



## Head of School Application Process

Please thoroughly read the information below before submitting a cover letter and resume to [macock@christianfellowship.com](mailto:macock@christianfellowship.com), so you will be as knowledgeable as possible about this opportunity. Upon receiving your resume, Mike Acock, Executive Pastor, or his representative, will contact you by phone or email to confirm receipt of your information and to possibly schedule a phone conversation. This conversation may be followed by a skype interview with at least three board members. Selected applicants will be invited for an in-person interview. We hope to make a final hiring decision no later than February 2020 with a start date no later than July 1, 2020.

The following information will provide you with a history of the church and school, statements of faith, our philosophy of education, a school profile, our current goals and challenges, and a description of an ideal head of school candidate.

## History

Christian Fellowship began in 1978 when a group of college students, whose lives had been radically transformed by Jesus, started a church together. The church originally met in a storefront and then purchased 35 acres of undeveloped property on the west side of Columbia. In order to raise money to construct the church facility, the young members of the church developed the new property into a subdivision and sold building lots. The first phase of our facility was finished in 1981, and we immediately began our PrK – 12<sup>th</sup> grade school (CFS) with twenty-four students. The church and school continued to grow. In the late 1980's the gymnasium, multipurpose room, and high school wing were added. More recently, we added six modular classrooms that now comprise our middle school as well as a 5,000 square foot modular building for children's ministry.

Like most churches, CFC has experienced times of blessing and challenges. God has faithfully led us through changes in leadership, ministry emphasis, and community involvement. Phil Schaefer was part of the original group which started the church and has served as senior pastor since 1994. The church has always emphasized the importance of the Word of God, worship, relationships, and prayer. Over time, God has led us to be more involved in serving the Columbia community. Several members of our congregation have started local ministries

that serve our city, which the church supports. In addition, God has brought a more racial, socioeconomic, and ethnic diversity to our congregation, including African refugees, who attend the morning church services, as well as their own multilingual African service on Sunday afternoons.

CFS has grown from its humble beginnings of twenty-four students to nearly 300 in grades PrK – 12<sup>th</sup>. The school is now accredited through the International Christian Accreditation Association (ICAA) and AdvancEd. It offers dual credit classes as part of the college prep curriculum in the high school. With the addition of the above-mentioned modular classrooms, the middle school separated from the high school, adding a distinctness in its programs and activities. As a result, it has grown significantly. A wide variety of sports are available for both high school and middle school students.

The school currently serves 285 students and is working diligently toward increasing enrollment without compromising the integrity of its mission and vision. Scott Williams, principal of CFS since 1994, was recently given a change in title to *Head of School and Elementary and Middle School Principal*. Brad Clemons was promoted from *Assistant Principal for the High School* to *High School Principal*. After 25 years of service, Mr. Williams plans to retire from the school at the end of the current school year.

As the church and school continue to grow, it is increasingly obvious that the property and facility we share is inadequate to serve the many developing ministries. In the early 2000s, CFC purchased thirty-seven acres of land a few miles south of our current location with the vision to build a new church facility. Our current facility will then be used more readily for school programs and activities. A capital campaign to “Increase our Influence” has raised enough money for us to begin construction on a new church facility this fall with plans for its completion during the summer of 2021.

## Statements of Faith

We recognize that what a church believes, and how those beliefs are taught and lived-out by its leaders and members, differs widely among churches. Please be sure to see our core values as a church in addition to our basic beliefs. We also encourage you to listen to a couple of sermons from CFC to get a better sense of the spirit of the church, which influences the school. See the following links for Christian Fellowship Church: <https://christianfellowship.com/what-we-believe/> <https://www.cfsknights.org/about/statement-of-faith.cfm>.

## Philosophy of Education

The school’s philosophy of education can be found at:  
<https://www.cfsknights.org/academics/philosophy-of-education.cfm>

## School Profile

The CFS website at [www.cfsknights.org](http://www.cfsknights.org) provides significant information about the school, however, a brief profile can be found at <https://www.cfsknights.org/academics/school-profile.cfm>.

## Current Goals and Challenges

We seek to provide a quality Christian worldview education to our children within a community of grace where students are known and loved. In a changing society and Christian culture, Christian schools are challenged to provide best educational practices, remain faithful to their primary mission, and appeal to new parents. We believe that amid a very education-oriented community, CFS is to be a prophetic voice proclaiming to our community that a true education requires the knowledge of God through Jesus Christ. Fulfillment in this life comes through our devotion to Christ and how well we steward His grace and the talents, skills, and abilities with which He has gifted us.

We believe God has called CFS to be a school of 600 students in grades PrK – 12. Christian Fellowship is prepared to respond to this calling and impact our community for the Gospel significantly. With this vision in the hearts of both our elder board and school board, the church plans to move to a new facility in 2021, leaving the entirety of our current facility for the expansion of the school.

## Summary

We again encourage you to read the greeting by Board President and Senior Pastor, Phil Schaefer, peruse the church and school websites, and read the accompanying Head of School Profile. If you think the Holy Spirit is speaking to you about the possibility of joining the ministry team of CFC by implementing the mission and vision of CFS, we would love to hear from you. We are praying for you and asking God to lead you as you seek His direction for your life and how it may connect with us at CFC and CFS.