

Round Rock Christian Academy
Head of School Report
November 17, 2022

Enrollment as of November 3rd: 681

PreK – 32

Elem – 342

Secondary – 307

Iowa Assessments -

The school is moving to the Iowa Assessment for standardized testing. In addition, we have added Benchmark testing for 2nd - 11th to try to help address the learning loss of the students due to COVID and new students moving in. Most assessment programs are moving to an online format. We are continuing with Paper Spring Assessments for K – 2; however, 3rd – 11th will move to the online format. All Benchmark testing is also online.

The national report card showed a decline in 4th grade Reading by 3 points and Math by 5 points. In 8th grade a decline of 3 points in Reading and 8 points in Math. This is the largest national decline in decades. They use a scaled score system and our scaled scores system is not equivalent. We use percentages.

If we measure the change in 4th and 8th grade from year to year, the only decline is in 4th grade reading.

We measure our decline from one grade level to the next. Those calculations are below:

Grade	2021 Reading	2022 Reading	Difference	2021 Math	2021 Math	Difference	2021 Total	2022 Total	Difference
K	89	89		80	68		85	79	
1	83	85	-4	75	78	-2	81	84	-1
2	84	86	+3	72	82	+7	82	86	+5
3*	83(69)	73	-9	87	77	+5	72	75	-7
4	85	80	-3	77	79	-7	72	77	+5
5	74	81	-4	75	79	+2	72	78	+6
6	74	70	-4	70	62	-13	67	61	-11
7	84	74	-	88	75	+5	82	76	+9
8	81	81	-3	84	77	-11	78	80	-2
9	81	73	-8	73	66	-18	74	73	-5
10	81	71	-10	83	75	+2	82	75	+1
11	77	78	-3	79	82	-3	79	77	-5

Meet cutoff scores for at or above 85 percent of the nation

Early Childhood

Academics

ELA: Students are learning positional words (in, out, under, above, etc.), beginning and ending sounds of words, and rhyming.

Math: Students sorted class pumpkins from smallest to biggest. They use ten-frames to review one to one correspondence, more and less concepts, and using a number line.

Events

9/30 PK night at the Varsity Football Game: Children had the honor of singing the national anthem and "God Bless America" for their paparazzi parents.

10/10 Parent/Teacher Conference Day: Teachers tried to meet with every parent to share Fall assessments they conducted for each child and behavior observations in the classrooms. It was a wonderful day for parents and teachers to get to know each other better and develop cooperative plans for the children's success for the rest of the year.

Spiritual

Mrs. Tam's Class: This week we studied pumpkins. During our Bible lesson on Friday, we did the pumpkin gospel, and the children created a jack-o-lantern with heart shape eyes (open our eyes to love), cross nose (forgive us for turning our nose up at what you have done for us), Bible shape ears (open our ears to hear your word) and fish/ichthus for the mouth (help me to share your love/gospel). They turned out cute.

When we carved the real pumpkin in class, we talked about how when we ask Jesus to save us from our sins, He cleans all the yucky sin, just like when we clean out the pumpkin. Then He gives us joy, which puts a big smile on our face, and He fills us with His light to shine in a dark world. We discussed what His "light" in us is/looks like.

Elementary

Spiritual:

We are setting a goal to explicitly teach the elementary students' skills like self-awareness, self-management, responsible decision making, how to navigate friendship, and how to develop their social skills, all through the lens of scripture. Each month, in chapel, I will introduce a biblically based theme that we will teach throughout the month.

Our chapel theme for the month of October is **Love at ALL times**. Every speaker, including our guests, has taken this theme, and expanded on the importance of loving others when it is hard, why we love, where love comes from, and ways that we can love others through our actions. Earlier in October, parents received a newsletter with the verses, questions, and digital resources that they can use to discuss the themes with their children at home. We are excited to offer these resources to parents as they are an integral part of the development of their child's value system and behavior.

Our scripture references are anchored in Proverbs 17:17 and 1 John 3:18

Our theme for November will change to YOU FIRST. The students will be learning about the importance of serving and thinking of others before we think of ourselves.

Events

Spelling Bee: We will have several students participating in the spelling bee. Now that the in-class bees have commenced, here is a list of our elementary finalists and their runners-up. The finalists will participate in the RRCA school bee (3-4 graders) or district bee in Arlington, TX (5-8 graders).

3rd Grade Musical: November 15. The third graders are working hard on their musical with their teacher, Mrs. Beckham. This year's musical: *Here We Are* is underway.

EPIC Ministries: Our favorite Christian non-profit, EPIC ministries came out to host the last chapel of the month of October to wrap up our theme, Love always. They brought fun, games, and their mascot Kazoo, to talk to the kids about Kindness and how Jesus expressed his kindness to us.

Academics

October Parent Teacher Conference went well. Teachers updated parents on grades and behavior of students. Our parents are incredibly supportive, and we are grateful for them!

Teacher observations are underway, and the teachers are working hard developing skills in English, Math, and Bible. Lessons this month included: Counting by 5 and 10s (K), learning to use a ruler for measuring and pumpkin exploration (1), Fractions (2), Present-Tense Verbs and Differentiated Reading groups (3), Prepositions and Place Values (4), with Wonder and Fall narratives going in fifth.

