



Living Our Mission

Updated: January 2016

ECS exists to provide an exemplary learning environment to educate and equip students with a Biblical worldview who confidently engage the culture and impact the world for Christ. We summarize our Mission in four “Es”: ***Educate, Equip, and Engage with Excellence.***

With the Bible as our foundation, we are intentional in the coordination of our curriculum, experiences, opportunities, and plans to further our mission, inspire students, and glorify the Lord! Examples of how we live out our mission include:

Excellence

- Achieve an “A” Rating, Four-Star designation, and High Achievement/High Growth commendation from the Indiana Dept. of Education. ECS has been A-rated every year.
- Achieve exemplary student outcomes, including:
 - ISTEP scores in the top 5% of all schools in the State;
 - High percent of ECS students (40-50%) scoring in the Pass+ range on ISTEP;
 - Essentially 100% of students pass IREAD-3;
 - MAP assessments above the national norms at all grade levels in reading, language, math, and science;
 - 50% of ECS 8th grade students take Algebra I compared to 25% in the State; and
 - 80%+ of 1st-8th are reading at or above grade level based on STAR benchmark.
- Maintain small classes (avg. 18) and low student-teacher ratio (13 to 1).
- Adhere to a rigorous grading scale and Teacher Accountability process.
- Maintain full accreditations by IDOE, AdvancED, and ACSI.
- Place significant emphasis on professional and spiritual development of staff.
- Foster a culture that encourages continuous improvement and change to better meet needs.

Educate

- Feature a rigorous & relevant curriculum which aligns with and exceeds Indiana’s standards.
- Create a positive, nurturing environment that inspires students to excel.
- Meet diverse learning needs of students and address various learning styles, e.g. DI.
- Feature 100% licensed, Christian teachers who serve as our “living curriculum.”
- Partner with parents and involve them throughout the school; an active PTF.
- Research, train, and implement best educational practices, e.g. RTI, DI, etc.
- Focus on study, organizational, and life skills which lay the foundation for success.
- Emphasize problem solving, critical thinking, collaboration, and other 21st century skills.

Equip

- Align school, church, and home in shaping students.
- Build a foundation of Biblical values and character.
- Provide opportunities for Christian service and leadership.
- Provide a range of relevant and real-world (authentic) experiences.

- Engage students in leading worship in chapel at all ages.
- Focus on hands-on learning and inquiry-based science.
- Integrate a wide range of technologies and focus on their use as a tool for learning, analysis, creation, collaboration, and presentation; focus on ethical, responsible use of technology.
- 1-to1, BYOD (Bring-Your-Own-Device) program for middle school students.
- Offer a broad range of experiences and opportunities to discover students' gifts and talents, including musicals, dramas, speech team, show choir, and Student Leadership Teams.
- Focus athletics on character/leadership development (80% of 5th-8th graders participate).
- Partner with pastors and the community (serve as a unifying ministry).
- Foster positive peer relationships (iron sharpens iron); peer mentoring; and older students helping younger students.

Engage

- Provide a Christ-centered education, i.e. an integrated Biblical worldview.
- Hold regular & special chapels; small groups for 6th-8th grade students.
- Develop servant leaders with a heart for missions – locally, nationally, and internationally.
- Prepare students for life beyond ECS through Student Leadership Institute (SLi).
- Hold Bible studies for various groups, often based on student request.
- Include an evangelical message throughout our school, programs, and activities.
- Adopt and support missionaries for each grade. Further multiple students and staff go on mission trips through local churches and Uncharted International.
- Include a mission component to class trips for 5th-8th grade students.
- Encourage students to wrestle with culturally relevant issues in a safe environment, e.g. Truth Talks, chapels, small groups, and SLi.
- Connect with other schools/Christian schools and share learnings.
- Serve the community, participate in various projects, and serve our church partners, including Service Learning elective, Hope for Uganda, Soles4Souls, Operation Christmas Child, Coat-A-Kid, and more.

When I have a student in my class who attended ECS through middle school, they stand out. They are hard workers. They know how to study and care about their grades. They are a positive example to other students. – Public High School Teacher

Academics are what drew us to ECS. No matter what, we were not willing to compromise our children's education. But, it's also a blessing to have our values and beliefs reinforced every day in the classroom by amazing teachers. Things that are important to my kids are important to their teachers. - Mark & Donna Logan, Parents of ECS Alumni

To select a kindergarten for our son, I called several area high schools – each counselor recommended one or two feeder schools – but EVERY one recommended ECS and commented on how well ECS students are prepared. – Kindergarten Parent

They will soar on wings as eagles. – Isaiah 40:31

Founded 1975