

DESERT CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS
ADMISSIONS INFORMATION NIGHT
KINDERGARTEN - 8TH GRADE
JANUARY 9, 2012 ~ 6:00 P.M.

Opening Activities

John O'Hair, Headmaster DCS

- Welcome and Opening Prayer

Who is Desert Christian?

- DCS Video
- Our Organization
- Our Mission
- Our Heritage
- A Distinctively Christian School Program

Serving Families

- A Scholarship Opportunity – Arizona Tuition Tax Credit
- Institute for Better Education

K - 8 Opening Activities – Ron Smith, K-8 Principal

- Welcome & Prayer
- Staff Introductions
- School & Admissions Information
- Safe But Not Safe
- Questions and Answers
- Meet The Teachers

DCS K-8 Wrightstown Campus
9415 E. Wrightstown Road.
Tucson, AZ 85710
520-885-4800

K - 8 Visits - 1st & 3rd Tuesdays (November – April)

November 1 or 15, 2011; December 6, 2011

January 3 or 17, 2012; February 7 or 21, 2012

March 6 or 20, 2012; April 17, 2012

Please call Carol McKee at 885-4800 to arrange for a visit.

HANDOUTS

- Online Application Overview
- K-8 School Profile/Admissions Policy
- Safe But Not Safe
- General Fees
- Answers To Frequently Asked Questions
- Dress Code 2011-2012
- Teacher Information
- 6th - 8th Class Curriculum Map & Books
- 6th - 8th Grade Class Trip Information 2011-2012

Please review the information pertaining to our online application process before creating an account. It is provided below for your convenience. Please return to the Admissions Home Page on our website for the link to our ONLINE APPLICATION FOR ADMISSIONS.

Instructions

Please complete the Online Application forms listed in the left menu beginning with the **Applicant Information** form.

Feedback will be provided throughout the process on any forms that are missing required information. If this occurs, a yellow caution sign will appear next to the form listed in the menu. If a form contains all required information, a green check mark will appear next to the form's menu item.

You can review the entire application at any time by selecting the **Application Review** item on the left menu. From here, you will also be provided the ability to print a PDF of the application in its current state.

After you have completed the application, a **Submit Application and Make Payment** form will appear. Please follow the instructions that will be provided to submit the application along with the \$50 application fee.

Application Checklist

In order to complete the application process, please follow the checklist items listed below; including submission of all supplemental application forms (follow link instructions).

- Attend school Admissions Information Night or read informative handouts on our website if you missed this event on January 9, 2012.
- Submit completed **Online Application** and **\$50 application fee**.
- Read, sign and submit the Medical & Student Health Information Form.
- Submit a copy of **Birth Certificate**.
- Submit a copy of **Immunization Record**.
- Upload a **photo** (see online application) or send photo by mail.
- Forward Church Life Recommendation Form to your church.
- Submit records from applicant's previous or current school.
 - **Report card/grades – current year.**
 - **Standardized test scores – most recent.**
- Forward Teacher Recommendation Form to applicant's current school (Not applicable to Home School Students, High School Student require Math and English).
- Forward Home School Recommendation Form to appropriate person (Home School Students Only).
 - Schedule **Kindergarten Roundup appointment** by calling 520-885-4800 (Kindergarten Applicants Only - Admissions Application must be complete before calling to make appointment).

Admissions Process and Decision Letters

Only families who complete the process will be considered for acceptance. On-line applications open January 9, 2012. At completion of paperwork interviews will be set. Admissions letters regarding admission to DCS will be mailed within two weeks of interview. Parents of students who are accepted will be required to return the tuition contract and ½ of the first month's tuition which is non-refundable. All items must be received in the school office by the deadline indicated in the letter to complete the application and acceptance process. (2 weeks).

Registration and Enrollment

After receiving acceptance notification, parents will be mailed a registration packet to complete that contains all necessary registration and enrollment forms.

Admissions Status Tracking

After your Online Application is submitted, you will be able to print the submitted application and required supplemental forms, as well as track online the status of your admission to the school, including when the school receives requested references and other supplemental application forms.

To view your application status, please log in to your Online Application account via your Username and Password. Then select the **Online Application** menu item. There you will find a link to the supplemental application forms and tracking information.

We appreciate your interest and look forward to meeting you. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at the appropriate school office.

