

THE GENEVA SCHOOL

A YEAR IN REVIEW

2024-2025

THE GENEVA SCHOOL 2024–2025

AYEAR IN REVIEW

THANK YOU!

To all donors, parents, employees, and volunteers, we could not have had the year we did without your gifts! Your kindness and generosity made a significant impact.

Thank you!

WHY DO YOU SUPPORT THE GENEVA SCHOOL WITH YOUR PRECIOUS RESOURCES OF TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURE?

As Christian parents, my husband and I recognize that God has given us the blessings of a church family and a school community to help assist us in the faith formation of our child. We realize that God has called us to raise up the next generation to be godly men and women.

And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. (Deut. 6:6–8)

Geneva is a community that holds the values we wanted placed before our son. We were looking well beyond graduation into eternity. We feel the Spirit is at work among the people at Geneva and our family is committed to joining kingdom work and raising up the next generation.

Additionally, the education provided at Geneva is one that inspires students to learn and teaches them to not only think but to be able to skillfully articulate thoughts and ideas. We also know the impact on a student when they are exposed to things that are beautiful and given opportunities to interact with the things they are learning.

WHAT BENEFITS/FRUIT/IMPACT DO YOU SEE IN YOUR FAMILY BECAUSE OF A GENEVA EDUCATION?

Being here at The Geneva School has given us a community that has richly blessed us. We are spiritually supported, encouraged, and prayed over. Events such as plays and concerts, presentations by guest speakers, and the artwork throughout the school has nourished our souls. And further, as we have been changed, we have been given opportunities to reach out to others and make a difference in their lives.

VANESSA AND JAY SCHAEFER

Alumni parents

FROM THE BOARD CHAIRMAN

Does education still matter in this age of constant communication? We experience rapid-fire, multi-sourced streams of information full of sound-bites. We can Google nearly anything and get an answer to a question in milliseconds, our social media algorithms are finely tuned to the content we most want, headlines are generated to specifically grab our interest, and the average adult receives over 100 emails every day.

We think the answer to this question is a resounding yes. Yes, children need an education like the one The Geneva School offers. Children need to know how to think, discern the accuracy of the presented information, ask questions that matter, speak winsomely and with wisdom, interact in person with others, explore and discover new ideas, grow and mature, listen to mentors who are invested in seeing them own the gospel, and develop a tool box that allows them to continue to learn well beyond their days in the Geneva hallways. Information is not wisdom. And so much of life demands wisdom in order to navigate a given situation: political, social, emotional, academic, and spiritual.



The Geneva School strives to be a place where students learn, grow, and mature into lovely, competent, compassionate adults who know who they are, what their gifts are, and, most importantly, whose they are. They have been made by the Creator God who loves them and has created them for his purposes.

The board and administration seek to make a Geneva education as affordable as possible while also stewarding the resources of the school for generations to come. Tuition and fees make up roughly 88% of the overall operating budget and donations provide the rest. Thank you for your generous support of financial partnership, prayers, and volunteer time. Even though we know that our alumni will continue to learn and mature, each time I shake the hand of a Geneva graduate as they cross the stage, hope springs up for the many ways that a new class of Geneva graduates will impact their college, church, city, family, and vocation.



With gratitude

John Riley

Chairman, The Geneva School Board of Governors

2024–2025 BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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OUR MISSION

The Geneva School seeks to provide students in grades K4–12 an extraordinary education, by means of an integrated curriculum, pedagogy, and culture, both distinctly classical and distinctively Christian, that pursues goodness, truth, and beauty in all spheres of life, while viewing these spheres as elements of a divinely ordered whole. Geneva exists to inspire students to love beauty, think deeply, and pursue Christ's calling.

2024-2025 SCHOOL STATS

Sometimes statistics help paint a picture and they are certainly helpful check points to compare year over year as the school reflects on ways to refine this education. But in the same way that seeing a picture of a van Gogh is not the same as seeing the van Gogh in person, these statistics are not able to tell the whole story. God has uniquely gifted each student; therefore, the ways in which a student is transformed by this education will look different. However, all students who graduate from Geneva will have had the opportunity to hone their leadership skills, develop eyes to see their neighbor and joyfully give of themselves to serve those around them, test their grit and perseverance, compete fiercely but accept both a win and a loss graciously, grow friendships and discuss topics of enduring value as they listen to various voices in the conversation. Who a Geneva student is and how they show up are harder metrics to measure in numbers, but enjoy this sampling of numbers and examples as they help give you a window into who Geneva students are and what Geneva students do. We would all agree that even seeing a picture of a van Gogh is better than not ever seeing the masterpiece at all.



CAMPUS

RESIDENT SANDHILL CRANES

1 COMMUNITY

20 VARSITY SPORTS

11:1
STUDENT TO
TEACHER RATIO

30+
ELECTIVES

590 ALUMNI SINCE 2001

703 STUDENTS ENROLLED

426 students in K4–6th 277 students in 7th–12th

32
YEARS OF EDUCATING

45+
ACRES



CELEBRATING OUR STUDENTS



"The task of the modern educator is not to cut down jungles but to irrigate deserts."

C. S. Lewis, The Abolition of Man

GENEVA STUDENTS ARE THINKERS

- Over the last 25 years, 12% of Geneva students were recognized in the National Merit program.
- Geneva had 4 National Merit Commended Students and 1 National Merit Finalist in the class of 2025 (15% of the class).
- From 2021 to 2025, 521 AP exams were administered—82% received a score of 3 or higher, and 55% received a score of 4 or higher.
- From 2021 to 2025, the average SAT EBRW (English) was 657, and the average math score was 630.
- In the 2024–2025 school year, students won 5 firstplace awards in FJCL (Florida Junior Classical League) competitions and earned 1 perfect score on the JCL National Latin Exam.
- In the 2024–2025 school year, Geneva had 3 quarterfinalist teams, 1 semifinalist team, and 1 first-place team in its first year of Speech and Debate tournaments.
- In the 2024–2025 school year, Geneva had 1 CLT (Classic Learning Test) National Award Recipient (top 50 in the country) and 3 CLT Regional Scholars (top 5% in the region).



"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace."

1 Peter 4:10 ESV

GENEVA STUDENTS SERVE

- Ninth–twelfth graders served 5,259 hours last year an average of over 30 hours per student.
- For the 2024–2025 SALT Serveathon, every student, faculty, staff, and parent volunteers served 14 different nonprofits, and the students raised nearly \$400,000.
- The community donated enough items for the National Honor Society to pack nearly 60 boxes for Operation Christmas Child.
- Competing for a grant, 25 students researched local nonprofits that had been selected by the Victory Cup Initiative. Then, 10 students presented about the nonprofit they researched in front of the upper school student body in order to educate the students but also to winsomely persuade them to vote for the nonprofit who should receive a cash award—\$1,000 from the Victory Cup Initiative, divided amongst the top 3 nonprofit organizations.



"You will know as much of God, and only as much of God, as you are willing to put into practice."

Eric Liddell, The Disciplines of the Christian Life

GENEVA STUDENTS ARE ATHLETIC

- Geneva offers 38 upper school sports teams; 20 of which compete at the varsity level.
- Of upper school students, 84% played at least 1 middle school, junior varsity, or varsity sport.
- Across multiple sports in the 2024–2025 school year, 6 athletes were named to all-district teams.
- In the 2024–2025 school year, Geneva won 4 district championships (softball, girls tennis, girls soccer, girls track & field).
- In the 2024–2025 school year, Geneva's softball team won the regional championship.
- In track & field in the 2024–2025 school year, Geneva had a repeat regional champion in pole vault (third year in a row).
- In swimming & diving in the 2024-2025 school year, Geneva had a repeat swimmer advance to the state meet.
- Geneva had its first Division 1 scholarship-signed male athlete.



"The more we get to know about our universe, the more the hypothesis that there is a Creator God, who designed the universe for a purpose, gains in credibility as the best explanation of why we are here."

John C. Lennox, God's Undertaker: Has Science Buried God?

GENEVA STUDENTS ARE MATHEMATICIANS AND **SCIENTISTS**

- On the mathematics portion of the ERB standardized test, 98.5% of second-eighth grade students scored at or above the national norm.
- Geneva's team of 6 students took second place in the simulator challenge at the Student Astronaut Challenge, an aerospace-related secondary (grades 6-12) STEM competition.
- By the end of fourth grade, students have already dissected 6 specimens: a flower, a frog, a snake, an owl pellet, a sheep's eye, a fish, and a squid.



"We do live in a world where there is darkness and light, and the sooner kids know that, the better. They need to know that we have a choice, and we do have the option to choose good."

Madeleine L'Engle

GENEVA STUDENTS ARE READERS

- Students checked out over 30,000 books during the 2024-2025 school year (outside of classroomassigned books); that is an average of 45 books per student. Students learn about their world, themselves, and how to live through reading—great literature deepens understanding, creativity, and imagination, as well as a sense of empathy.
- On the reading comprehension section of the ERB standardized test, 96% of second-eighth grade students scored at or above the national norm.
- 500+ books are read to the K4 students each year! Imagine the characters they met, the hilarious moments that created laughter, and the poignant lessons learned through stories.
- Ninth-twelfth grade students dive deep into some of the greatest literature written, from Shakespeare to Dickens, from Orwell to Tolkien, spending time discussing the themes and applying them to life.



"We are all constantly teaching and learning, forgiving and being forgiven, representing Christ to man when we intercede, and man to Christ when others intercede for us. The sacrifice of selfish privacy which is daily demanded of us [in the body of Christ] is daily repaid a hundredfold in the true growth of personality which the life of the Body encourages."

C. S. Lewis, The Weight of Glory

GENEVA STUDENTS ARE ACTIVE

- Lower school students spent 22% of their day outside socializing, playing, eating, and moving their bodies in PE.
- Lower school students enjoy more than 110 hours of art, music, and performing arts instruction and practice each year.
- Upper school students can choose from over 30 different arts and academic elective classes.
- Rhetoric school students can choose from 15 cocurricular activities, such as clubs and music ensembles; they also participate in house activities such as field day, special meals, and other competitions throughout the year, and compete in athletics.
- From exploring the Panhandle to exploring the Parthenon, students have 8 opportunities for overnight field trips: fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth grade trips; the rhetoric retreat; AP Photography trip; and a trip to Italy and Greece in the summer. These trips provide room for students to become more independent, to develop relationships with classmates, to broaden their horizons beyond their neighborhoods, and to grow in their faith as they see their creator through a wider lens.



"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men." Colossians 3:23 FSV

GENEVA STUDENTS ARE LEADERS

- USA Grand Prize Winner MED-EL IDEASforEARS international invention competition
- Eagle Scout
- Distinguished Young Woman of Orange County
- TGS house officers (captains, ambassadors, communications, games, hospitality, marquee, treasurer)—students who lead their peers, plan house events such as field day or special lunches, and build community among ninth—twelfth graders
- TGS Senate members (one representative from each grade in each house)—students who work to share the voice of the student body with school leadership (for example, the senate led the movement to be able to wear TGS spiritwear any day of the week, except for chapel dress day)
- 64 fourth graders, preparing for their roles as knights and ladies, mentored by rhetoric students leading up to the knighting ceremony



"Beauty can lead to peace, lasting peace, not simply by desiring for it, but by creating it. Art, as part of Faith, can be the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

Mako Fujimura

GENEVA STUDENTS ARE CREATORS

- Students in K4—twelfth grade performed 46 plays. As we imagine who we want our students to be when they graduate, one facet is students who have grown into well-spoken, confident, gracious speakers, for an audience of those who are known and unknown. Even the youngest students at Geneva develop the skills to make presentations and perform, from the K4 *Three Piggy Opera* to kindergarten's Thanksgiving play to the Peter Rabbit play performed by first graders.
- In the 2024–2025 school year, the Rhetoric Choir was selected to sing at Carnegie Hall in New York City.
- In the 2024–2025 school year, 7 choir members were named to all-state choirs; they also performed at the FMEA Conference in January 2025.
- Geneva had 1 musician in the All-State Honors Orchestra and 1 musician in the All-State Honors Band; they also performed at the FMEA Conference in January 2025.
- Geneva saw 2 first-place awards and 1 Award of Merit at the Winter Park sidewalk chalk art festival.
- Geneva saw 1 first-place award for a high school group and 1 Best of Show award in the Winter Garden chalk festival.

IMPACT



WHY WE GIVE



CATHY AND KIM LOPDRUP

Alumni parents and current grandparents

WHY DO YOU SUPPORT THE GENEVA SCHOOL WITH YOUR PRECIOUS RESOURCES OF TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURE?

Perhaps the strongest endorsement is that we sent all four of our children to Geneva and all flourished in the encouraging, caring, and genuine atmosphere. We are forever grateful for the kindness and prayer support

of the students, faculty, and staff over the years.

WHAT BENEFITS/FRUIT/IMPACT DO YOU SEE IN YOUR FAMILY BECAUSE OF A GENEVA EDUCATION?

One example is a comment from our daughter Rebecca after a year or so at the University of Virginia. She said she was much more prepared for a college environment and higher level education style than her UVA classmates.

DO YOU HAVE ANY "GENEVA MOMENTS" THAT YOU WOULD BE WILLING TO SHARE?

Our first experience with Geneva occurred more than twenty years ago, courtesy of Hurricane Charlie, in August 2004. Power was out for almost two weeks for many of us in Winter Park, meaning the very first weeks of

school were interrupted. However, this provided us with the opportunity to reconsider Geneva for our three schoolage daughters. We toured the campus via flashlight and were immediately captivated by the campus and the classical model. A few days later, with hastily gathered new uniforms and full electricity, we began our Geneva journey, and all four of our children are proud graduates.

Years ago, the current campus was just a dream and a plot of land. I recall the day the Geneva community was introduced to the new area with, I believe, food catered by 4 Rivers. I remember our son, George, who was four or five at the time, running into the arms of Dayle Seneff who asked, "Do you know why we're here today?" And George squealed with delight and said, "We're going to build my school!" George graduated in 2021.



ERICA AND DANIEL PIGULA

Current parents

WHY DO YOU SUPPORT THE GENEVA SCHOOL WITH YOUR PRECIOUS RESOURCES OF TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURE?

Not only is Geneva an incredible academic institution, but we also view Geneva as a safe haven for our children. We know that their spiritual growth and overall well-being can be

trusted in the care of Geneva staff while they are on campus. This sort of deep trust naturally makes one want to give back in gratitude and appreciation.

WHAT BENEFITS/FRUIT/IMPACT DO YOU SEE IN YOUR FAMILY BECAUSE OF A GENEVA EDUCATION?

We have witnessed our children's friendships flourish since arriving a few years ago. A wonderful benefit of this incredible community is the opportunity for us to make friends with amazing parents, too. Having come from an area where we lived for almost forty years with all of our family to an area where we have no family, it is remarkable to be able to feel so welcomed and embraced in a school community. The bonds formed are truly special, like friends you feel you have known forever.

DO YOU HAVE ANY "GENEVA MOMENTS" THAT YOU WOULD BE WILLING TO SHARE?

One of the most touching moments we have experienced over the last three years is the simple act of bringing a classroom birthday treat to the lower school for a fifteen-minute celebration. Each one of the boys' teachers would offer a meaningful and special prayer, and enthusiastic classmates would offer encouraging words to the birthday boy. After that, seeing the boys get hugs from their teachers always makes me tear up as I realize this atmosphere would not have been possible in our former school. We feel so blessed that God led us to The Geneva School, and we are so grateful for the many ways the school has enriched our lives!

INVITATION

****our philanthropic partnership with the school matters; Υ it impacts the lives of the 700+ students at Geneva. We recognize and are grateful for the many families who prioritize The Geneva School in their giving decisions each year. For over 30 years, families have created a culture of generosity by choosing to invest through prayer, planning, and sacrificial giving; we are grateful and still benefitting from that legacy today. At Geneva, financial giving is not viewed as transactional; it is the natural overflow from the valued partnership and friendship we share in shaping the lives of another generation of students who are being inspired to love beauty, think deeply, and pursue Christ's calling. Giving and philanthropic investing are delightful elements of Geneva, helping to make this community a truly special place and feel like home for so many. Your giving is a testament to this thriving community.

Annual giving allows the school to provide a more exceptional experience for every student daily. Like all private schools, we charge tuition to fund a portion of the educational experience. The remaining portion comes from giving. Each gift is deployed immediately to enhance the academic, artistic, spiritual, and athletic life of the school, increase safety and security, and provide access to a Geneva education for many students.

