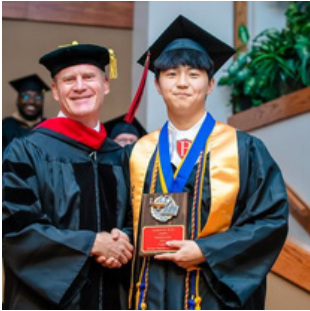


Steward
Leader



Class of 2024

Graduate Profile



Valedictorian
Jinwook Kim



Salutatorian
Clara Jex

Class Profile

Total Graduates 19

BBA Lifers: 3

Attending college or university: 95%

Starting Career or Trade: 5%

2 Dual FTCC Graduates

2 Student Athletes Receiving D1 Scholarships

The graduates of BBA Class of 2024 have been awarded over \$3,000,000 dollars in academic and athletic merit scholarships with a college acceptance rate of 100%.

Cherity Airrell Bellamy
Trinity Nyshell Bellamy
Christian Said Cardoso-Sanchez*
Yeongchan Hur*
Abigail Cierra Hylland**
Clara Grace Jex*
Eunsong Kim*

Jinwook Kim*
Brian Samuel Law*
Harold Oluseyi Lee*
Victor Adolpho Martinez**
Daniel Chinedu Mbaeteka*
Emily Joy Murphy**

Amelia Danielle Page**
Blake Lewis Rala
Jose Gabriel Reyes**
Minseong Seo
Han Bao Truong
Jameel Bashir Williams**

Awards and Scholarships

Isaac Watts Fine Arts Scholarship - Jinwook Kim | **George Washington Carver STEM Award** - Brian Samuel Law
Brandon Kerr Memorial Scholarship - Blake Rala | **Dr. Don Harris Christian Leadership Scholarship** - Blake Rala

Bulldog Scholar-Athlete - Yeongchan Hur

Male Student Athlete of the Year - Jose Reyes | **Female Student Athlete of the Year** - Abigail Hylland

*Distinguished Honor Graduates | **Honor Graduates





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LIST OF COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE

College Acceptance Rate 100 %

Appalachian State
University
Barton College
Binghamton University
Campbell University
Eastern Carolina University
Fayetteville State
University
Fayetteville Technical
Community College
George Mason University

Methodist University
North Carolina Central
University
Penn State University
Sandhills Community
College
Shaw University
University of New York -
Buffalo
University of North Carolina
- Greensboro

University of North Carolina -
Pembroke
University of North Carolina -
Wilmington
University of Texas - Tyler
University of Wisconsin -
Superior
Wake Technical Community
College
Western Carolina University
Wingate University



Preschool

Berean Baptist Academy's Preschool had a year filled with exciting learning opportunities that allowed the youngest Bulldogs on campus to create lasting memories in a safe, loving, God-honoring, high academic, and fun environment.

Each day, students enjoyed engaging with their classmates during social playtime, allowing them to develop their imaginative skills through creative play. Sculpting with playdough, building with magnetic tiles or legos, cooking in the play kitchen, and painting colorful masterpieces provided a lot of laughter and taught the students the importance of sharing, being patient, and being kind to one another.

Bible time had the students singing songs of praise, memorizing scripture, learning about the wonderful world God created, and His expectations for all mankind. The beautiful story of God's forgiveness and redemption through His Son's death, burial, and resurrection was one of the highlights of the year during Bible time. Students always anticipated to this important time each day.

Throughout the year, the Preschool maintained a structured, engaging educational program with daily lessons in character training, mathematics, phonics, manuscript writing, and language development that covered numerous topics in science, history, and environmental learning. In addition, a weekly class in Spanish, music, and P.E. helped provide a well-rounded education for the future success of all students.



