



Son Times

July 25, 2025

"But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." Isaiah 40:31 (NIV)

NEW SCHOOL YEAR IN A FEW WEEKS!

While we are still enjoying the lazy days of summer, school is just around the corner. It is very hard to think about school when we are enjoying summers I hope and pray that you have all been having a blast with family and friends. In between vacations, pool time, sports, and VBS, I hope you have had a chance to just relax and decompress. I know that our teachers have been enjoying summer and, while trying not to think too much about school, they are excited to meet their students! As you begin to think about school please be sure to lift up some special prayers as we get things in order for a great school year.

As we continue to prepare for the first school day of 2025-2026, here are a few updates for the upcoming school year:

In some bittersweet news, we are losing some staff members who have been essential over the years. We thank them for their service and dedication to TCS and wish them many blessings in their new endeavors.

Ms. Terese Osacky, one of our 4th grade teachers, will be getting married this August! Due to this life-changing event she is moving to Northern Illinois where they will settle in as a family. While excited for this new moment for Ms. Osacky and Gretta, her daughter, we are saddened by their departure. We will miss Ms. Osacky's excitement for teaching and touching children's lives.

Mrs. Heather Frakes recently obtained a new full-time job that she is excited about. While she knows this is best for her family, she is sad to leave the students and staff of TCS. We appreciate the servant's heart Mrs. Frakes has always exemplified here over the years, doing many different things to bless the school. We are Excited to have **Mrs. Lisa Nash** from Business Services step in as our new Lunchroom Coordinator. She has been in this position before and will do a great job with hot lunch ordering and handling the students and volunteers!

Mrs. Ronnie Tanka had plans of returning part-time as the librarian, but after further consideration has decided to resign completely from her position at TCS. We appreciate all she has done over the years at TCS through our music programs, musicals, book fairs and more. She will be missed, and we pray blessings for her and her family. We are excited to bring on Mrs. Deeter to manage and oversee our library program, while still facilitating our Spanish classes as well.

Additionally, we are pleased to welcome a few new staff members to our team:

Mrs. Wendy Nystedt comes on as a 5th grade teachers. Mrs. Nystedt has 25+ yrs of experience in education. She has been teaching 3rd grade in Minooka most recently. Mrs. Nystedt loves music and regularly participates in her church worship team. She is excited for the opportunity to teach in a great atmosphere with great people.

Mrs. Jennifer Ferguson was recently hired to take on the 4th grade teaching position. Mrs. Ferguson has over 20 years of experience as a 3rd-5th grade teacher. She cites building relationships with students as essential to their development. She loves to serve in her church and cherishes the idea of being able to freely pray and speak about Jesus in school!

Mrs. Juliette Sokoloski has been hired as our front office secretary, replacing Mrs. Jazmine Cardenas (who had her baby boy, July 1!!). Mrs. Sokoloski has a passion for working in a Christian atmosphere and using her many experienced skills in software, answering calls and managing others. She has a heart for TCS already, with her daughter Penelope going into 2nd grade. We are excited for her to welcome people to our school and work with each one of you in a variety of ways this coming year.

Mr. Todd Downing has been hired as our part-time music teacher! Mr. Downing has three children at our school (Skylar, Riven and Elet). He has a passion for music and has been using those talents for the Lord in many ways. Currently, he leads worship at The Table in Joliet, teaches music classes at a local preschool, gives music lessons, and much more. Mr. Downing is well known for volunteering in the library over the years, and he brings a passion for teaching music and worship that I know the students will love. He is excited for the opportunity to teach here, as well as lead the Christmas programs and Heartsong.

I hope you are all enjoying a wonderful summer. It has been fun to see many kids coming through and enjoying some summer camps!

Blessings,
Mr. V, Head of School

Kindergarten - 8th Grade Calendar: July and August

Now-Aug. 19
Summer Break

Aug. 4
Extended Office Hours
Monday-Thursday
8 a.m.-3 p.m.

Aug. 18
All Staff In-Service
Office Opens at 1 p.m.
Jump-Start Night 3-6 p.m.

Aug. 20
First Day of School
11:45 a.m. Dismissal

Aug. 27
No Chapel
PK Meet the Teacher
Eighth Grade Retreat

Aug. 28
PK Meet the Teacher
Eighth Grade Retreat



**Have a FUN and SAFE
summer. We look
forward to seeing you
in August!**

Summer Office Hours
Monday-Thursday
8 a.m.-noon

PLEASE COMPLETE ONLINE REENROLLMENT

We're looking forward to having your students back for the 2025-2026 school year! If you have not gone online to reenroll your students yet, now is the time to do it. Just log into your [FACTS Family Portal](#) to get started. Remember that our school's District Code is TRINC-IL. Also, this is the last time you will need to accomplish reenrollment, as we are beginning continuous enrollment, meaning your K-8 student will be enrolled through graduation unless you notify us of their withdrawal.

If you have started the process but haven't had a chance to complete it, please do so. This helps us to get things ready for the coming school year. Once you submit the reenrollment packet online, you will receive a confirmation email. Call the office at 815-577-9310 if you have any questions. We are glad to help!

Finally, be sure to refer your friends and family members to our school if they have school-aged children. They can contact us at the above number or admissions@trinitychristian.info. Thanks!

ORDER STUDENT TCS WALK-A-THON T-SHIRTS!

We're so excited to be planning our biggest event of the year, the **Walk-a-Thon**!

To get your student's **FREE** Walk-a-Thon t-shirt, please follow this link to place your order: <https://forms.office.com/r/FdveYFx3LK>

All orders are due Tuesday, Aug. 26. Each student is required to submit a t-shirt order.

