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Oroville Christian School Newsletter

From the Head of School

The Importance of Truth

When John McCain was running for President in 2008, Saturday Night Live ran a recurring skit about his running-mate, then-Alaska Governor Sarah Palin. Tina Fey, playing Gov. Palin in her trademark red suit, delivered the memorable line, “I can see Russia from my house!”

It was funny. It also was not real. Sarah Palin never said she could see Russia from her house. Today, however, a surprising number of people believe she did. This is a testimony to the power of lies.

A few weeks ago, Georgia state legislators passed a bill that added additional days for early voting, limited the number of ballot boxes that had (for the first time) been set up across the state during the pandemic, and changed the requirements for voting by mail. Rather than rely on matching signatures by eye, mail-in ballots will now be verified using a voter’s ID.

The partisan backlash over the bill, even though it expanded voting access in many ways, was not surprising. The lies about the bill, how quickly they were spread, by whom, and the corporate reactions to them are worth noting. President Biden likened the bill to laws that oppressed African Americans, calling it “Jim Crow on steroids.” Major League Baseball announced it was moving the 2021 All Star Game out of Atlanta in protest, and even Stacey Abrams caught heat for not calling for economic boycotts of Home Depot and Delta Airlines.

The Equality Act continues to be emblematic of legislation that Christian Schools monitor with rightful concern. This legislation is a repeat of past efforts to make sexual orientation and gender identity a protected class, just like biological sex. While it is bad enough that this experiment in social engineering attempts to turn centuries of jurisprudence, as well as common sense, on its head, the proposed legislation leaves out any provision for exemption for Christian schools.

Of course, people sometimes lie, but the stakes are higher when millions of people – including those with no interest in or loyalties to politics– *believe* those lies. Now, millions of people in Georgia and at religious institutions are needlessly anxious, fearful, and angry. That is cruel.

Jewish philosopher Abraham Heschel once said, “words create worlds.” Words do not change created reality, but they do reshape culture and therefore what people *think* is reality. Among the sources of the deep fracture in American culture right now is the loss of trust in our institutions and information sources.

In James 3, the writer calls the tongue a “fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body.” The tongue can, James says, “corrupt the whole body, set the whole course of one’s life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.” God’s words made reality. As image bearers, our words can create worlds too, at least perceived worlds. As followers of Christ, let us commit to using our words to build the Kingdom of God, where lies have no place.

Soli Deo Gloria

Mark Bates



Oroville Christian School Open House

May 7, 5:00 PM

Followed By

OCS Band Concert @ 7:00 PM



Important Dates

- Monday, **May 3** - PTPF Meeting, 6:30 pm
- Mon-Fri, **May 3-7** - Teacher Appreciation Week
- Friday, **May 7** - Eighth Grade Chapel, 8:45 am
- Friday, **May 14** - Eighth Grade Skip Day
- Tuesday, **May 18** - Eight Grade Graduation
- Wednesday, **May 19** - Kindergarten Celebration
- Thursday, **May 20** - Awards Assembly, 8:45 am
- Thursday, **May 20** - OCS Board Meeting, 6 pm
- Friday, **May 21** - Field Day—**NOON DISMISSAL**

OCS NEEDS YOU!



Parent Teacher Prayer Fellowship

WHAT IS PTPF?

PTPF is volunteer service organization at OCS that strives to make school unique and fun for our students and their families! As parents at OCS, you are automatically a part of PTPF. One of the many things we do is provide exciting and encouraging social and spiritual events for the entire school community.

We meet monthly and we need help! So, if you are interested in planning exciting, new events for your kids and their friends, contact the office today!

PRAY and THINK about how God can use you...this is your chance to make a difference for the students and faculty at OCS!!

And from far away the Lord appeared to his people and said, "I love you people with a love that will last forever. That is why I have continued showing you kindness. Jeremiah 31:3

Oroville Christian School

Oroville Christian School admits students of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin.