

Let's just admit it... this school year will provide challenges like never before to students, parents, teachers and administrators. In addition to all of the normal excitement and preparation to the start of school, our community is doing "back to school" in the middle of a global pandemic. We believe it is important to pray for all of those headed back to school each year and this year there are even more details to cover in prayer. Whether your family is homeschooling, virtual-schooling, in-person schooling, or some hybrid of all of the above... we know you are anxious and stressed and wondering how it will all fit together. Well, none of this comes as a surprise to God who holds the universe in the palm of His hand. We can bring all of these worries and request to Him because He is in control.

You may be a student, a parent, a grandparent, or a church member who cares about the families in your church and community. We have written this prayer guide to use now and throughout the school year. Pray at home or take some time to head to your school campus to drive or walk around to pray for the students, teachers, parents, and administrators. This school year will be unique in every way, but regardless, school plays a huge role in the life of our families. As we prepare for a new (and very different) school year let's commit to pray for these things now and through the year...

PRAY FOR... ADMINISTRATORS, TEACHERS, & COACHES

- Pray for School Administrators, staff and Central Office Employees as they make decisions and plan for the school year with COVID-19 impacts.
- Ask that God would give wisdom to the administrators, teachers, and schoolboard members to make God honoring decisions.
- Thank God for the many educators who live out their faith at school.
- Pray for teachers who are being asked to teach in new and demanding ways this year.
- Pray for Coaches and Directors who have great opportunity for influence and have to navigate sports and other extracurricular activities under the impact of the pandemic.
- Pray for the health and safety of our teachers, administrators, and coaches.
- Pray for parents who will serve as their child's teacher full-time or part-time this year.
- Pray that all school staff including teacher assistants, cooks, bus drivers and maintenance personnel would be encouraged in their work.
- Ask that educators would come to know Christ personally and follow Him.

PRAY FOR... STUDENTS

- Pray for the safety and health of all students... those at home and in the classroom.
- Pray that students can still receive the instruction and educational growth needed from school.
- Pray for the social and emotional impacts that COVID-19 is having on our students and families.
- Pray for an atmosphere of respect and unity on campus, socially and racially.
- Pray for students to make wise decisions and for God-honoring relationships.
- Ask that Christian students will be strengthened in their faith this school year.
- Pray that Christian students will have a positive impact on students who have physical, emotional and family needs.
- Pray for unity on the campus among Christians and that together they will reach out to their school.
- Ask that students would come to know Christ personally and that Christian students would have an impact on their campus and with their friends this year.

PRAY FOR... PARENTS

- Pray for wisdom for parents as we lead our families to honor God in every aspect.
- Pray for parents as they manage all of the details and logistics that are going into this unique school year.
- Pray for parents who are leading homeschooling or who have chosen the virtual school track as they manage and lead the educational direction for their kids.
- Praise God for parents who are praying for their children, and kids and youth leaders who are investing weekly in the lives of kids and students.
- Pray that parents would trust God with their students, and they would encourage their kids academically and spiritually.
- Pray for Christian parents to step up to serve and impact their school campuses.
- Pray that families in your community would be impacted with the gospel through your family and other Christian families this year.

KEY SCRIPTURES TO PRAY THROUGH AND MEDITATE ON:

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| • NUMBERS 6:24-26 | • ROMANS 12:2 | • COLOSSIANS 1:9-11 |
| • JOSHUA 1:9 | • EPHESIANS 3:14-19 | • 1 JOHN 5:14-15 |
| • ISAIAH 44:3 | • PHILIPPIANS 4:4-6 | • MATTHEW 9:38 |