Gifts for specific initiatives and capital projects are also important because they promote greater excellence in the life of the school. Donors give when they are confident that additional giving can literally help open more doors for more students to attend or help a program execute with greater efficacy. We are blessed to have a healthy campus home whose physical qualities and beauty match the quality and beauty of the education students experience within their classrooms.

We invite you and every family to join this vital, missional work by making a gift and consider what amount you may be able to give. Every gift, no matter the amount, is appreciated and makes a difference. Our desire is that every family participate in the Geneva Annual Giving program. The amount does not matter; the important thing is that we work together as a community to support The Geneva School.

With your gift, we can together inspire students to love beauty, think deeply, and pursue Christ's calling. Please consider partnering with us by making your annual fund gift today.

WAYS TO GIVE

If you have any questions about the school, the needs, how to give, how to be more involved, please contact Katie Deatherage at kideatherage@genevaschool.org or text her at 407-484-9055.

ONLINE

Go to genevaschool.org/donate and make a one-time or recurring donation to the card of your choice or from a checking account.

CHECK

Mail your check to:

The Geneva School Attn: Advancement Office 1775 Seminola Blvd Winter Springs, Florida 32707

STOCK

Please send Katie Deatherage an email (kideatherge@ genevaschool.org) alerting her that you have initiated a donation of stock. There is an instruction form from National Christian Foundation that is helpful.

DTC CLEARING 0226

National Financial Services, LLC

For the account of National Christian Charitable Foundation, Inc.

Account Number 479-048720

The Geneva School Single Charity Fund Account Number is #1494355

MATCHING GIFT

Please check with your employer to see if they offer a matching gift program. Corporate matching programs can double or triple your gift's impact on Geneva.

> Please scan the QR code to donate by e-check or credit/debit card



genevaschool.org/donate

FROM THE PRESIDENT

recently attended Geneva's inaugural Athletics Hall of Fame induction dinner. Three deserving alumni were recognized that evening. One of the inductees graduated in 2010 and two in 2015. By being ten and fifteen years post-graduation from Geneva, they are well on their way with their careers and family life.

Each graduate was nominated, voted on, and recognized for both their outstanding athletic accomplishments and their commitment to living a life that exemplifies the ethos of the Geneva mission. Former coaches applauded the individual records that each had set years ago that have stood the test of time and are still at or near the top of the list of Geneva records. Each was also recognized for the incredible young people they were and the adults they have become. Speakers at the dinner remembered the inductees for being strong, focused, selfless, kind, giving, and caring. Rather than diminish, these qualities have grown over time. The bar they have set for future inductees is high, both in terms of athletic accomplishments and exemplary lives.



Even though we now have an Athletics Hall of Fame, our Christian classical approach to education does not compartmentalize excellence in athletics from the arts or academics. All three are necessary for developing students into the kind of people who continue to live out our mission: to love beauty, think deeply, and pursue Christ's calling. Our Hall of Fame members, the first of many to come, exemplify these qualities, ones we seek for all of our graduates.

One observation that all three inductees shared was how much Geneva has grown since they were students. When they were in school, Geneva had about 470 students. Today, we have over 730. They marveled at the new academic buildings and gymnasium and expressed a little envy that they did not get to study or compete in them.

While Geneva has grown and changed over the last fifteen years, the mission of the school remains the same and is strong as ever. Interestingly, a few weeks later, I listened to Coach David Langdon at the closing banquet for the football team talk about his players. I smiled as I noted that although these seventy-five young men are fifteen to twenty years younger than the Hall of Fame inductees, the words describing them were remarkably similar: focused, disciplined, strong, selfless, giving, and caring. The portrait of a graduate, the aspirational ideal of who our alumni will be, and the mission of Geneva have not changed. The buildings, some of the people, and some of the programs may have grown and changed, but the vision is the same.

God has done this good work through Geneva, forming these three exemplary graduates years ago and shaping students in the current student body, with the generous help and support many have given to the school for decades. Thank you for being a part of this good work.

From the School President

Be Rylen

Brad Ryden





Happy work is best done by the man who takes his long-term plans somewhat lightly and works from moment to moment "as to the Lord." . . . The present is the only time in which any duty can be done or any grace received.

C. S. Lewis, *The Weight of Glory*