K - 8 Wrightstown Campus (K-8th grades)
9415 E. Wrightstown Road, Tucson, AZ 85715
520-885-4800

Ron Smith, School Principal
rsmith@desertchristian.org
Carol McKee
cmckee@desertchristian.org

High School Campus (9th - 12th grades)
7525 E. Speedway Blvd., Tucson, AZ 85710
520-298-5817

Linda Self
lself@desertchristian.org



Administration

Headmaster - Mr. John O'Hair

Principal - Mr. Ron Smith

Faculty Support

Athletic Director– Mr. Aaron Jansen

Office Manager – Mrs. Janna Van Egmond

Registrar/Admissions– Mrs. Carol McKee

Secretary/Sports – Mrs. Vonnie Johnsen

K - 5th Grade Offerings

Academic Curriculum

- Bible
Master Teachers' non-denominational program
- Language Arts
McGraw Hill phonics-based program; includes spelling, vocabulary, grammar, mechanics reading; each designed to integrate with and reinforce each other part of the program
- Mathematics
Saxon Math
- Science
Purposeful Design
- History
Harcourt
- Physical Education
- Computer
- Art
- Music
- Chapel

6th - 8th Grade Offerings

Academic Curriculum

- Bible
Old Testament Survey, New Testament, Christian Ethics
- Language Arts
Reading Workshop, Writing Workshop
- Mathematics
Saxon Math 7/6, Math 8/7, Pre-Algebra, Algebra I
- Science
Earth, Life and Physical Sciences
- History
European and American History
- Foreign Language
Spanish
- Physical Education
- Computer
- Discipleship Program
Student Council, Yearbook, Art, Drama, Mission Trips, Community Service Opportunities

6th - 8th Co-curricular Program

- Competing in the Tucson Independent Athletic League (TIAL)
 - Girls
 - Volleyball
 - Basketball
 - Softball
 - Co-ed Soccer
 - Co-ed Flag Football
 - Co-ed Tennis
 - Boys
 - Basketball
 - Co-ed Soccer
 - Co-ed Flag Football
 - Co-ed Tennis

Affiliations

- Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI)
- Christian Schools International (CSI)
- Tucson Independent Athletic League (TIAL)

Accreditation

- Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI)

Serves

A diverse group of evangelical families regardless of race, color, ethnic, or national origin

- 181 students
- Approximately 47 churches represented

Served By

A Professional Staff and Faculty

- 16 full and part-time teachers
- Student to teacher ratio of approximately 20 to 1 in K-5th and 25 to 1 in 6th - 8th grades
- 4 full and part-time support personnel
- Hundreds of parent and community volunteers

Admissions

Initial Application and Re-enrollment Criteria

- Family commitment to Christian education
- Family commitment to a local evangelical church
- Student character
- Student commitment to academic success
- Student developmental and social maturity
- Student desire to grow spiritually
- Student desire to be a DCS K-8 student

General Application Process

- Complete **On-Line Application** via link at **desertchristian.org**
- Forward supplementary documents to DCS K-8 as indicated on **On-Line Application**
- Interview with School Principal

Desert Christian Schools

Safe...but not safe

Each generation of Christians chooses one of three responses to the surrounding culture.*

<u>ATTITUDE</u>		<u>ACTION</u>
Offended	→	Withdraw
Enamored	→	Assimilate
Distressed	→	Engage

Desert Christian believes that the Scriptures both teach (Matthew 10:16, John 17:5-7, I Peter 3:15) and model (Matthew 9:36, Acts 17:16-31) that distress and engagement (in courageous dependence on God) is the Christian's dutiful and loving response to the world. Consistent with such belief Desert Christian desires that its students not flee from the world, but be prepared "to be in the world, but not of the world."

In helping prepare its students to lovingly engage the world, Desert Christian emphasizes:

1. Interpreting and responding to life from a biblical worldview
2. Understanding competing worldviews prevalent in culture
3. Defending the biblical Christian worldview as truth
- 4. Equipping students with knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to **Confront** their world with **Consecration, Competence, Character, and Caring****

While Desert Christian desires that its students be safe to pursue learning without unnecessary distractions, it by no means sees itself as a monastic hideaway. Therefore Desert Christian utilizes grade-appropriate curriculum, which the school believes prepares students to understand and engage their world.

Desert Christian sees its role as an extension of the parents with whom it partners, to train and equip students "...in the discipline and instruction of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4), with the desire that they be prepared to stand alone as adults, truly making a difference.

* as described in a lecture by Dr. William Brown, President, Cedarville College

K-8 DESERT CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

2011 – 2012 General Fees

(Subject To Change – Rev. 12/7/11)

- **Application/Enrollment** **\$50.00**
- **Registration** **½ of first month's tuition (non-refundable)**
~ due upon acceptance
- **Tuition**
Kindergarten \$5400 for 2011-12
1st – 5th \$5690 for 2011-12
6th -8th \$7140 for 2011-12
(Estimated 5% increase for each grade for 2012-2013)
- **Athletic Team Fee** **6th through 8th grade students who wish to participate in athletics and be part of a team with the middle school will be assessed a \$95.00* player's fee.**
- **Physical Education Uniform Fee** **All 6th through 8th grade students will be required to have a physical education uniform. The uniform must be worn in all P.E. classes unless told otherwise and will be available from the P.E. teacher at a cost of \$20.00*. Please mark the uniform with your child's name by using a permanent laundry marker.**
- **Lost and Damaged Books** **Students are required to pay for any textbooks that are lost or damaged. In some cases, purchase of individual copies of texts may be required.**
- **School Pictures** **Class and individual pictures are generally taken in September. Families are given an opportunity to purchase pictures through the studio. Purchase of the pictures is optional.**
- **6th Grade "Academic Camp"** **The estimated cost per student of this five-day trip is \$240.00*. Students are encouraged to save and contribute toward this amount during the school year. Four payments of \$60.00 will be added to your statement in October, November, December and February.**
- **7th Grade "Marine Biology Camp"** **The estimated cost per student for this five-day trip is \$300.00*. Students are encouraged to save and contribute toward this amount during the school year. Four payments of \$75.00 will be added to your statement in October, November, December and February.**
- **8th Grade "Graduation Trip"** **The estimated cost per student for this five-day trip is \$260.00*. Students are encouraged to save and contribute toward this amount during the school year. Four payments of \$65.00 will be added to your statement in October, November, December and February.**

***The Athletic Team, P.E. Uniform and Class Trip fees are billed on the monthly statement.**

Desert Christian Schools K-8

Answers To Frequently Asked Questions

- **ADMISSIONS PROCESS** – only families who complete the process will be considered for acceptance. On-line applications open January 9, 2012. At completion of paperwork interviews will be set.
- **RE-ENROLLMENT PROCESS FOR DCS STUDENTS** – families are expected to meet the same criteria as new applicants, however, the process is different.
- **ADMISSIONS LETTERS - regarding admission to DCS will be mailed within two weeks of interview.** Parents of students who are accepted will be required to return the tuition contract and ½ of the first month's tuition which is non-refundable. All items must be received in the school office by the deadline indicated in the letter to complete the application and acceptance process. (2 weeks)
- **KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP** – Kindergarten Round-up will be the first two Saturday's in March.
- **FINANCIAL CONCERNS** - if **financial assistance** is a concern, parents may fill out an *Institute for Better Education (IBE)* form at www.ibescholarships.org. If this is your first year at a private school you may be eligible for scholarship funds under the Corporate Tax Credit. Please let us know because paperwork requirements are slightly different. All forms are available in the school office. **Decisions on scholarship amounts (based on need) are usually made in April and 50% assistance is generally the maximum that is awarded. Deadline is March 15, 2012.**
- **CAMPUS VISITATION** – K-8 visits: 1st & 3rd Tuesdays & Thursdays (November-April)
- **SCHOOL HOURS** - (2011 - 2012 school year) school begins at 8:10 a.m. and ends at 2:35 p.m. The campus opens at 7:30 a.m. and closes at 3:30 p.m.
- **AFTER SCHOOL CARE** – DCS K-8 has an afterschool program; hours are from 2:35 – 5:00 p.m. everyday and are also available on ½ days from 11:30 – 5:00 p.m. There is a charge for this service.
- **CLASS SIZES – Approximate maximum** numbers are:
Kindergarten class of approximately 18-20 students.
1st – 5th grades - will have 1 class per grade with approximately 18-20 students.
6th-8th grades – will have 1 class each of approximately 22-25 students.
- **CLASS STRUCTURE** – each class is a unit throughout the day except for 6th-8th grade boys' and girls' P.E, math (ability grouped), and the Discipleship classes (6th-8th grade mixture).
- **HOMEWORK** - 6th grade students can expect to spend 60-75 minutes per evening. 7th & 8th grade students can expect to spend 75-90 minutes per evening. Minimal homework is assigned for Wednesday evening to allow families to participate in church events. With the exception of long-term projects, teachers also avoid assigning homework on Friday to protect family time during the week-end.
- **SCHOOL CALENDAR** – a draft copy will be included with acceptance/enrollment letters. The first day of school for the 2012 – 2013 school year is set for Wednesday, August 14, 2012.
- **PARENT PARTICIPATION** - is very important at DCS. You will be given an opportunity to indicate where you would like to volunteer in the **Summer Information Packet**.
- **LUNCH PROGRAM** – students can place lunch orders on RenWeb. Some students order 1 -2 lunches per week. Many students bring their lunches each day. Funds from lunch sales support special school functions as determined by the Headmaster. Snacks and drinks are also available on a daily basis.
- **SPORTS** – 6-8TH has after-school sports with three seasons. Sports are: **Fall** – Co-ed Flag Football, Co-ed Tennis and Girls' Volleyball; **Winter** – Co-ed Soccer and Girls' Softball; **Spring** – Girls' and Boys' Basketball.
- **COMPUTER** – is offered twice a week throughout the school year. Teachers also utilize the computer lab during class time for specific assignments.