The elementary team is re-evaluating grading and assessment policies and preparing to incorporate benchmark assessments at the end of November. We will continue to use our team reflections and benchmarks to track student progress which will help us better support student growth in Reading and Math across the elementary school.

Secondary Spiritual

High school students had a two-day presentation, September 26-27, on Christian Sexuality. Pastor Keith Ferguson and Youth Pastor Logan Hensley from Cityview Bible Church delivered the messages. The topics included God's design for sexuality, our common brokenness in this area, gender, and dating, singleness, and marriage. The speakers would present a topic and the students would participate in breakout discussions. The discipleship leaders and students gave positive feedback on the messages and discussions.

Chapels for both middle and high school have been focused on having youth ministers speak about the importance of being involved in church community and sharing about their youth groups. For October, Jeff Samplaski, from Great Hills Baptist Church spoke to middle school students and Joseph Vasami from Austin Stone North spoke to high school students.

Academics

Students in grades 8-11 took the PSAT 8/9 or PSAT/NMSQT on October 12th. Junior PSAT scores can qualify them for the National Merit Scholars Program.

College/Career Readiness

Fourteen seniors took advantage of the SAT School Day on October 12th. A spring SAT School Day will be offered to both juniors and seniors. This has proven to be a valuable time to lessen the stress on the students to be at a familiar school taking the SAT.

Harding College and TAMU are scheduled to be on our campus to present the opportunities they offer to juniors and seniors. The sessions take place during electives for 30 minutes. The students have a chance to get their questions answered at the end of the presentations.

Plans for visiting colleges with a Christian focus are being made for the spring semester. Colleges on the list are UMHB, Baylor, Southwestern, and Concordia.

After the 1st quarter grades went out, students that failed had a 1:1 meeting with the Academic Advisor to discuss a plan to raise their grades for the 2nd quarter. There were 11 high school students and 21 middle school students that had a 1:1 meeting.

Events

High school discipleship groups and leaders enjoyed at spectacular day of team building, October 5th at Camp Tejas in Giddings. Students and teachers enjoyed rock wall climbing, ziplining, big swing, axe throwing and endless sand volleyball games. It was a wonderful time to build and connect relationships with students and teachers.

Athletics

Volleyball

The high school volleyball teams have done an excellent job this year with the JV team finishing their season 18-5 (10-2 in district). The Varsity volleyball team is 44-4 (12-0 in district) and will play in the TAPPS 3A Regional game on Saturday, November 5th. They were district champions for the 7th consecutive year going undefeated as well. With a win on Saturday, they will play in the TAPPS 3A State Volleyball tournament for the 7th straight year. The varsity team was honored at the district meeting with 9 girls selected to the all-district team (7-1st team and 2-2nd team). UPDATE: The team won their 2nd consecutive State Championship on Friday.

The 5th-8th grade volleyball teams completed their season with the CAPPS Volleyball Championship tournament held at the Round Rock Sports Center on October 29th. The 5th grade Grey team (8-2) were crowned tournament champions of the 5/6 3A bracket. The JH Red team (8-3) finished in 2nd place in the 7/8 4A bracket. The 6th Red team (5-6) finished in 2nd place in the 5/6 4A bracket. The 5th Red team (7-3) finished in 2nd place in the 5/6 2A bracket. The JH Navy

team (5-4), JH Grey team (2-7) and the 6th Navy team (3-6) competed well during the season and in the tournament.

Football

The varsity football team had a good season under new head coach Matt Tarbutton. The team finished 4-5 on the season. The district games were tough with the last 2 district games being played with the score tied going down to the final minute of the game to decide the outcome.

The junior high football team (1-5) was in a rebuilding year with only 3 returners from last year's STFC conference runner-up team. The team learned a lot through the season and secured a win in their last game.

The flag football teams competed well in the CAPPS Flag football divisions. The 6th grade flag football team finished 0-9 on the season. It was a tough season with many hurdles they had to overcome. The 5th grade boys were divided into 2 teams with both teams playing in the 5/6 4A division. The 5th Red team went 7-2 on the season. The 5th Grey team went 5-5 on the season.

Cross Country

The high school cross country team had 2 girl runners and 5 boy runners. They competed well all season with several of them recording personal records during the season. All runners advanced to the TAPPS State XC meet in Waco on October 31st. In her 2-mile race, Jr-AJ Graf ran a 16:32 which was a full minute faster than last year. Our boys XC runners scored points as a team and ran a good race (5000 meters) on a tough course – Fr-Colton Benitz ran a 22:15, So-Braden Orth ran a 25:15, Fr-Keegan Buzzell ran a 26:15, Fr-Andrew Balid ran a 27:42 and Fr-Andrew Dunbar ran a 28:31.

The junior high cross-country team competed in several meets this season with the CAPPS XC meet on October 22nd to finish their schedule. Those that competed in the CAPPS XC Championship were 8th-Yana Cole (16:17.76), 7th-Abby Sahl (16:17.28), 7th-Luke Grumbo (14:43), 7th-Patrick Greene (19:51) and 7th-Hudson Boxley (20:35).