



Dear Beloved Gaarde Family,

January 22, 2021

It has been a long and faith-filled journey thus far into our school year. I am incredibly proud of our teachers, staff, and administration team. Our decision to open the school with half attendance and without our wonderful preschool was challenging logistically, financially, and governmentally. However, all along the way, God has been with us, guiding us during this crisis, and we are exceedingly grateful for the support we have received from our parents. You chose to **take that step of faith** with us and followed the health department guidelines as we opened in-person school. We believe that God honors those who keep their word, and we pray that He continues to honor us as we move forward in this school year and preparation for the next.

As we move towards enrollment with existing Gaarde student registration in just under a week, more than ever, I am encouraged and excited to answer the question, "*Why Gaarde?*" Why choose Gaarde Christian next year for your students? I believe that Gaarde Christian school exists for "***such a time as this***" (Esther 4:14) in our history to provide a choice for Christian families and their child's education. There are ***FIVE fantastic reasons*** why discerning Christian parents should choose GCS:

- 1) **Gaarde Christian is a safe and caring place** where your child(ren) can learn to follow Jesus, receive a solid foundational understanding of a Christian world-view and their place in this world. Furthermore, we believe Gaarde Christian students will be "*world changers for our Savior.*"
- 2) **Gaarde Christian has well stated historical Christian beliefs and values** that align with our school families' historical Christian values.
- 3) **Gaarde Christian believes in your parental rights** and "parent-first" value in parents having oversight of their children and not the "state first" and "parents second" model. The "state-first" and "parent-second" model is a written and stated goal of the state and public education. We do not believe it is the place of the state to make fundamental determinations for underage children, but rather, the God-given authority for the children lies in the stewardship of the parents.

- 4) **Gaarde Christian strives for excellence in education**, where Christ-following servant-teachers place your child's whole self (spirit, body, soul & mind) first. We live-out the servant-leader value of, *"Your child, our calling."*

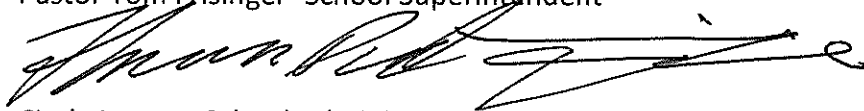
- 5) **Gaarde Christian is a ministry of Faith Journey Church** and has doctrinal foundational spiritual oversight that is linked to a church that has been serving the community for almost 70 years. As a ministry of Faith Journey Church, Gaarde Christian is committed to serving our community and placing the needs of the faith community and school families ahead of profits, personal goals, or programs. GCS believes in "people over programs."

Thank you, again, for entrusting your children for their education and allowing GCS to provide a safe place to know, love and live for Jesus Christ. We look forward to a fantastic 2021-22 school year and trust that we will work together as we see God work in the lives of your children.

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly (beyond) than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen. ~Ephesians 3:20-21

God Bless You All,

Pastor Tom Frisinger -School Superintendent



Cindy Loyaza -School Administrator