Elementary School



The elementary department grew to nearly 300 students this year in Kindergarten through Grade 4, and one of the main goals for this year was to reinforce a strong academic infrastructure to support the growing number of students while also building strong academics and enrichment opportunities for them. Academics continued to be a high priority to build critical competencies and skills in students so they are equipped for future academic and professional pursuits. Using data from internal and external sources, teachers and leaders approached each grade level this year with specific targets in mind. Younger students



focused heavily on reading literacy and math fluency while utilizing instructional teacher aides to help struggling students. While Kindergarten and first grade students learned foundational writing skills, students in Grades 2-4 used these skills to complete project-based learning activities in science, history, and math while learning about the solar systems, animals, STEM, and the state of North Carolina. Older elementary students grew in digital literacy by using technology to research interesting topics and create digital presentations they shared with classmates. The core of all these is building strong faith in each student through daily Bible classes, structured chapel lessons, and integrating biblical truths.

Student enrichment is an important part of an academic community as it builds interest around learning and supports learning through creative thinking, problem solving, and collaborative efforts. All students enjoyed enrichment during the academic program through weekly specials; however, we began expanding enrichment opportunities through afterschool clubs several years ago. One club has expanded into multiple clubs meeting after school. With only five clubs offered the year before, elementary offered a total of ten clubs including art, kitchen, music, leadership, Spanish, and STEM over the course of both semesters with over 150 students participating. Additional enrichment included elementary sports in indoor soccer, basketball, and cheerleading. Elementary students were also able to participate in some great opportunities this year such as Christmas at BBA, worship chapels, and Disney's *The Lion King, Jr.* production.

Middle school is a time of growth—spiritual, intellectual, physical, and social. Programs like service days, chapel, projects, theater, and sports support this changing time in a wonderful way. Teachers worked with students and parents to assist them as they navigate these changes in their lives.

During our service days, the students were able to collect baby



items and make blankets to support Your Choice Pregnancy Center and the Child Advocacy Center. While studying the book of John in chapel, students learned how to be like Jesus. We began a new study this year, called Habitudes. This program teaches students how to make certain attitudes or mindsets a habit in their lives. They learned perseverance, forgiveness, kindness, resilience, and so much more.



In middle school, learning often becomes more hands-on. Students made their own samurai and crests in history, performed experiments in science, and so much more. As students learned how to solve various word problems in math, we saw i-Ready scores improve significantly. About 51% of students achieved what is called stretch growth. This growth has a significant influence on increased grade-level performance from year to year. Most schools only see 35-40% of students reaching this growth. This achievement was a great encouragement to students, parents, and teachers alike.

Our middle school students also had the opportunity to participate in soccer, volleyball, cross country, basketball, cheerleading, baseball, and softball. As some of the teams were very inexperienced, the athletes were able to learn new skills, which they will be able to put to use as they continue to grow. Some of our students also participated in the performance of Disney's *The Lion King, Jr.* this year, which was a great hit. Many students learned about talents they did not realize they possessed. Overall, this was a wonderful year of growth for our middle school!





The 2023-2024 school year at Berean Baptist Academy was a testament to resilience, faith, and community. Our Fine Arts Department dazzled audiences with exceptional talents, while the Berean's Paragon Theater performed Disney's *The Lion King, Jr.*, the Academy's first musical production.

Amidst these artistic triumphs, significant spiritual growth unfolded. Senior students took the initiative with prayer walks, organized field games for preschool and elementary students, and even served ice cream—

a simple gesture that fostered joy and community. Juniors led Mental Health Awareness Week with thoughtful initiatives and engaging activities. Faculty and student-led Bible studies enriched our spiritual journey, fostering deep connections and encouraging one another in faith. These initiatives strengthened our school's spiritual fabric and highlighted our students' leadership and commitment.



Reflecting on the challenges and victories of the past year, we celebrate the seeds of faith and compassion sown throughout our community. As we anticipate the year ahead, we are inspired by the progress and unity that define Berean Baptist Academy. We remain committed to nurturing an environment where faith, learning, and creativity flourish together. In conclusion, the 2023-2024 school year affirmed our dedication to cultivating a vibrant community grounded in faith and service. We eagerly anticipate continued growth and blessings on the journey ahead.



Loving Others Through Community Engagement

When asked to identify the “most important” law in the Old Testament, Jesus answered by summarizing the entire law into two commands: love God and love others (Matthew 22:37-39). In this remarkably simple, yet profound, concept, Christian believers are called to not just love in word but also in deed (1 John 3:18). While having compassion, it is not enough to simply say, “Be warmed and filled” but to help meet the physical needs of people.

