



ECS Community,

I am writing to provide an update on the development of Eugene Christian High School. As you know, ECS has spent the last 18-24 months planning and preparing for the opening of Eugene Christian High School in the fall of 2018-19. With any new adventure, there is an abundant amount of prayer, planning, and objectives that need to be fulfilled in order to launch a high-quality program that will serve the needs of its students and families.

With that in mind, we have determined that the best course of action at this time is to postpone the launch of Eugene Christian High School and to consider other possibilities for opening at a later date.

Why postpone?

Our high school model was designed to accommodate students that will be entering grades 9-12 in 2018-19. The model was targeted to private school, public school, and homeschool students looking for a discipleship-based, university-style high school that emphasizes servant leadership in the community. Since opening an interest list in 2017, the majority of our inquiries have been from students in grades 10-12.

Unfortunately, as we were working with both of our accreditation agencies, we are only able to obtain accreditation for 9th grade students in 2018-19. In other words, students in grades 10-12 attending Eugene Christian High School in 2018-19 would not be able to take accredited classes directly from ECHS. Accreditation is significant for high school courses, as accredited high school transcripts are generally accepted by colleges and universities, along with other high schools if families were to move or transfer. Without accreditation, there is no guarantee other schools would accept the classes regardless of the rigor or efforts put forth.

Are there other options?

Yes. We considered a number of other possibilities for next year, including a 9th grade only academy and a hybrid program for grades 10-12. Both of these options are viable and exciting, however they do require additional amounts of planning, marketing, and communication to successfully launch them. Therefore, ECS is considering these options for 2019-20 and beyond. Our accreditation agencies informed us that if we were to open with a 9th grade class, we could continue to build accreditation with each consecutive grade level so that the entire high school would be accredited within 4 years of its launch.

Our mission is to assist the family by providing a Christ-centered Bible-based education that inspires each student to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and pursue excellence in moral character, academics, and service to others.



What are the next steps?

As we continue to explore these options, there will be additional announcements for strategic planning and high school focus group meetings. In addition, we'll keep our high school interest list available on the ECS website so families interested in a 9th grade academy or grades 10-12 program can stay informed.

I'd personally like to thank the ECS Board of Directors and Mr. Mike La Sage for their leadership and advocacy of the high school program, along with the dozens of parent and community supporters. We simply could not do this without you! While some of these barriers are disappointing for ECS in the short-term, we are committed to only offering the very best academic programs to our families and the high school is no exception.

To the families enrolling high school students next fall, we thank you for your interest and pray that your 2018-19 high school placement would be a blessing to your family.

If you should have any additional questions or comments, please don't hesitate to contact me directly.

All of God's grace,

Jared Mlynczyk

Principal

Eugene Christian School

Office: (541) 686-9145

Fax: (541) 686-3190

2895 Chad Drive

Eugene, OR 97408

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