



Pawsitive Press

The latest in good news & announcements from Outreach Christian Education

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Why This Mom Chose Outreach

It was one week before school was to start and Carissa Grossman still had not found a school for her 14 year old daughter, Victoria. "My daughter is smart...but was failing academically. I was frustrated with her school because they would not allow her to repeat classes...Victoria was also being bullied and there was no effort to stop it." Carissa knew she had to find a better place for her daughter -- one where she was accepted, supported and challenged to do her best.

In desperation, Carissa tearfully voiced her anxieties to her prayer group at church one Sunday evening. One member mentioned a private school in his small town of Avondale, MO. He said he didn't know much about the school, but urged her to "check it out." Carissa called the school the next day to set an appointment, but since she'd already been let down several times by schools she'd explored over the summer, she kept her expectations low. But from the...

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Continuing the Mission

It was 1979 when James and Margie McCartney first opened Outreach Christian Early Education's first center in Parkville, Missouri for the purpose of helping children succeed where other schools had failed. The Parkville school started with just 5 students. The goal, Mrs. Margie explains, was to "teach reading, writing and arithmetic with spiritual principles...to help students learn to live in this world living out God's world-view." For nearly 45 years now, Outreach Christian Education (OCE) has provided a quality, individualized educational experience for students, and a standing invitation to all to receive the gospel of Jesus Christ. OCE has grown steadily over the decades, expanding schooling to middle school and high school aged students in the early 2000s. But over the past three years, Outreach has experienced

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Record Enrollment!

OCE launched the 2023-2024 school year with record enrollment since our reopening in 2011! So far this year, we have enrolled the following numbers: Early Education: 70 Elementary: 81 Secondary: 36 Enrichment/Homeschool: 13 What an exciting time to be a Bulldog! We would like to welcome our new families to OCE, as well! The following families are new to OCE (or to our NKC campuses), and we are thrilled to have you join the fam: Lajines, Rojas, Stretesky, Raulsten, Florida, Tumbleson, Cardona/Peralta, Fosah, de la Cruz, Taber, Veyera, Duncan, Rincon/Velasquez.



The \$15 Challenge for Children!

Each year, at least 20% of OCE families experience a significant financial hardship by the midpoint of the school calendar. The hardship can mean a family will be faced with having to withdraw their child from OCE and enroll them in a public school.

And although we are one of the most affordable Christian schools in the metro, we often receive calls from parents and grandparents who desperately want their child to attend our school, but find themselves ill-prepared to make the move due to limited financial resources.



THE SOLUTION

For less than the cost of 4 Starbucks coffees a month, you can be a safety net and a beacon of hope for these students. We are seeking 100 donors to partner with us for 1 year. As of this mailing, 13 people have already pledged their support!

Will you be one of the remaining 87 to partner with us for \$15/month?

Your regular donation of \$15 or more each month will help cover the cost of books, tuition and activity fees for students. You can begin giving today on a monthly basis by visiting this link.

Outreach Christian Education relies on the generosity of people like you to support the longevity of this ministry to children and their families. Through your giving, you advance our mission to provide a customized, quality, traditional education with a Biblical worldview for each and every student who walks through our doors. Outreach Christian Education welcomes and sincerely appreciates your partnership. Thank you in advance for helping to provide stability and continuity for our students and families!



WHY THIS MOM CHOSE OCE... CONTINUED



Victoria with friends at OCE

moment she stepped through the doors of Outreach, “it felt like coming home,” she recalled. Carissa explained to Mrs. Kathy with detail that her decade-long profession as a registered nurse afforded her, about her daughter’s autism, and some of the relevant manifestations of a child who is on the spectrum. Because children with autism often do not catch unspoken social cues, bullying and ostracism had been a way of life at Victoria’s former schools.

Gaining mastery of academic concepts was an experience Carissa wanted for her daughter. Mathematics was a particularly distressing subject for Victoria. A fifteen-minute math homework assignment often became an all-night emotional battle. Past schools seemed to have no interest in offering remedial courses, but Carissa wanted her daughter to have a fresh start, and she felt that start should include retaking necessary courses. When she’d finished explaining her hopes and needs, Carissa recalled Mrs. Kathy smiling and saying, “You’ve come to the right place. What you want is exactly what we do...we meet children where they are.”

That was two years ago. The girl who felt for years that she “couldn’t learn” is now thriving at Outreach. In her first year, Victoria advanced an astonishing three grade levels in math, and at least two grade levels in all other subjects. Mom reports she is on track to be in the top 10% for number of PACEs completed this school year. Her test scores reveal that she has a solid grasp on what she’s learning.

Equally important, Victoria is making friends. “She has a few friends that she talks to regularly on the phone, and she’s been invited to parties and a sleepover. That’s huge, just huge,” Mom smiles.

