



# MOTHER LODE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

18393 Gardner Avenue, Tuolumne CA 95379

Office: 209-928-4126 | FAX: 209-928-4613 | Website: [www.motherlodechristian.com](http://www.motherlodechristian.com)

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March 1, 2021

## Monthly Message from the Principal

I am excited about our Board's enthusiasm in establishing a Strategic Plan for Mother Lode Christian School. I am also thankful for the many parents and teachers who attended the last board meeting willing to volunteer their time to serve. Four initiatives have been established to target the development of our academic program, financial sustainability, facility usage and improvement, and feasibility of an MLCS high school. If you have skills in any of these areas that you would like to offer, please contact a board member or myself.

Whether you can participate directly or not, I urge you all to continue in prayer on behalf of the growth and development of MLCS. Two verses I shared at last month's meeting provide great focus: *Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain that build it and how good and pleasant it is when God's family dwells together in unity.*

"Father, Your leadership and wisdom as well as serving You in joy and unity together is our prayer. In the Name of Your beloved Son, Jesus. Amen!"

One of my responsibilities as Administrator/Principal of MLCS is the same as it was at Summerville Elementary School. This, of course, is the oversight of the educational culture of a school. However, here at MLCS there is another, very real and very weighty responsibility that I have before our parents and before God Himself. Over the last year I have been observing, praying, questioning, and seeking to understand the balance between these two responsibilities. Which is more important, and how do we do both well?

How do we combine our mandate to love God (as Christians) with the mandate to educate (as a school)? How do we create an academic culture that teaches students to love Jesus, succeed in learning, and love each other?

Of course, we want our students to be well-educated and successful people. But is that the main thing we want? Is it success at *what they do* or *who they become*? As important as inspiring teaching and curriculum are, what is most important? As the young lawyer asked Jesus, "What is it that God is asking us to do above all else?" In a nutshell Jesus's response was simple: Love God and love people.

If Jesus opened a school, what would be the top two subjects in the curriculum?

*"Let the little children come to me," Jesus said, "and do not hinder them,"  
And he took them in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them."~ Mark 10:14, 16*



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What is it? Is MLCS a ministry or a school? Do we want to produce scholars or servants of the gospel? *What kind* of student or what kind of person? As we look into the future, isn't it what kind of person - what kind of father and mother; what kind of employee and employer; what kind of citizen and Christian we want them to become?

As we support parents in the education of their children, we are joining them in preparing our students, to become someone else's employee, employer, spouse, parent.

How about this: What kind of son-in-law do you want your daughter to marry? What kind of daughter-in-law do you want for your son? Will you be looking at how successful they are or how godly? How religious they appear or how Christ-like they reveal? How educated or how wise?

When it comes to solid, biblical integrity and faith, my prayer is that our students grow into a real love for Jesus, embrace the strength of a life invested in Him, and commit to following Him until their last breath. When it comes to a relevant, inspired academic culture, my desire is that MLCS provide the best.

After a year at Mother Lode Christian School and pondering our *school* objectives and our *Christian* high calling, this is my conclusion:

I am convinced that God wants the best of both for Mother Lode Christian School. We are not just a school, and we are not just a ministry. We are both. We have the challenge and potential in the Lord to be a very strong combination of both. This is what we get to do together - parents, teachers, staff, and board. We get to have fun together creating - with God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit - a Christian school culture that combines nurturing *the best of a godly relationship* with *the most effective curriculum and instruction*.

Will it take a lot of work? Of course. Nothing of value doesn't. Will it require that *the joy of the Lord be our strength*? Absolutely.

Thank you for your continued prayers!

~ Mr. Atkins

**\*\*\*\*\* Please check out page 3 for upcoming Calendar Events & Job Opportunities \*\*\*\*\***

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## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

**\*\*\* Please pass the word, post on social media, & announce/post at churches \*\*\* \***

*Full/Part Time Janitor Position - general custodial & maintenance skills*

*Up to 8 hours per day/5 days per week/\$16-\$19 per hour*

*Full Time/Part Time Preschool Teacher & Aide Positions*

*\$14 - \$19 per hour depending on position & experience*

## CALENDAR EVENTS

### March

- 2** Tacky Tuesday Dress-Up Day - Celebrating Dr. Seuss's Birthday  
PTF Meeting @ 6:00 PM in Cafeteria  
PTF Book Club @ 6:45 in Cafeteria
- 8** Staff Development Day: K-8 NO SCHOOL
- 12** End of 3rd Quarter
- 15** Board Meeting @ 4:30 PM in the Chapel
- 17** Parent/Teacher Conferences - K-8 NO SCHOOL
- 19** Favorite Sports Dress-Up Day
- 22-26** Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week
- 29** K-8 Easter Vacation Begins - NO SCHOOL

### April

- 2** Preschool Easter Break - NO SCHOOL
- 6** Preschool - 8th Grade School Resumes

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