Love in action is epitomized in John 3:16 as

God loved the world so much that He gave. Christ’s love gave of Himself. Christ’s response in Matthew 22 was actually not a new position as they were told this in the very Old Testament they claimed they knew (Leviticus 19:18). They were simply ignorant of it. One of the core values of Berean is Godlike love, and the Academy provides opportunities for students, families, and staff to live out Godlike love by loving neighbors in our community by volunteering acts of service and donating supplies to those in need.



Elementary students have supported UNC Children’s Hospital through Coin Wars since 2021 by sending loose change to families in need each October.



Preschool

When given the opportunity to help others in the community who are in need, Preschool parents always shine! This year, new baby items were generously collected and donated to the Hand of Hope Pregnancy Center, a store connected to the Your Choice Pregnancy Center in Fayetteville that allows mothers who choose to honor the life of a child to come in and shop for free or significantly reduced priced items for their new baby. Loving others is commanded by God, and through generous giving, the Preschool hopes many women's hearts are touched.

Elementary

Students were able to love their neighbor through the annual “Coin Wars” fundraiser for families experiencing childhood cancer at UNC Children’s Hospital. Students raised \$2,828 in two weeks through friendly classroom competitions. The Leadership Club planned their final service projects to serve teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week and their community by baking cookies to take to Fayetteville Fire Station Six, along with notes of appreciation.

Upper School

Students made no-sew blankets for the Child Advocacy Center and collected items in conjunction with preschool for the Your Choice Pregnancy Center. Students showed initiative and ownership by thoroughly cleaning the buildings and grounds across campus. Each grade was responsible for their zone, led by their teachers. The seniors also spread some cheer by decorating the Upper School building for Christmas. In the winter of 2023, the National Junior Honor Society at BBA conducted a meaningful community service project to support individuals experiencing homelessness. Partnering with "Fayetteville Inasmuch," they collected and distributed over 1,000 hygiene items and raised more than \$700 in donations to aid those in need.



Bulldog Athletics



The 2023-2024 school year was a time of establishing milestones and breaking records for the BBA Athletic Department. With a total of 20 teams for the year and close to 100 athletes participating each season, BBA entered into the 3rd full year of competition in the NCISAA. The 2023 fall season saw the addition of 8-man football as a major accomplishment, with the 16 inaugural players getting their first win in program history on September 15th against Liberty Christian. The football team ended with a 3-5 record in a great building season for the program.

The varsity boys soccer team also made history by reaching their first NCISAA State Quarterfinals in the middle of October, beating Harrells Christian 3-1 before losing to the overall #1 seed Trinity Academy. The volleyball program experienced growth that will set it up for success in the years to come, fielding a MS, JV, and Varsity team for the first time in 3 years. BBA established varsity girls golf as a contender during the

Bulldog Athletics



conference, consistently competing for 1st place in the conference, while sophomore Sydney W. finished just outside the top 10 individual golfers in the state.

The boys basketball program fielded strong MS, JV, and Varsity programs this year with only 2 seniors leaving the varsity boys team. BBA began with an extremely tough schedule, playing several of the top 2A teams. After finishing the season with double-digit wins, BBA was able to host the conference tournament for the first time, and came within a few points of making it to the conference finals. The varsity girls team fought hard against tough opponents with no upper-classmen on their roster, and pulled out their first conference win towards the end of the season. As always, the MS and Varsity cheer squads brought their effort every game of the season, cheering their Bulldogs on to victory and wowing the crowds with halftime routines.

The spring season saw the addition of field lights and the capability of playing softball on our home field. With 4 teams all

using the same field, practice time was at a premium, but parents enjoyed cheering on softball, baseball, and soccer games at our home field. The MS softball team made an incredible run to the conference championship, losing in 4 innings to Freedom Christian after a hard-fought battle. The soccer teams focused on developing young talent as only one senior graduated from the varsity soccer program, and the MS baseball team won their first game in program history against Fayetteville Christian. In addition, the varsity boys golf team fought hard all year to place 3rd in the conference. We are excited to start our fourth year of NCISAA competition, and looking forward to watching the development of our young athletes.