These shirts will be worn not only at the Walk-a-Thon, but also throughout the year during field trips, Spirit Week, and Field Day, so don't miss out!

You'll also have the opportunity to order your student's shirt at **Jump-Start Night**, Aug. 18, if you haven't done so online. Adult shirts will be available to order at a later date and will require payment.

If you have any questions, feel free to email us at Walkathon@trinitychristian.info. We can't wait for this fun and meaningful event, thank you for helping us get ready!

REQUIRED MEDICAL FORMS

All students entering **kindergarten** or **sixth grade**, and **transfer students** must have a physical exam form completed and **ready to turn in by JUMP-START NIGHT, August 18**, if it has not already been submitted.

Immunizations: State law requires that all students entering school be immunized against polio, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (Tdap), measles, mumps, rubella, Hepatitis B (for 6th grade), and varicella (chicken pox). Also, students entering sixth grade are required to have a meningococcal conjugate vaccination (MCV4). **Sixth graders must show proof of one dose of MCV4.** Proof of immunity is verified by documented evidence from the student's health care provider of the student having received the vaccine or of having had the disease. **State law provides that students who do not meet these requirements be excluded from school.**

Religious Exemptions: According to Illinois Public Act 099-0249, families with religious objections must submit a completed Certificate of Religious Exemption for each student. The certificate must also be signed by the child's health care provider responsible for performing the child's examination for entry into kindergarten and sixth grade. This signature affirms that the provider educated the parent or legal guardian about the benefits of immunization and the health risks to the student and to the community from the communicable diseases for which immunization is required in Illinois.

The religious objection provided need not be directed by the tenets of an established religious organization. However, general philosophical or moral reluctance to allow physical examinations, eye examinations, immunizations, vision and hearing screening or dental examinations will not provide a sufficient basis for an exception to statutory requirements.

Please be aware that students who have not been immunized will be excluded from school for a period of time, determined by the state, if they have been exposed to some of these diseases.

Key Points:

All **kindergarten**, **sixth grade** and **transfer students** shall have their physical exam completed and turned in by Jump-Start Night. Please fill out the "History" section on the top of the second page prior to coming.

To be in compliance with state law, students who do not have proper immunizations or health exam forms completed prior to the first day of school, will not be allowed to begin school until the form is completed.



Trinity Christian School Employment Opportunities

Know someone who would love to join our family and support the mission of Trinity Christian School? We are expanding, and anticipate the career opportunities listed below for the 2025-2026 school year. For more information and a full job description, please follow the link [here](#) to our employment page. If you are interested, please complete the appropriate application and e-mail to Mr. Jon Vugteveen at jvugteveen@trinitychristian.info, or via mail to:

Trinity Christian School Attn: Mr. Jon Vugteveen, 901 Shorewood Dr., Shorewood, IL 60404.

Kindergarten Aide

We are looking for a loving, caring, and cooperative individual to assist in kindergarten as the teachers aide. The Teacher Aide is one of the individuals most frequently in contact with the students. It is important that he/she clearly understand his/her duties and responsibilities as listed in the job description [online](#). This would be a part-time, minimum-wage position serving the hours of 8:30-11 a.m., Monday-Friday. The position can be combined with other part-time jobs around the school, such as B.A.S.K.* and has the benefit of a tuition discount based on hours worked per week.

Morning B.A.S.K (Before and After School Kare) Leader

We are seeking a strong but compassionate leader to oversee morning B.A.S.K. from 6:30-8:15 a.m. The B.A.S.K. worker is generally responsible for the supervision of students before school. It is important that he/she understands his/her duties and responsibilities as listed in the full job description [online](#). This individual must believe that the Bible is God's Word and is the standard for faith and daily living. He or she also must be in agreement with Trinity Christian School's mission and philosophy of education. This is a part-time minimum-wage position that can be combined with other part-time positions, such as teacher's aide*. It does include a tuition discount based on hours worked per week.

5th/6th Grade Girls' Volleyball Coach

5/6 Grade Girls' Volleyball Head Coach Trinity Christian School is seeking a 5/6 girls volleyball head coach. This position is ideal for someone with a passion for teaching young athletes and helping them develop their volleyball skills in a supportive and positive environment. Prior coaching experience is preferred but not required - volleyball knowledge will be needed. Season starts mid-August and ends mid-October with 2-3 tournament weekends. If interested, please download a non-teacher application and submit it to Mrs. Maddie Deeter, the Athletic Director mdeeter@trinitychristian.info.

Substitute Teachers

We seek substitute teachers for the 2025-2026 school year. Substitutes must be able to step into a classroom environment to teach on short notice. A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university is required and a teaching certification or substitute license is preferred. Qualified substitutes must believe that the Bible is God's Word and standard for faith and daily living and must be in agreement with Trinity Christian School's mission and philosophy of education.

** It would be ideal for Trinity to hire the same person for the morning B.A.S.K. position and the Kindergarten Aide, though not required.*

PRESCHOOL MEET THE TEACHER

Preschool meet-the-teacher information was emailed out July 9. If you didn't receive that email, please email Mrs. Amy Boutte, Preschool Director, at aboutte@trinitychristian.info.



FALL SPORTS TO BEGIN

Information about coed soccer and girls' volleyball will be emailed by late July. If you do not receive anything by Aug. 4, please contact Mrs. Deeter at mdeeter@trinitychristian.info. Both sports begin the week of Aug. 11, with the first home games scheduled for Aug. 26. Elementary girls' volleyball (5th/6th grade) and coed soccer (5th-8th grade) are open to all students — no tryouts required — while junior high girls' volleyball will hold tryouts that week. We encourage all students to participate in soccer or volleyball, regardless of experience!