DRESS CODE

Dress at DCS K-8 Wrightstown Campus must be of such a nature that it is not disruptive to the educational atmosphere of the classroom, distracting to students, or inconsistent with Christian standards of modesty and good taste. Dress and appearance are reflective of attitude in students.

It is our belief that the responsibility for the student's dress rests, first and foremost, with the parents. Please notice what your child is wearing to school. In all matters of dress and/or personal appearance, the school, however, is the final authority on what is appropriate or not appropriate for students to wear at school. The school reserves the right to ask students to change their clothing if their clothing is considered inappropriate.

2011-2012 DESERT CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS K-8 UNIFORM DRESS CODE

You may choose from the following items for your child's uniform. You may mix and match from the items on the list. Please note that **all items need to adhere to this dress code**. Wearing clothing not listed, just because it isn't listed does **not** meet dress code!

If you have any questions about an item or the uniform requirements please contact the main office prior to purchase. We appreciate your support and partnering in following the dress code.

Pants, Capris, Shorts, Skirts, Jumpers, Skorts

Black, Brown, Khaki, Navy or Tan

Polo Shirts

Any Solid Color or Stripes

DRESS CODE GUIDELINES:

- **All clothing must be modestly loose without being oversized and without plunging necklines (use your collar bone as a guideline). Modesty is the basic rule for all clothing.**
- **No camisoles or undergarments may be visible at any time.**
- **Kinder and 1st graders do not have to keep shirts tucked in but other grades must do so while on campus.**
- **Leggings are allowed for Kinder – 5th grade students ONLY! 6th -8th grade students are NOT to wear leggings under dresses, skirts, skorts or shorts at any time.**

GIRLS AND BOYS

SHORTS	Cotton twill (<u>no stretch fabrics</u>). <u>Need to fit and remain over the hipbone at all times (with belt)</u> , traditional "Dockers" style, no shorter than 2" above mid-knee (in kneeling position). Boys may wear shorts with cargo (side) pockets that lie flat . Puffy pockets are NOT allowed on cargo shorts – cargo style shorts should keep a clean "uniform" line.
PANTS	Cotton twill (<u>no stretch fabrics</u>). <u>Need to fit and remain over the hipbone at all times (with belt)</u> , traditional "Dockers" style. <i>Cargo (side pocket) pants are not included as dress code. "Skinny" pants are not allowed. <u>Pants must not fit tightly through the hip and thigh.</u></i>
POLO SHIRT	Knit traditional (unisex) style , short sleeve or long sleeve knit, 2-4 button center placket (no cap or raglan sleeves). Polo Shirts may have a small logo that does not exceed the size of a quarter. Buttons must be buttoned, no visible camisole underneath. <u>Shirts must be long enough that no skin will show when you raise your arms, even if untucked.</u> Further, for students in grades K-5: one royal blue shirt with the Desert Christian logo is required. See "Chapel/Field Trips" for details.

SWEATER	Sweater or V-neck sweater vest (sleeveless) need <u>to be worn over dress code shirt</u> with collar visible at all times. Sweaters may be pullover style, button-up, or zipper front.
SWEATSHIRTS	Pullover, zipper or button front (with or without hood). Should not be oversized. All sweatshirts are to be <u>worn over dress code shirt</u> . Prints are allowed – without words, just a graphic design. Sweatshirts may have the logo of Educational Institutions – i.e. U of A, Dordt College, Wheaton, etc. Sweatshirts with a clear Christian theme or Christian message will be allowed. Branded sweatshirts from Abercrombie and Hollister are not allowed. See Principal if you disagree.
SOCKS	Fish net stockings are not allowed.
BELT	4th – 8th grade students must wear a belt with all shorts, pants, capris. Belts must be worn with skirts that have belt loops. Belts may be any color or style.
CAPS	Caps are not to be worn during school hours except for athletic events. Caps are not to be worn backwards or sideways. Students may wear 'beanies' during the cold weather weeks, however, they MUST be removed when entering a building; they are approved for outdoor wear only! Bandana-style headwear is not to be worn. Exceptions for headwear may be made by the Principal on a case-by-case basis.
SHOES	Leather shoes or tennis shoes should be worn with socks. Sandals may be worn with or without socks or tights. All shoes must be attached at the back of the feet due to insurance regulations. (No flip-flops, clogs, slides or step-in tennis shoes, etc.) NO HEELYS (shoes that roll).
HAIR	Is to be neat and trimmed, out of the eyes and off the collar and ears for boys. Hair may be any natural color that is not disruptive to the school environment.
PIERCED EARS	Girls may have no more than two piercings of each earlobe. Piercing of other body parts is not permitted. Boys are not permitted to have piercings of any body part.
MAKE-UP, JEWELRY, NAIL POLISH	Girls may wear make-up and nail polish but it should not be a noticeable part of your attire, nor should it draw attention to yourself. Students may be asked to wash if make-up is deemed excessive by any staff member.
TATTOOS	No visible tattoos are permitted.