Sports Teams

Fall Sports - Boys Football, Girls Golf, Cross Country, Boys Soccer, Girls Volleyball

Winter Sports - Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Cheerleading

Spring Sports - Boys Golf, Boys Baseball, Girls Soccer, Girls Softball

Fine Arts at BBA



CAST AND CREW OF DISNEY'S *THE LION KING, JR.* PRODUCTION

ART

Berean hosts a vibrant art program for students in elementary, middle school, and high school departments, and our students participate in several art competitions throughout the school year. These competitions include the Azalea Art, North Carolina Aviation Art Contest, and the ACSI Art Festival, totaling nearly 100 pieces of art work submitted. Several students placed in competition while many received either excellent or superior ratings in district festivals. Student art work can be seen online at bbafnc.org/art.



Elementary Students at ACSI District Spelling Bee Competition

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Creative Writing - Students in Grades 4-8 have the opportunity to participate in a Creativing Writing Festival hosted through the Association of Christian Schools International. Creativing writing pieces include original works including poems and short stories while receiving feedback with ratings such as Superior and Excellent.

Math Olympics - Academic testing takes place each spring as Grades 4-8 participate in Math Olympics hosted within the regional district of the Association of Christian Schools International. A total of 32 students in Grades 3-8 participated in both math computation and math reasoning.

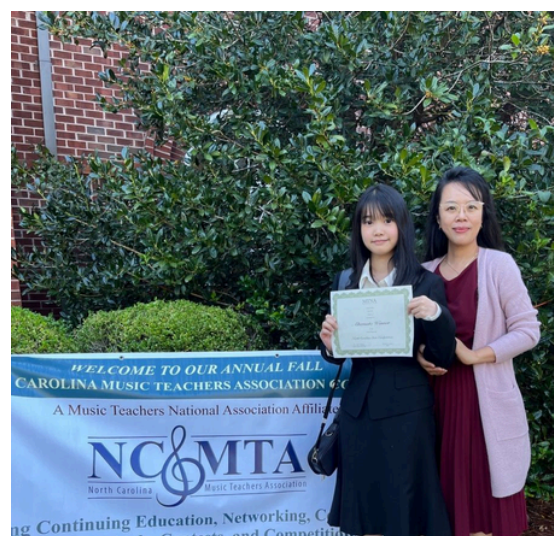
Spelling Bee - The elementary department hosted its third annual Spelling Bee. Each elementary class hosted its own run off competition to select the top three students from each class. A total of 39 elementary students participated in the Bee with the top three winners from each grade level competing in a regional spelling bee in March.



Christmas At BBA

DRAMA AND PERFORMANCES

Performances take place at every level as students from all departments participated in both musical and theatrical performances. This year's first Christmas at BBA highlighted talent from elementary, middle school, and high school students while the school's first musical, Disney's *The Lion King, Jr.*, was a smashing success with well over 700 tickets sold. Students also participated in several vocal and instrumental performances throughout the year through worship chapel performances, BBA Talent Show, and the Spring Piano Concert.



G. Kim winning 2nd Place at NCMTA.

Advancement in 23-24



Preschool Sunshade installed in Spring 2024 thanks to donor support.



Field lights being installed in outdoor field.

DONOR SUPPORT

Over 97% of private Christian schools have to utilize fundraising each year to meet their budgetary expenses; however, Berean operates each year without this financial model. This allows all fundraising, gifts, and sponsorships to go directly towards the advancement of the Academy in academics, campus operations, athletics, and school initiatives. Families participated in various fundraisers last year including Boosterthon which allowed the Academy to improve its campus security and operations through new digital radios.

Sponsors also provided tremendous opportunities to advance large projects such as the new Preschool Sunshade or the Athletic Field Lights which were installed this last year. Several other organizations helped sponsor other fundraising events such as Back to School Celebration, Boosterthon, and the Golf Tournament. We appreciate their support this last school year!



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