Carissa credits the educational model and the small teacher - student ratio OCE offers as pivotal to the academic and emotional changes she sees in her daughter. “Victoria still struggles with math at times, but the meltdowns are less frequent.” Mom also sees improvement in her daughter’s physical appearance and posture. “Victoria is not carrying around the stress of failure and rejection. School is a safe place now.”



Facts About Autism

Autism is a difference that can be hard to see. Autism is a difference in the way someone thinks. Even though there are differences, it doesn’t mean your classmate with autism wants to be left alone.

Be a good friend to your classmate by:

- 1. Playing alongside or sitting next to her.**
- 2. Inviting him to participate with you or the group.**
- 3. Being patient and cheerfully giving another chance.**

Excerpt from marcus.org

Continuing the Mission

a phenomenal growth rate--over 270%! To accommodate the demand from the public for a quality, no-nonsense education, we've been leasing space at a church two miles away to house our middle and high school students. We have added staff to support those students, and can currently boast of a 1 to 13 student-teacher ratio. Starting at \$6150, Outreach's tuition is one the most affordable in the region. However, for many families, this price remains a significant barrier to the education they know their child needs and deserves. We realize God is both trusting and requiring more of us now, and we want to continue to be an answer to the prayers of parents and grandparents looking for a way out of the system, but we cannot accomplish this alone. Would you prayerfully consider partnering with us so that we can help more parents free their children from the disturbing trends taking place in public schools? Your gift is sincerely appreciated!

MOSCHOLARS PROGRAM

Additionally, if you pay at least \$1,000 in Missouri taxes as an individual or business owner, please consider participating in the MO Scholars program. This new legislation empowers you to donate up to 50% of your tax liability to an education fund that provides scholarships for qualifying parents who want to select a school that best meets their child's needs. Outreach has 22 students currently participating in this program, but sustainability of the scholarships depends on tax dedications from individuals and business owners like you. To learn more, or to request a presentation on the MO Scholars program, send an email to Shannon@outreacheducation.org or reach her at 816.663.9836. Thank you for your support and continued prayers for OCE!

- Kathy Taylor, Headmaster



Congratulations Dr. Bullard!

This past May, OCE Principal Jessica Bullard earned her Doctorate in Philosophy in Education from Regent University. Dr. Bullard, is a 2005 graduate of Outreach Christian Education. Head of School Kathy Taylor issued a public congratulation to Dr. Bullard for achieving the distinction, saying: "More impressive than the certificate on the wall or the new title attached to your name, is the behind-the-scenes determination, perseverance, and endurance that was unseen by others....you undertook this great task while working full time as principal, teaching an English class twice a week, daily mentoring students and carrying their burdens, serving faithfully in your church, and maintaining relationships with those around you. You have set a beautiful example of what OCE stands for: grit and determination...May strength and honor continue to clothe you; and may you be ever confident about the future." Congratulations, Dr. Bullard, Ph.D. !!!





This is just our elementary student body! We've experienced record enrollments for the last 3 years.



Worship and prayer-it's how we start our day!



Honoring those who served our country at our annual OCE Veterans Day Program 2023.



Lunchtime is always a good time!

Join the Bulldog Family!

If your family would like to become part of our school family, it's not too late! There is room for your child to find a place where they belong, recognize an opportunity to shine, succeed and learn about the God who created them with purpose. Your child will find academic growth, spiritual foundation, personal potential and make amazing lifelong friendships. To become a Bulldog, here are the simple steps to take: 1) Call today to schedule a tour, meet administrators, teachers, and other students. 2) Submit a student application. 3) Receive your Welcome Letter. 4) Sign up for Diagnostic Testing. 5) Drop off your son or daughter for their first day of school at Outreach!



TIME IS RUNNING OUT FOR 2023!



Should YOU contribute to MO Scholars?

1.

- Do you support parents' natural right to choose the education that is best for their children?
- Do you pay at least \$1,000.00 in taxes (personal or business) to the state of Missouri?
- Would you like to redirect up to 50% of the taxes you pay to the state of Missouri to a fund so that **parents can choose the school** that best serves their child's needs?

IF YOU
ANSWERED
YES TO ALL
OF THE
ABOVE, THE
MO
SCHOLARS
PROGRAM
WOULD BE
GREAT FOR
YOU!

The MO Scholars program allows taxpayers in the state of Missouri to allocate up to 50% of their annual tax liability to provide a better education to low-income students or students with disabilities.

Best of all, signing up takes only a few minutes!
Feel free to watch this [explainer video](#), then fill out a simple form, following the instructions below:



GET STARTED HERE!

2.

Step 1: Go to this website <https://bit.ly/4at6qjD>

Step 2: Select “Herzog Tomorrow Foundation” as your EAO (Educational Assistance Organization) to ensure you receive your tax credit.

Step 3: Mayela Esser with Herzog Tomorrow, will follow up with you in an email after the State receives your tax credit reservation.



THANK YOU!