



COLUMBIA ACADEMY

News Release

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Columbia Academy reaches record enrollment

More than 825 students enrolled for first time in school history

COLUMBIA, TENN (August 20, 2013) – For the 2013-2014 school year, Columbia Academy reports a school record enrollment of 841 students with a total of 152 new students in grades K - 12. This enrollment breaks the previous record of 825 students enrolled more than 10 years ago in 2001. Economic challenges over the years have taxed many private schools nationwide, but President Dr. James Thomas is encouraged by the continuing growth seen at Columbia Academy over the past three years.

“Since 2010, we have seen a steady increase each year in enrollment adding up to over 200 more students than we had three years ago,” Thomas said. “Clearly, families who are seeking a private, Christian education are finding a way to make it a priority in their budgets, and we are thankful that many are choosing to be a part of our school. We ultimately give the glory to God for helping us bounce back from the recession in such an amazing way and we know our school will be blessed by this growth for years to come.”

The growth is felt across the campus locations, Thomas said, from the Columbia campus to the now three-year old Spring Hill campus program. Although new students are represented across the grade levels, the Kindergarten programs have grown substantially in Columbia and Spring Hill where additional sections and teachers were added at both locations. Also, the seventh grade class continues to grow and is now up to 77 students – still the largest class of students in Columbia Academy school history.

“While growth is exciting, we have to maintain our educational quality and our low student teacher ratio, so doing that has been priority number one,” Thomas said. “Another by-product of this growth has been an increased racial and religious diversity among our students. As a Christian institution first and foremost, we want everyone to feel welcomed and loved here, and we work intentionally to do that.”

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This record enrollment growth comes on the heels of the opening of the new Anderson Fieldhouse athletic facility, which opened in January of 2013. Other factors that may have contributed to the growth, Thomas said, include the one-to-one iPad technology initiative, the increase of college credit options for high school students, rising college placement and TCAP scores, the Spring Hill satellite campus, and improved extracurricular options for students such as theatre and band.

“We are committed to offering the very best resources that we can to our student body,” Thomas said. “By reinvesting dollars from new student growth into enhanced programs, faculty development and training, and infrastructure, we hope that even more families will continue to be attracted to what we can offer their children.”

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Columbia Academy is a PreK-12th grade college preparatory school founded in 1979 to provide high quality academics from a Christian perspective. With an enrollment of more than 800 students, CA is located on a beautiful 67-acre campus in Columbia, Tenn., formerly home to the Columbia Military Academy. CA also maintains a satellite campus for elementary students in Spring Hill, Tenn. Columbia Academy has been accredited by Advanced (SACS) for more than 30 years and is a member of the National Christian School Association.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Columbia Campus – 1101 West 7th Street, Columbia, TN 38401, (931) 388-5363

Spring Hill Campus - 756 Beechcroft Road, Spring Hill, TN 37174, (931) 486-1002

Website – cabulldogs.org / Facebook – COLUMBIA ACADEMY - TN