JUST FOR GIRLS

CAPRIS	Cotton twill (<u>no stretch fabrics</u>). Need to fit and remain over the hipbone at all times (with belt), traditional "Docker" style. <i>Cargo (side pocket) capris are not included as dress code.</i> <u>Capris should not fit tight through the hip and thigh.</u>
BLOUSE	Round or pointed collar; button up front (no snaps). Blouses must be made of material that is not sheer. No visible camisole underneath.
DRESSES	6TH – 8TH grade girls are allowed to wear a dress to school IF the dress meets the following four requirements (must meet ALL FOUR): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The dress must fit modestly loose. No form-fitting or tight dresses will be allowed. 2. The dress length must be to the kneecap. 3. The dress must have a modest top, no low-cut bodice or cleavage showing. A camisole may be worn under the dress to bring the neckline to the collarbone level. 4. Shoulders must be covered. The dress must have either 2-inch or more sleeves or the girl must wear a shrug/sweater over the shoulders ALL DAY (including lunch time and at the gate while waiting for a ride after school).
SKIRT/SKORT	Length must be to the kneecap. Any slit in a skirt must not extend more than 2" above mid-knee (in kneeling position). A belt must be worn with any skirt that has belt loops.
JUMPER	Round neck or V-neck in cotton twill (no stretch fabrics).
TIGHTS OR LEGGINGS (Kinder – 5 th Grade ONLY):	must be white or navy. Stripes and patterns are not allowed.

CHAPEL DRESS PARTICULARS

- ◆ Wearing clothing not listed, just because it isn't listed does **not** meet dress code
- ◆ Camisoles/undershirts should **NEVER** be visible

CHAPEL ATTIRE – Kinder – 5th Grade:

On CHAPEL DAYS (Wednesdays)/Field Trips: there is a logo policy for K – 5th graders on chapel days and for field trips.

Each student must order at least one royal blue knit polo with the Desert Christian logo on it. These shirts are to be ordered through our logo partners, Lands End and/or French Toast and are the only acceptable shirts on chapel and/or field trips days. This shirt is offered in both a short sleeve and a long sleeve option. Chapel attire requires the bottoms to be khaki skirts for girls and khaki pants for boys. Field Trip attire will require the royal blue polo plus whatever bottom the teacher decides is best. **Weather related exceptions will be posted on RenWeb, in the DCS weekly email, or via a flyer.**

6th – 8th GRADE CHAPEL DAY DRESS CODE

No Polo Shirts, Shorts or Sweatshirts are to be worn on Chapel Day.

BOYS

- ◆ Collared Dress Shirt – plaid, stripes or any solid color
- ◆ Uniform pants – in black, brown, khaki, navy or tan (with belt)
- ◆ Tie

GIRLS

- ◆ Skirt – any solid or print, no denim, no stretch fabrics. Skirt length must be to the kneecap
- ◆ Jumper – in black, brown, khaki, navy or tan. Length must be to the kneecap.
- ◆ Blouse/Dress Shirt – with collar in any color, plaid, stripes, floral (no stretch fabrics – must be tucked in). Blouses must be of opaque fabric (NOT sheer) so that undergarments or camisoles are not visible through the material.
- ◆ Belt if skirt has belt loops
- ◆ Sweaters must meet the dress code and be full sweaters (crew neck, v-neck, cardigan), not shrugs, over-shirts, or fashion accent pieces.
- ◆ Dresses are allowed IF the dress meets the following four requirements (must meet **ALL FOUR**):
 1. The dress must fit modestly loose. No form-fitting or tight dresses will be allowed.
 2. The dress length must be to the kneecap.
 3. The dress must have a modest top, no low-cut bodice or cleavage showing. A camisole may be worn under the dress to bring the neckline to the collarbone level.
 4. Shoulders must be covered. The dress must have either 2-inch or more sleeves or the girl must wear a shrug/sweater over the shoulders ALL DAY (including lunch time and at the gate while waiting for a ride after school).

FRIDAY DRESS DOWN RULES

Wear your favorite T-Shirt with traditional blue jeans, cargo pants or shorts.

Only CREW NECK T-shirts are allowed for Dress Down Friday. Students may wear a polo shirt if they desire but all T-shirts MUST have a crew neckline, no V-neck or scoop-neck T-shirts allowed.

