

**M
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THE MESSENGER

Minnesota

**ASSOCIATION
of CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS**

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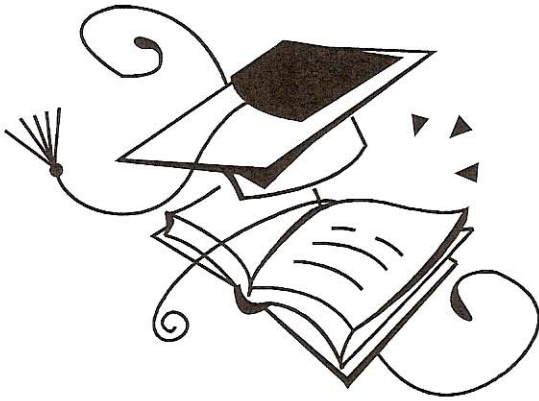
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N E W S L E T T E R

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Minnesota Association of Christian Schools Completes 34 Years of Serving Christian Schools in Minnesota



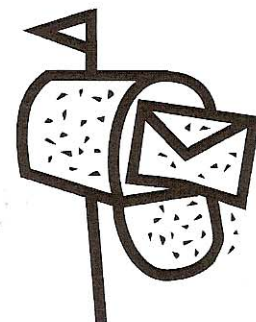
As scores and scores of seniors receive their high school diplomas from Christian schools all across the state of Minnesota, the Minnesota Association of Christian Schools will complete thirty-four profitable years of service to member schools.

The services provided by the association involves a threefold mission that the association has emphasized since its conception. First, the programs that are provided all have education as the end product. Secondly, MACS seeks to provide protection from both federal and state bureaucracy to its member schools. This is accomplished by working very closely with our national organization, the American Association of Christian Schools, which maintains a full time legislative director in our nation's Capitol and by seeking to monitor legislation in our state capitol.

Of course, the Annual Legislative Breakfast hosted every year by MACS plays a very important part in keeping contact with our state legislators.

Finally, the third part of our threefold mission is the services that MACS and AACS provides to all its member schools. This would include testing, insurance, statewide tournaments in athletics, and Festival Competition in academics, arts, Bible, music and speech.

→ **Your Membership Form for 2009-2010
will be mailed in August!**



M.A.C.S. & W.A.C.S. Educator's Conference Scheduled for October 8-9, 2009

Because of the benefits that were received by our M.A.C.S. schools last year, we will again join forces with the Wisconsin Association of Christian Schools and meet at the Glacier Canyon Lodge and Conference Center in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin.

Keynote speakers will be long time pastor and educator Dr. Leigh Crockett, Dr. Sam Horn, pastor at Brookside Baptist Church in Milwaukee, WI and Pastor Bob Loggans, pastor at Calvary Baptist Church in Watertown, WI. Circle the dates on your calendar now and plan to attend.

An Interesting Observation

You would think that those who are serving in our U.S. Congress and believe that school choice programs are a threat to the public school system would be strong proponents of public schools. However, that doesn't seem to be the case.

In a continuing study conducted by the Heritage Foundation, since 2000, many U.S. Senators and Congressman alike have had their children in private schools.

Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL) a product of private schooling and a parent of children enrolled in private school, was the architect of legislation that is threatening to end the D.C. Scholarship Program, a program which allows children from low-income families to receive federal funds to enroll in the private school of their choice. According to the study conducted by Heritage, Senator Durbin is not alone. "Thirty-eight percent of Members of the 111th Congress sent a child to private school at one time." The study lays out the following points about these findings:

- ~ 44 percent of Senators and 35 percent of Representatives had at one time sent their children to private schools;
- ~ 23 percent of House Education and Labor Committee Members and nearly 40 percent of Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee Members have sent their children to private schools
- ~ 38 percent of House Appropriations Committee Members and 35 percent of Senate Finance Committee Members have sent their children to private school; and
- ~ 35 percent of Congressional Black Caucus Members and 31 percent of Congressional Hispanic Caucus Members exercised private-school choice.

The irony lies in the fact that these Members of Congress, many of whom recently ad blatantly threatened the existence of school-choice programs, feel so strongly about the current status of the public education, they send their own children to private schools. Perhaps these Members have claimed the motto, "Do

motto, "Do as I say, not as I do."

A Personal Message to the Pastors And Administrators of M.A.C.S.

I have been involved now for 38 years in Christian Education. Over those years I have experienced the agony of seeing parents make the wrong decision concerning their children's education. I use the word agony because I also observed the terrible results of that decision. If ever those of us who are involved in Christian education need to speak out against the "... rudiments of the world" (Colossians 2:18) it is today!

I am convinced that there needs to be an "awakening" regarding the need of providing a Christian education for today's youth. If that "awakening" is going to take place it is going to come from the pulpits of our churches and from the lips of those who are involved in our Christian schools.

Parents Need to Help Their Children In the Christian School

Dr. Paul Kienel years ago gave the following nine reasons how moms and dads can help their children in the Christian School.

1. **Help your children to understand that school is a disciplined learning situation.** Very little learning occurs at school if students are not trained by their parents to "obey those in authority," including their teachers and administrators. The most common threat to the academic quality of a school is a decline in discipline. When discipline goes down learning goes down. This principle applies to schools and it also applies to individual students. Youngsters in school reflect their home training. Students whose parents firmly discipline them in Christian love at home respond well to the normal environment of the Christian school classroom.
2. **Show normal affection to your children.** You may ask, "What does parental expression of love have to do with school?" It is difficult for teachers to explain the love of God if students have not experienced love at home. Too many youngsters go to school lacking the security of parental love.
3. **Train your children to be accountable for their actions.** Teach them the Biblical grace of apologizing and seeking forgiveness if they harm or offend another individual. If they lie or steal, require them to make full restitution with God and those against whom they have sinned.