



The Tri-State Times

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For hundreds of years, boarding schools around the world have divided their students into smaller groups, called *houses*, to fill the void created by being away from home. The main goal of the house system is to create a closer community and nurture the students. As we partner with families to disciple our children in the love and grace of Jesus Christ, the faculty and staff of Tri-State Christian Academy want to do anything we can to grow the sense of community and morale of our student body. For this reason, we will be bringing the house system to Tri-State Christian Academy this year.

All of our students from 6th-12th grade will be divided into four houses. Throughout the year, these houses will build fellowship and community across a wider spectrum of students than they may have associated with previously. One way that this will happen is at lunch. Two of our lunch periods are a blend of 6th-12th grade, where they will sit with their houses. Our upperclassmen will have an opportunity to show the middle school students what it means to be a Tri-State Crusader. This accountability will challenge our upperclassmen to rise to the occasion of being leaders.

On top of this, there is healthy competition between houses. Points can be awarded throughout the year for things like academic achievement, participation in sports and clubs, and even participation as a spectator at our athletic events. Along with this, a few times this year, we will take part of a regular school day and turn it into a competitive special event between houses. This may look like a dodgeball tournament, a field day, or any number of other fun events.

We have named our houses for four different figures in history. All of them have embodied our theme verse this year, which is all about doing all things to the glory of God. The houses are as follows:

The House of Bach (sounds like "bock")

J.S. Bach was one of the greatest composers in history. He brought musical styles to the world that have forever changed the way music is made. Even more than this though, he signed every one of his manuscripts "SDG," which stood for *Soli Deo gloria*, or to God be all the glory.

The House of Douglass

Frederick Douglass was a former slave, who made his escape in order to fight for the rights of Americans of color. He was well-known for his skilled speaking as well as his writings. In a time when black Americans did not have a voice, he fought to give them one. Douglass spoke with conviction to Christians who watched atrocities occur around them but would not speak out. He even conferred with Presidents Lincoln and Johnson on a number of issues.

The House of Liddell (sounds like "little")

Eric Liddell was an Olympic sprinter who stood by his convictions not to run on a Sunday, stirring conversation around the world. This story is depicted in the film *Chariots of Fire*. However, we want to honor Liddell because of his work *after* his Olympic career. For two decades, Eric Liddell served as a missionary to China at one of the most turbulent times of the 20th century.

The House of ten Boom

Corrie ten Boom was a simple watchmaker's daughter, who grew up to work in her father's shop and mentor young girls in their faith and domestic skills. As the Nazi's were establishing their terror in Europe, Corrie ten Boom, who lived in the Netherlands, hid Jews from Nazi capture. She saved almost 800 lives before being arrested for her actions.

On Thursday, just after our Convocation Prayer time, our 6th-12th grade students will be grouped into their houses and captains (senior leaders) will be announced. What an exciting kick-off to our school year!

Soli Deo gloria,
Mr. Jones



"So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."

I Corinthians 10:31