- Shirt must fall over your pants waistband and not show skin when you raise your arms.
- Shirts must have regulation length sleeves (i.e. no cap sleeves, no sleeveless shirts, **no spaghetti strap shirts over a T-shirt**, etc.)
- Shirts must be of opaque fabric (NOT sheer) so that undergarments or camisoles are not visible through the material.
- If there is a message on your shirt it must be appropriate for DCS (i.e. school/University, Christian band or message, sports team, etc.)
- Pants must not have holes or fit extremely tight. All pants, jeans, and shorts must be properly hemmed and be free from holes, rips, or suggestive patches. No "low-rider" jeans will be allowed, jeans must fit properly.
- You do not need to wear a belt for Dress Down Day! (You may accessorize with a belt if you want.)
- Warm-up pants and basketball shorts **are** allowed on Dress Down Day, however, if there are any abuses of this privilege the Principal will revoke it. No spandex or skin-tight clothing.
- If a student's clothing is not appropriate they will be given a "BIG" shirt to wear or they will call for someone to bring them a change of clothes.

Special Note to Parents: We appreciate parents dressing appropriately when they come to our school functions. When parents are assisting the school in any way, they must conform to the Friday school dress code also. While it is difficult for the school to approach a parent for non-compliance to the school rules, rest assured that the other parents and children notice. We need to think about what kind of role model we are to these impressionable children.

DESERT CHRISTIAN SCHOOL K-8 FACULTY

2011-2012

Revised 1-4-2012

Ron Smith earned Associate Degrees in 1985 from Pima Community College in Early Childhood and from the Community College of the Air Force in Electronics. He continued his education, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Education from the University of Arizona in 1987 with a major in Mathematics and Science and a Masters of Arts in Education from Northern Arizona University in 1994 with a major in Educational Administration. Ron served six and a half years in the military with the Arizona Air National Guard. He has seventeen years of teaching experience in the Flowing Wells School District in levels K-8. This is his sixth year at DCS and his third as the K-8 Principal. He has been married to Tina for 24 years. They have three children; Mariah (DCHS - graduate), Brittany (DCHS - 12th grade) and Stephanie (K-8 - 8th grade). Ron attends Calvary Chapel Church.

Susie Ackerley has a Bachelor of Arts degree and a master's degree in Educational Leadership as well as an endorsement as a reading specialist. Susie has been teaching for 13 years. She is in her eighth year of teaching first grade at DCS. Susie also teaches/coaches swimming in her spare time. She hopes to share God's loving grace with each student, each day, in a powerful way. Susie attends The Vineyard Christian Community Church.

Fred Boice returned to Tucson in 2004 after a 24-year adventure in Los Angeles. He attended Rincon High School and received his Bachelor of Arts from Occidental College in Los Angeles. He taught at Lutheran elementary schools for 20 years, primarily in the 6th grade. Fred received his Arizona teaching credential for K-8 in 2009. He has a super wife, Kathie, and three children. His calling back to Tucson is "all about being closer to his family" and he is grateful to the Lord to be back. Fred and his family attend The Vineyard.

Beverly Fagan is a semi-native of Tucson and received her B.A. from the University of Arizona in English – Creative Writing, with a minor in Child Development and Family Relations. After her son was born she earned her elementary teaching certification from Chapman University. She has worked in children's education since 1987 in schools, churches, and a children's museum, and she taught second grade in the Vail School District for seven years. Beverly and her husband run a small business from their home and also are very involved in adult discipleship ministries, leading home Bible studies and mentoring adults desiring to be challenged and grow in their relationship with the Lord. They have three adult sons between them, two daughters-in-law, and one delightful granddaughter! Beverly is blessed and excited that the Lord has called her to the ministry of teaching in the Desert Christian community!

Cindy Hilton has been teaching for 22 years. She has received both her Masters of Math Education and her Bachelors of Education degree from the University of Arizona. She has been married for 23 years and has two boys who also attend Desert Christian Schools. She grew up here in Tucson. In her free time she enjoys playing the piano and singing. When there is snow, the whole family loves to go skiing. She attends worship at Glad Tidings Assembly of God.

Aaron Jansen has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Dordt College, located in Sioux Center, Iowa. He majored in history and minored in theology. His passion is to show kids that the whole world belongs to God and therefore we must glorify him wherever we are and with whatever we do. A verse that has touched his life is Psalm 37:4, which speaks about God's faithfulness. It says, "Delight yourselves in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart." One of those desires was his beautiful wife Mikala. They have been married seven years and attend Rincon Mountain Presbyterian Church. Another blessing was the birth of his daughter, Amara, in May 2009. Aaron was blessed to graduate from Desert Christian High School in 1998 and now has the privilege of working with some of his former teachers.

