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# ABOUT SOUTHEAST CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

## I. HISTORY

Southeast Christian School (SCS) was established in 1977, and was originally named "Christian Way School." Five leaders from different churches in the area, including Russell McCracken, founding pastor of Southeast Christian Church, started SCS because they wanted to make a difference in the community.

Today, we are an independent school with a flourishing student body of nearly 430 preschool through 8th grade students! We appreciate the past and present support of Southeast Christian Church where we have been housed for over 17 years.

## II. STAFF AT SOUTHEAST

For more than 40 years the strength of the school has been our solid faculty, with an average tenure of more than 10 years! Besides parents, teachers are often the most influential adults in the life of a child. Southeast is blessed by staff members who not only teach, but act daily in many other capacities to support and guide students. These actions reflect the commitment our entire faculty has to being a positive role model for students; focusing on character development alongside academics. Many of our faculty members hold advanced degrees in a variety of disciplines. K-8 teachers are required to pursue ACSI certification in addition to their Colorado state license.

## III. VISION: "SOLI DEO GLORIA"

One of the five "solos" born out of the Protestant Reformation, soli deo gloria became a central rallying cry of the Reformers. It literally translates "for the glory of God alone." Composer, J.S. Bach was known to sign his compositions with his name and the initials "S.D.G." (soli deo Gloria).

Philosophically, this phrase points us to the reality that we are called to surrender all aspects of our life to the domain and glory of God. This encompasses knowing and functioning from a biblical worldview as well as seeing all content/competency areas through this lens. If we, as an educational institution, live "soli deo gloria" then math is not just numbers and patterns. Math, instead, becomes one discipline (amongst many) which, mastered, points to the glory of God alone. Likewise, music is not just learning to sing or recognizing tone, pitch, or terminology. As Bach declared, "the aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul."

When soli deo gloria is applied to one's life, every facet of life (or an entire institution) should be dynamically different. The answer to every question can be found in this one motto. Why do we do what we do? Simply... for the glory of God alone!

# SOUTHEAST CHRISTIAN SCHOOL BOARD

## NOTE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

It is both an honor and privilege to serve on the Southeast Christian School Board. A Christian board of education carries an extra charge of humility and service to His Kingdom. Our most important responsibility is working with students, families, staff, school leaders, church leaders, businesses, and the community is to ensure the best Christian education for each child attending Southeast Christian School.

Among the board's duties are to plan, implement, and revise by-laws, policies, procedures, and strategic plans on a continuous basis with a clear vision for the future. With input from parents, staff, faculty, and board, we began looking at new areas of focus for our plan. The areas identified and later explained in this document are: Christ the center, partnerships, curriculum and academics, programs and technology, safety and security, service and faith, and financial accountability.

While the school board is the force behind the strategic plan, it is the Executive Director and staff that work closely together and tirelessly to execute the actions for the strategic plan to succeed. Every year a new action plan is developed to address each area of the strategic plan.

The action plan is drawn by our vision, driven by our mission, guided by our values, led by our focus areas, defined by our end-state, and informed by our message. Increasing academic achievement with a Christian Worldview is the primary goal of the Southeast Christian School board. We continue to look at best practices based on data and research to educate the whole child to navigate as a Christian in a post-Christian world.

**DEAN HANSON, BOARD PRESIDENT**

## FOCUS AREAS & STRATEGIC GOALS

- I. Implement Core Values
- II. Cultivate partnerships
- III. Facilitate Academic Growth
- IV. Provide Programs (Extracurricular) and Technology
- V. Sustain Safety & Security
- VI. Serve and Lead
- VII. Strengthen Financial Health

## WHY PARENTS CHOOSE SCS

### BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

Biblical worldview and authentic personal relationship, identity in Christ

### ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Student growth and performance exceed national norms

### DESIGNATED SECURITY

Full time presence and support to the school community

### PERSONALIZED LEARNING

Instruction targets meeting the needs of the whole child: intellectual, social/emotional, health/fitness, and spiritual

### SERVICE LEARNING

Serving others as a testament of the love of Christ

### LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Influencing others and defending the faith

### DISCIPLESHIP

Christ-centered behavior coaching, disciplines of Christ, and equipping for evangelizing

### SMALLER CLASSROOM SIZES

Classroom ratios aims at 1:23

### LOVING RELATIONSHIPS

Complimentary teaching of home and school values

### PATRIOTISM

Appreciation of principles of freedom and fundamental value of life

## OUR VISION

### SOLI DEO GLORIA

To provide a Christ-centered education, preparing God's children and young adults for works of service, for the glory of God alone.  
(Ephesians 4:12)

## OUR MISSION

### SERVICE

To serve others with their unique giftedness.

### EXCELLENCE

To model excellence in all areas as we prepare students to transition academically to higher education.

### CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP

To demonstrate Christian leadership in praxis and practice through the development of a Christian worldview to build the body of Christ.

## OUR CORE VALUES



To develop a close home-school relationship through complementary teaching for the improvement of students' development and progress.



To develop students socially in order to equip them for healthy relationships with other people. The teachers and staff will contribute by living and teaching a Christian example to promote proper social growth.



To develop students academically in the practical application of all knowledge by teaching them the fundamental subjects. This will allow them to proceed to higher goals.



To develop the physical health and well-being of students necessary to the growth of mind and body.



