



Trinity Christian School
38460 Lincoln Trail
North Branch, MN 55056

March 17, 2010

Dear Trinity Christian School Families,

In preparation for the 2010-2011 school year, Trinity Christian School Board members appreciate your feedback from the surveys, responses provided via e-mail, and participation/attendance at the School Board Meetings held on February 23rd, 2010 and March 16th, 2010. Many voices within the Trinity Community had excellent information, comments, and solutions to assist the Trinity Christian School Board in coming to the conclusion to remain a **5-day per week educational schedule** with hours similar to this year.

Critical issues that arose throughout the informational collection stages included:

- Significantly early start times
- Length of school day
- Transportation – to and from
- Before and After School Care Program
- Lunch on the 5th day
- Students on different school schedules

In the event the North Branch Public School District approves their 4-day week program at their meeting held on March 18th, 2010, Trinity Christian School Board has voted to follow a 5 days / week schedule beginning on September 7th 2010 and ending on June 3rd, 2011. The start times will not be determined until the North Branch Transportation Department examines the overall pick-up and drop-off times. The recommended student transportation services will change district wide having the students arrive at the bus corral 15 minutes earlier; thus Trinity Christian School's anticipated start time will be approximately 15-minutes after scheduled drop off time.

Trinity Christian School Board feels it is best to continue providing a quality Christian Educational program with small class-sizes to our current community, one which currently demonstrates student gains and conducive school environment.

The Trinity Community also responded they preferred the current times Trinity Christian School operates and finds these times appropriate to their child's development and age. To continue to support the recorded student success, the school day at Trinity Christian School will remain an end time of 2:45 p.m. Monday-Friday. Access to North Branch Transportation will be available to Trinity students at the end time the district implements. The current end time of 3:45 recommended by the Superintendent will be decided at the March 18th School Board Meeting.

To help nurture and understand our families challenges facing this extremely important educational decision for their child (ren), the Trinity Christian School Board plans to keep the start time of approximately 8:00 a.m. Families can use the North Branch transportation to Trinity Christian School. In addition, Trinity Christian School has implemented an after school program to run from 2:45-3:45, so families can utilize the North Branch transportation in the afternoon. The operational expenses of having an after school program will be determined at the upcoming School Board Meetings. School Board members are hoping this will provide families with opportunities to aid in their decision regarding their child's educational journey, especially help those families facing the transportation difficulty.

With keeping to the 5-day week schedule, Trinity Christian School families will need to independently arrange for their student's transportation to and from school on Mondays. The total number of Mondays (pending the district keeps the scheduled off day Mondays), families attending Trinity would have to make alternative transportation arrangements and bag lunches for these 26 days.

With the approval of the Half-day Everyday (Tuesday-Friday) Kindergarten program facing the North Branch Public School, transportation arrangements may also be made available to students who attend Trinity Christian School's Half-day Everyday Kindergarten program depending on the district's arrangements of their routes for North Branch Half-day Kindergarten program. More information about the pick-up times for these students will be made available to you following the districts' decision.

With the scheduling differences facing our families, we recognize the decisions each family will need to make. Those families sending their child (ren) to Trinity can feel reassured these decisions were made with thought, analysis, and community input. The consistent factor guaranteed at Trinity Christian School is that we will continue to provide your child (ren) with the best possible education using the mission to guide our program and all leadership decisions.

Our mission at Trinity Christian School, together with church and family, is to provide Christ centered learning experiences. We are dedicated to the total education of the child, mind, body and soul. We will strive to provide for the students' spiritual, moral, social, physical, emotional, and intellectual growth.

Blessings and prayers are being sent your way as your family makes this important decision! If you would like to make any changes in your child's registration because of the decision of the Trinity Christian School Board, these changes will need to be made prior to April 1st, 2010. Please contact the office with any additional questions or concerns (651) 674-7042 or the Trinity Christian School Board members at: schoolboard@trinitynorthbranch.org.

Kindest Regards,

Tim Olson
Trinity Christian School Board Chair

Nichole Laven
Trinity Christian School Principal