Sheri Jones was called to teaching in 2000 after years of being an Air Force stay at home Mom with many hours of classroom volunteer time. She has an Associates certificate in Early Childhood Education from Pima Community College. She has been teaching for 11 years. She and Weston just celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary and they have two incredible young sons who graduated from both Desert Middle and Desert High. They even have a loving daughter-in-law who is also a DCHS graduate. Sheri delights in the children the Lord places in her classroom...she seeks to love and educate them as if they were her own. She and her husband attend Congregation Beth Sar Shalom.

Carol Lawton has a Bachelor of Science degree in Bible and Elementary Education. Carol has been teaching for 31 years. She is married to Cliff and they have three grown children. They moved to Tucson in 2004 after living in Wisconsin for over 30 years. They are both in full time ministry at Temple Baptist Church. I am so grateful to the Lord for this special ministry of touching children's lives. My desire is to see my students impact their world for Christ.

Carol Loper has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Oral Roberts University in Art Education. After graduation, she worked at both an advertising agency and a textbook production firm. Carol has been teaching for 9 1/2 years. She has been married to David for 20 years and has three children; Robert (DCHS – graduate), Caitlyn (DCHS – 10th grade) and Sara (DCHS – 9th grade). She loves to get kids excited about art, because the more time you spend truly looking at and studying the world God created, the more you come to realize just how mind-blowing and awesome He is. She and her family attend Christ Community Church.

Amy Oekerman moved to Tucson from Texas in 1994. She completed her Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education at Texas Tech University. She completed a Master's of Art degree in Educational Counseling at The University of Texas. Amy has taught at the elementary and middle school level for 19 years, including time at Cornerstone Christian Academy and Calvary Chapel Christian School. Amy is married to Pat and has one daughter, Rachel, who attends DCHS. They attend services at Northwest Bible Church.

Pam Panchot received her Bachelor of Special Education from the University of Arizona. She has been teaching for 26 years. Pam has taught Special Education in the public school system in Safford and Tucson for three years. She has taught at Grace Christian School, New Hope and Desert Christian. She and her husband John have two wonderful daughters Trisha and Lori, a great son-in-law Gabe and 4 beautiful grandchildren. She and her husband attend Rincon Baptist Church.

Amy Phillips holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Hillsdale College in Michigan. She majored in English and believes that words and language are a gift from God and should be enjoyed and used for His glory! Having graduated from DCHS and completed six years of teaching at the middle school, Amy is excited for another year of serving students. Amy is married to Ray Phillips, a teacher at Desert Christian High School. Amy enjoys playing basketball and violin and attends Christ Community Church.

Lisa Radtke is a practicing Landscape Architect who has two Master's Degrees and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education. Lisa taught four years in Saugus, California and three years in the Catalina Foothills School District prior to graduate school. Lisa is passionate about creativity and learning as life-long processes. Lisa hopes to build into the lives of her students a confidence in God's faithfulness and to hear His voice as they walk through events in their day. Lisa attends Pantano Christian Church.

Linda Schwanbeck graduated from Kent State University and received a Bachelor of Science in Education. Linda has been teaching for 28 years, 20 in Tucson at Grace Christian, New Hope and Desert. She is married to Carl and has two daughters Kelly and Lindsay who have both followed her into this special ministry. She and her husband are members of El Camino Baptist Church.

Karen Tvrdy has Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education from The University of Arizona. She grew up in Tucson and started teaching 4th grade in 1987. Karen has been teaching for 20 years. After 6 years she took a break from teaching for a few years to have and raise 3 boys. She and her husband Lonnie (Assistant Principal at Pusch Ridge Christian School) have been married for 24 years. Karen and her family attend New Life Bible Fellowship.

Jacquelyn Weber has received her Master's Degree in Elementary Education from the University of Phoenix. She has been teaching for seven years. Jacquelyn has been married to her best friend, Bernie for twenty years. They have two amazing children Felicia and Nicholas. The Weber's have been long time residents of Tucson, Arizona although Jacquelyn grew up in Michigan. She loves to read and scrap book in her free time. She also loves to hike and travel with her family. The Weber's attend Pantano Christian Church.

DESERT CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS K-8
6th - 8th GRADES

CURRICULUM AND ACADEMICS

The curriculum at DCS K-8 is designed to equip students for a life of continued education and service to God, utilizing all of their gifts and talents. Furthermore, the curriculum is designed for the child to study and learn the core subjects (Bible, history, reading, writing, math, and science). In addition to the core subjects, the 6th - 8th grade curriculum includes computer, physical education and Discipleship (elective).

