

CCS BOARD MEMBER ELECTION

Candidate Profile

Rick Wharton

September 2010



BOARD NOMINEE PROFILE



1. GENERAL INFORMATION:

- ◆ Name: *Rick Wharton* Date of Birth: *November 2, 1958*
- ◆ Number of children enrolled at CCS: *two plus 2 graduates*
- ◆ Length of membership in Corporation: *12 years*
- ◆ Education received: *B.S. Business Management & Administration - Indiana University*
- ◆ Do you have any experience in the educational field? *Yes*
- ◆ If so, please explain: *Public school math teacher; football and soccer coach.*
- ◆ As a potential board member, what is your personal mission and vision statement?
My desire is to serve God in furthering the great work He has produced at CCS. I want to share in the effort and witness the results of a fully implemented classical Christian education.
- ◆ Why do you want to serve on the Board of Directors of CCS?
I have a passion for classical and Christian education because of the lasting spiritual and intellectual benefits that children will obtain and God will use to influence the world for Christ. Outside of the influence of a child's home, the classroom has an incalculable ability to shape the character and minds of our children. Teaching from the prospective of a Biblical worldview creates an environment whereby scripture comes alive because it's practically applied and integrated into all subject matter every day in the classroom. I have a desire to actively and tangibly support the efforts of the CCS Administration, Staff and parents in delivering a superb classical and Christian education to children.

2. CHURCH:

- ◆ Name of local church you attend: *Colonial Baptist Church*

3. EMPLOYMENT:

- ◆ Current Occupation: *Director*
- ◆ Name of employer: *Avaya Inc.*

- ◆ List any management experience: *I have experience managing organizations in various disciplines including Engineering, Purchasing & Transportation, Material Management & Production Control, Information Technology, Finance, Staff Support, Project Management, Operations, Sales, and Marketing.*
- ◆ List prior board experience (*other than Cary Christian School*):
I have served on the Boards of Greensboro Youth for Christ and Champions for Kids.

4. CARY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL OR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

- ◆ List any areas of past CCS service: Board Member. *Women's Varsity Soccer Coach; JV Football Coach.*
- ◆ List any areas of past non-CCS service or ministry (*other than church*): *Youth Coach*

5. SPIRITUAL EVALUATION:

- ◆ Provide a brief testimony of your faith in Jesus Christ.
I acknowledged Christ as my Lord and Savior while attending a secular college. I was enrolled in a Philosophy class in which we were studying various religions. When the section on Christianity began, the Professor insisted that each student must take either a position of salvation through faith in Christ or salvation through works. For the sake of argument only, I along with one other student took the position of salvation in Christ. I would prepare diligently for class debates, forming my argument by reading scripture and books on apologetics. After weeks of study and thought, I came to the conclusion that the position I was debating was not only sounded logically but it was indeed truth. God had used my temporal motives to bring me to a saving faith in Jesus Christ by confronting me with the truth of scripture.
- ◆ Do you study and meditate on the word of God daily? *Yes*
- ◆ Do you teach your children the word of God as Deut. 6:4-9 admonishes? *Yes*
- ◆ How do you lead your family spiritually?
I accept my God ordained duty and responsibility as the spiritual leader of my family. I also realize the critical importance of living a Christ like example of the Biblical values I try to instill in my children. I am painfully aware of my sinful nature and I am appropriately convicted and humbled by my failure to always demonstrate a Godly example. I am able to admit when I am wrong and quickly ask for forgiveness and seek restoration.

My overwhelming mission is to ensure that my children come to know Jesus as their Savior and that they will love, follow and obey Him throughout their lives. I want my children to know what they believe and why they believe it. I want them to experience the joy of daily walking in His Spirit rather than seeking the momentary pleasures of this world. I want them to fully and completely understand the sufficiency of Christ. I desire that they learn to apply the truth of scripture rather than conventional worldly thought or deceptive emotions.

JoAnn and I make Christ the center of our family and cherish our marriage as a critical element in raising a spiritually vital family. We place the highest priority on time we spend together as a family. We try to incorporate Biblical principals in the everyday events of our family's lives as they occur and at various times such as dinner and bedtime. We utilize scripture to counsel our children as they deal with the emotions and challenges of growing up.

6. CLASSICAL EDUCATION:

◆ In your own words, describe the vision and mission of CCS?

- 1. Encourage children to develop and grow in their relationship with the Lord.*
- 2. Educate students with a distinctively classical approach utilizing scripture as the ultimate authority of truth.*
- 3. Arm students with the tools of learning so that they enjoy learning and become lifetime learners.*
- 4. Discipline and strengthen the minds of students so that they are able to “take every thought captive to the obedience of Christ”.*
- 5. Develop students who are able to listen intently, reason correctly and articulate ideas accurately and effectively.*

◆ In your own words, define classical education:

Classical education is a methodology for teaching that utilizes the Trivium as an educational model. The Trivium uses teaching techniques and material that aligns with God's design for a child's cognitive development. Because it corresponds to a particular stage of the child's development, the child becomes a much more effective and efficient learner. The focus is to teach children “how to learn” to enable them to be lifetime learners of any subject matter and to develop, within the child, a love of learning.

◆ Explain in your own words, what is meant by “CCS is following the Logos Model”.

Logos School is a Classical Christian School in Moscow, Idaho founded by Doug Wilson in 1981. We are using Logos as a prototype because they have proven to be successful not only academically but also in the spiritual development of its students. Under Larry Stephenson's leadership we have begun to create our own identity while holding true to the core elements of Logos.

- ◆ Please explain the three stages of the Trivium in your own words, and what differences there are between them:

The Grammar Stage (K – 6th grade) focuses on the collection and accumulation of basic facts and the fundamental rules of a particular subject. Chants, memorization, and recitations characterize the teaching methods of the Grammar Stage.

The Dialectic Stage (7th – 9th grade) focuses on comprehending, analyzing and utilizing the facts learned in the Grammar Stage by understanding and demonstrating how they relate to one another. Answers must not only be correct but students must justify their answers. Students develop their ability to evaluate positions and reason soundly through the formal study of logic. Discussions, debates, report writing and role-playing are methods used in this stage.

The Rhetoric Stage (10th grade – 12th grade) focuses on creatively expressing ideas and knowledge both verbally and in written form. Students develop the ability to express themselves succinctly and persuasively using sound principles of logic. Speeches, debates, and research papers characterize methods of teaching in the Rhetoric Stage.

- ◆ In your own words, what are three characteristics of an excellent classical education built upon a biblical worldview?

- 1. The integration of subjects to each other*
- 2. The integration of Biblical concepts and scripture into each and every subject*
- 3. The utilization of the teaching methods and materials that align with the Trivium including teaching Latin, logic and rhetoric*

- ◆ If you looked into a classroom that you considered was an excellent run class, what would you see?

I would see an enthusiastic, well-prepared, well-organized teacher. The teacher would not only have a genuine love for children but an unashamed love for the subject matter that they are teaching. Teachers would have equal interest in conveying information and inspiring their students. Students would be attentive, respectful of the teacher and one another, and eager to learn. They would be willingly participating in class discussions or diligently working on an assignment.

<Digitally signed by Rick Wharton>

Signature