To develop the spiritual life of students. This is the unique quality of the Christian school which enables the student to gain the true perspective on life.



To develop a spirit of patriotism and appreciation for the principles of freedom that we have inherited from our founding fathers.

## OUR PURPOSE

Educating for Eternity through Service, Excellence, and Christian Leadership, Southeast Christian School provides the highest quality, Christ-centered education.

## Strategic Goal 1: Implement Core Values

Expand implementation of core values across all settings.

### OBJECTIVES

- Define and clearly articulate a Biblical worldview preschool-8th grade, and structure so it can be measured and assessed.
- Define and clearly articulate Expected Student Outcomes (ESOs) preschool-8th grade.
- Define and articulate the mission of SCS preschool-8th grade.
- Define specific paths for SCS to measure/focus on service, excellence, leadership.

## Strategic Goal 2: Cultivate Partnerships

Cultivate and maintain partnerships with the community, families, and staff.

### OBJECTIVES

- Sustain and establish valuable traditions that support community building and the Christian values of the school.
- Facilitate engagements with other schools and community school partnerships with accountability for the success of Christian education in Parker.
- Foster a loving relationship with community churches & cultivate relationships with all student churches.
- Facilitate board and family small group sessions hosted by a SCS family for both fundraising and marketing purposes.
- Recruit, hire and incorporate a chaplain in cooperation with Southeast Christian Church.
- Retain high-quality staff.

## Strategic Goal 3: Facilitate Academic Growth

Provide multiple pathways to learning grounded in a Biblical worldview to facilitate academic growth.

### OBJECTIVES

- Prioritize the documentation of 2020 pathways that show SCS's curriculum incorporating Biblical integration, under the conceptual lens of our mission, school-wide, with a focus on Biblical worldview and integration of ESOs.
- Align Preschool curriculum to Kindergarten readiness.
- Create, implement, and communicate academic SMART goals and ESOs consistently school-wide for all SCS students, addressing the needs of the whole child, with clear feedback on progress shared with all parties to foster partnership.
- Implement personalized learning and revise its documentation and communication to better meet the needs of the whole child.
- Celebrate service, excellence, and leadership.
- Develop and follow a strategic professional development plan that includes wrap around MTSS instruction, coaching, and supports all staff.

## Strategic Goal 4: Provide Programs & Technology

Provide extracurricular programs with relevant technology.

### OBJECTIVES

- Create, implement, support, and evaluate annually a strategic plan for the implementation of technology integration.
- Define well-articulated elective and extra-curricular offerings that will meet the needs of a variety of learners.
- Emphasize the mission of Service, Excellence and Leadership through robust specials and elective offerings.
- Pray without ceasing, including at extra-curricular events.

## Strategic Goal 5: Sustain Safety & Security

Sustain an exemplary safety and security plan.

### OBJECTIVES

- Complete a threat assessment on all SCS playgrounds and identify actions to take to create a more secure campus for the safety of students and staff.
- Review annually current safety practices through a school wide needs assessment and law enforcement walk through.
- Update all background checks and records.
- Proactively engage with students to prevent bullying through mentoring and classroom supports.
- Implement annual student training on suicide prevention, anti-bullying, and cyber bullying.
- Implement the Raptor Reunification and Emergency System.

## Strategic Goal 6: Serve & Lead

Continue to serve through humble acts of service.

### OBJECTIVES

- Establish service as part of every classroom's Kingdom culture.
- Create and sustain a plan for capturing and communicating the service projects to parents and the community.
- Create a chapel plan that supports Service, Excellence and Leadership annually that discipless students in living out these core values and includes ministry demonstrations by our ministry partners.

## Strategic Goal 7: Strengthen Financial Health

Strengthen the financial health of the school.

### OBJECTIVES

- Formulate a retention plan to increase enrollment numbers at SCS with an emphasis on transitioning students from Preschool to the K-8.
- Brand SCS as an exemplary Christian school in the South-Metro area.
- Market the school internally and externally.
- Create a broader Donor Base.

## THANK YOUS & ACCREDITATIONS

**THANK YOU** to all the numerous people that provided input into the five-year strategic plan. It has been a collaborative effort between members of the parent community, Parent Advisory Council (PAC), School Advisory & Leadership Team (SALT), Executive Director and support team, and the Southeast Christian School Board, which provided valuable input and direction for the 2020-2025 SCS Strategic Plan.



Every step in the accreditation process is designed to be useful for driving improvement in private schools. ACSI strives for excellence based on a solid Christian philosophy of education. The seven standards for ACSI accreditation are Philosophy and Foundation; Governance and Executive Leadership; Home and Community Relations and Student Services; Personnel; Instructional Program and Resources; Student Care (the needs of the whole child are addressed); Character, Values and Spiritual Formation of Students.

[www.acsi.org/school-services/accreditation](http://www.acsi.org/school-services/accreditation)



Based on a set of rigorous research-based standards and evidence-based criteria, the accreditation process examines the whole institution—its policies, programs, practices, learning conditions, and cultural context—to determine how well the parts work together to carry out the institution's vision and meet the needs of every learner.

[www.cognia.org/services/accreditation-certification](http://www.cognia.org/services/accreditation-certification)

Southeast Christian School admits students of any race, color, nationality, and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, nationality, or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, and other school-administered programs.