

Accreditation School Profile

Trenton Christian School

October • 2009

The boards of Trenton Christian School and Canadian Hallmarks Institute (CHI) are pleased to publish this *Accreditation Profile* as a public service promoting independent faith-based education in the greater Trenton area. The format of this profile follows CHI standards: The contents of this profile were developed using local information obtained as part of the successful accreditation review.

1. Mission:

The official mission of the school is:

Trenton Christian School provides quality Christ centered education in a nurturing environment to children of the Christian community.

2. Governance:

Trenton Christian School is owned by the Trenton Christian School Society and operated on its behalf by an elected board of 9 directors. The Trenton Christian School Society is a registered charity (##11926 8837 RR0001) and membership in the society is open to all adults who meet the criteria.

3. Community Demographics of School

- a) The families supporting Trenton Christian School come from a wide range of socio-economic backgrounds. A total of 84 different occupations are represented as well as a large economic range, from needy to wealthy families.
- b) The general statistics for Quinte West County taken from Stats Canada Reports (2005), which provide the following:
 - Average (full-time income all families) \$61,908
 - Average (income single/parent families) \$33,791

4. Admission Policies for Students

- a) The Trenton Christian School Board has adopted a policy of non-discrimination in support of the Ontario Human Rights Code. In promoting its distinctive Christian character, the policy requires that students should:
 - be able to benefit from the programs offered and that parents should
 - declare their (his/her) support of the school's religious identity as evident in official documents.
- b) The student body is 99.5% composed of Canadian citizens.

5. Faculty

- a) Trenton Christian School has 9 full-time and 7 part-time teaching staff, 62.5% of whom have the Ontario Teacher's Certificate, 60% hold the Christian Teacher's Certificate and 40% hold both the Ontario Teacher's Certificate and the Christian Teacher's Certificate.
- b) The average teaching experience of the staff is 10.8 years (full time equivalent). The board requires an annual program of professional development for all teachers.
- c) The pupil-teacher ratio (PTR) is 20:1 for 2009/10.

6. Student Achievement

Trenton Christian School has a student body of 232 and a complete JK-8 program. The faculty follows a defined evaluation program to monitor the academic and social progress of each student.

- a) Basic Skills - The school participates in the Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools (OACS) student assessment program on an annual basis. In 2008, Grades 3 - 8 participated in the Canadian Tests of Basic Skills (CTBS) with outstanding results.

Trenton Christian School CTBS Test Results, "2008" (percentile)			
Grade	School Ranking	OACS Norm	Canadian National Norm
3	77	81	50
4	70	77	50
5	53	76	50
6	56	73	50
7	68	76	50
8	74	75	50

- b) Literacy Test from Province - The school does not participate in the elementary provincial tests sponsored by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) because of the fees levied on non-funded private schools by the EQAO as a cost of participation.

- c) Trenton Christian School graduates attend Quinte Christian High, Trenton High, Bayside Secondary School and East Northumberland Secondary School where students score above average on the Provincial Literacy Test.
- d) Other significant awards given are High Honours, Honours, Legion Merit and Terrific Kid.

7. Programs of Study

- a) Trenton Christian School offers a complete range of academic programs for all eight grades. The curriculum follows the outline developed by the OACS. This design follows the official Ministry of Education curriculum in content requirements.
- b) The board and faculty are committed to the integration of Christian perspectives throughout the entire program of studies.
- c) Trenton Christian School has a special education resource program and a special needs program. It provides technological studies at many grade levels to ensure that students acquire computer literacy before graduation.

8. Finances

- a) Trenton Christian School obtains its income from several sources, notably:
 - 80% from tuition;
 - 11% from donations;
 - 0% from government grants;
 - 4% from fundraising events;
 - 5% other
- b) 2009/2010 Year the tuition rate was \$9,350/family rate, which includes transportation. There is a reduced tuition for part-time JK and SK.
- c) For families experiencing temporary financial hardship, the board provides assistance in the form of a bursary.
- d) The official budget is approved each spring at a general membership meeting. The budget expenditures are as follows:

● education, salaries and benefits	74%
● transportation	12%
● facilities, operating	6%
● facilities capital & mortgage interest	1%
● program	4%
● administration	1%
● other	2%

9. Membership

Trenton Christian School is part of a large family of schools known as the Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools (OACS). This provincial organization provides general policy guidelines on all matters relevant to operating a school in Ontario. Trenton Christian School is also a member of Christian Schools Canada (CSC) and Christian Schools International (CSI). The school is registered as a private school with the Ontario Ministry of Education and submits annual reports as required by law.