Curriculum Map 2011 - 2012

<u>Dept.</u>	<u>SIXTH GRADE</u>	<u>SEVENTH GRADE</u>	<u>EIGHTH GRADE</u>
Bible	<i>Old Testament Survey</i>	<i>New Testament</i>	<i>Christian Ethics</i>
Language Arts	<i>Reading Workshop Writing Workshop</i>	<i>Reading Workshop Writing Workshop</i>	<i>Reading Workshop Writing Workshop</i>
Math	<i>Saxon Math 7/6 Saxon Math 8/7</i>	<i>Saxon Math 8/7 Saxon Algebra ½</i>	<i>Saxon Algebra ½ Saxon Algebra 1</i>
Science	<i>Earth Science</i>	<i>Life Science</i>	<i>Physical Science</i>
History	<i>Ancient Civilizations</i>	<i>American History I</i>	<i>American History II</i>
P.E.	<i>Girls/Boys P.E.</i>	<i>Girls/Boys P.E.</i>	<i>Girls/Boys P.E.</i>
Computer	<i>Computer I</i>	<i>Computer II</i>	<i>Computer III</i>

Discipleship Program - each teacher discipless a group of students during the elective class offered 3 class periods per week.

Curriculum Books At Desert Christian School K-8

6th - 8th Grades for 2011-2012

Bible

- 6th - *Holy Bible & Route 66* (Positive Action Publishing)
- 7th - *Holy Bible & God-Man Book* (Positive Action Publishing)
- 8th - *Holy Bible, Exploring Apologetics & Exploring Faith & Discipleship* (Christian Schools International)

History

- 6th - *Story of the Old World* (De Bie - Evenhouse)
- 7th - *The American Republic* (Bob Jones University Press)
World Geography (Silver Burdett Gin)
- 8th - *The American Republic* (Bob Jones University Press)
World Geography (Silver Burdett Gin)

Math

- 6th - *Math 7/6* (SAXON) or *Math 8/7* - General Math (SAXON)
- 7th - *Math 8/7* - General Math (SAXON) or *Algebra ½* (SAXON)
- 8th - *Algebra ½* (SAXON) or *Algebra I* (SAXON)

Reading

- 6th - Outside reading requirement - 2 books per quarter
The Giver, Greek Myths, Magician's Nephew, The Hobbit, Where The Red Fern Grows, The Bronze Bow, Westing Game
- 7th - Outside reading requirement - 2 books per quarter
Adventures for Readers I (Harcourt Brace Janovich)
Midsummer Night's Dream, Johnny Tremain, The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, Twelfth Night, Hamlet, The Death of Ivan Ilych, Tales from Shakespeare, assorted short stories, poems and periodicals
- 8th - *Adventures for Readers II* (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich)
Literature and Life (Scott, Foresman)
To Kill A Mockingbird, 3 plays by Sophocles, Hiding Place, assorted short stories

Science

- 6th - *Earth Science* (Christian Schools International)
- 7th - *Life Science* (Christian Schools International)
- 8th - *Physical Science* (Christian Schools International)

Writing**

- 7th - *English Composition and Grammar I* (Warriner's)
- 8th - *English Composition and Grammar II* (Warriner's)

***Easy Grammar* (HBJ, Wanda C. Phillips) is used at the 7th and 8th grade levels.

Year-End Class Trip Overview 2011-2012

6th Grade "Academic Camp"

This five-day long science and environmental education camp for sixth grade will be highlighted by motivating, interactive, hands-on academic activities during the day and spiritual emphasis activities in the evening. This camp will be at Triangle Y Ranch Camp in Oracle, AZ (approximately 90 minutes from school).

The estimated cost per student of this five-day trip is \$240.00. Students are encouraged to save and contribute toward this amount during the school year. Four payments of \$60.00 will be added to your statement in October, November, December and February.

7th Grade "Marine Biology Camp"

This year the 7th grade will be traveling to Emerald Bay Cove on Catalina Island. This trip offers hands-on marine and field biology research, snorkeling, kayaking, and nature hikes. Mountain & Sea Adventures offers a Christian based program which includes morning devotions and evening chapels.

The estimated cost per student for this four-day trip is \$300.00*. Students are encouraged to save and contribute toward this amount during the school year. Four payments of \$75.00 will be added to your statement in October, November, December and February.

8th Grade "Promotion Trip"

This trip provides an opportunity for the "knitting together of hearts" as students move from their middle school years into their high school years. Students will travel to Camp Surf in San Diego, CA as their base for this five-day trip. They will have a day of fun at Knott's Berry Farm, San Diego Zoo, IMAX theatre as well as time at the beach and leadership activities. Students will end their trip with an evening of worship, prayer and "blessing".

The estimated cost per student for this four-day trip is \$260.00. Students are encouraged to save and contribute toward this amount during the school year. Four payments of \$65.00 will be added to your statement in October, November, December and February.

***The actual cost of this trip will be more than \$300.00. Desert Christian Schools will cover the additional costs for this year.**