10. Testimonials

The board has asked two parents to provide their opinion about the education provided at Trenton Christian School. They have agreed to submit the following statements and are willing to discuss them.

When we enrolled our oldest son into a Christian School 7 years ago for Senior Kindergarten, because a Christian education was important to our family, we could not have made a better choice. We now have 2 boys that benefit from a school filled with teachers that love what they're doing.

Each year our boys have loved their teachers because he/she has had a genuine interest in their student's success by taking the time to understand each student's strengths with a commitment to help them excel.

Our oldest son started to show difficulties in focusing at an early age, Grade 1. It was first recognized by his teacher and even before the parent/teacher interviews in November we received a call asking if they could schedule him in with the school's resource teacher. His teacher wanted to make sure that he would not fall behind his class level both educationally and socially.

Collaboratively, his teacher, the resource teacher, ourselves and even our principal helped to create a specialized program to address some of the primary issues our son was challenged with. As the years have passed his program has evolved and become very specialized in specific areas because of on-going testing the school has done and understanding of his needs. The resource teacher through her dedication and proactive approach to helping the students, has been very instrumental in recognizing ways for our son to learn and has created an environment where he can succeed. His program has integrated one on one training 3 times a week with his class schedule while still allowing him to participate with his class and not to miss the things he enjoys, like Phys. Ed and computers.

The school provides many opportunities for the boys/students to participate in team sports, music and theatre programs, and community events which help them understand who they are and builds their confidence.

The school has provided our boys with excellent education in a safe environment, where classes are small enough so the teachers can pay attention to the students needs and give them the opportunity to excel and understand who they are through a Christ-centered education!

- Jack & Audrey Mitchell • 2006

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to the school in helping our son adjust when we moved to this area in 2005, near the end of the school year. The staff and students treatment of him as one of them bolstered his self esteem and gave him the ability to transfer with confidence. As he was only in Kindergarten, we were apprehensive of his ability to adjust. He has now completed a full year and was extremely excited about starting the new school year.

Daniel is able to express his love of the Lord every day with the new activities he is learning and with the songs he is able to sing. We felt this part of his education would be stifled if he went to the public school system. Daniel's love of singing about Jesus at home, in the supermarket or wherever he is, is very refreshing for us to hear. He has learned several new songs at school is very excited when he comes home, you can hear him singing them joyously out on his swing set in the backyard or even as he is doing homework. When we enrolled him at the school we hoped this would continue and are very pleased to see that it has, even though he is now going into grade two where children tend to get shy when doing these things as they grow older.

I can see how proud Daniel is when I drop him off and he asks if I am staying to work as a volunteer to help with some of the students. I have been able to help some of the grade seven students with English, Bible studies and Math (which I had to review prior to helping them). It is very rewarding to see a student who is struggling with something, light up when they "get it", whether it is a Math problem or a topic from the Bible. I have met several volunteers who have come in to help with sports, track and field and in the library as well as those who work with the children who need help every week with academics. I really enjoyed helping another "Mom" coordinate a play for several of Daniel's classmates last year. The children loved the play so much that the teacher organized the rest of the class for another play. We all had a wonderful time showing the plays to both parents and other grades.

Being away from our family while in the military has made us appreciate how wonderful it is to be part of the "school family" and we feel very fortunate to be part of the school during its 50th anniversary year.

- Rev. Liam & Debbie Thomas

11. Contact Persons

For further information contact:

- Linda Wikkerink Board Chair for the Society Information
- Allen Bron Principal for School Information

12. Public Information

Any member of the public is welcome to request a copy of the following documents:

- *Official Bylaws*
- *School Calendar*
- *Admission Policy*
- *Financial Statements*
- *Membership Policy*