

August 24, 2010

Dear Parents,

After attending the **Association of Classical Christian Schools (ACCS)** conference this past June, the administrative team of Veritas saw the benefits of a retreat for our students and faculty (and parents if interested in helping out). Going away for a few days this fall will provide time for the students and faculty to bond together in a spirit of unity, strengthen our relationships, and lay a foundation for effective mentoring and deeper learning in the classroom. If you examine the leadership style of Jesus with his disciples, you will see that the disciples' depth of understanding and commitment to the mission was fruit of the relationship they had with their teacher. If all we are doing at Veritas is transferring information from one generation to the next, then an activity such as this may not be as important. However, our faculty desires to impact each student in more ways than intellectually. We want to see the student's acquired knowledge and wisdom used to serve the purposes of God in their generation; we want it to be said of our students as it was said of David, "*He served the purposes of God fully in his generation...*" (*Acts 13:36*). With this said, we would love to see all the Upper School students be a part of this experience, and make this a tradition for years to come. We have researched for a place that could accommodate our intentions for this retreat, at a price that was reasonable for our size. The conclusion was that **Wilderness Adventure at Eagles Landing** in New Castle, VA, met our needs. This retreat facility will give us a great place for worship and devotions and activities that the students will thoroughly enjoy doing together.

The cost of the retreat is minimal, and will include the following:

- A. **Lodging: 2 nights in the Main & Sly Lodge (combined hold a max of 87).**
 - 1. **Wilderness Adventure at Eagle Landing (WAEL) provides all bedding, sheets, blankets, pillows, pillow cases and towels.**
- B. **Food Service:** Home cooked gourmet meals prepared with fresh ingredients and served buffet style in our Main Lodge dining room.
 - 1. 2 Breakfasts
 - 2. 2 Lunches
 - 3. 2 Dinners
 - 4. WAEL (Wilderness Adventure at Eagle Landing) will maintain drink stations including coffee (for chaperones), hot cocoa, lemonade, hot tea, water, etc. in Main Lodge during the entire stay.

C. Activities: Group will be split into activity groups of ~12-14 participants.

a. 9th-12th Grade Activities

1. 900' Zip Line
2. High Ropes Adventure Trail
3. Off site rock climbing –or- caving (Just like opt 3)
4. Guided Hike to the Bluff (complimentary)

b. 7th & 8th Grade Activities

1. 900' Zip Line
2. Low Elements Teambuilding Course
3. 50' Climbing Wall & Rappel Tower
4. Guided Hike to the Bluff (complimentary)

c. Other Activities Include: hiking on our 500 acre property, canoeing & fishing in pond, use of cedar sauna, sand volleyball, horseshoes, use of field game equipment for football, soccer, Frisbee, dodge ball, etc.

D. Tuition for Retreat:

- a. 7th & 8th Grader's fee** for 2 nights lodging and all linens, bedding, etc., 6 meals, and all activities listed under the MIDDLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES heading is **\$138/person** based on a minimum of 18 participants.
- b. 9th-12th Grader's fee** for 2 nights lodging and all linens, bedding, etc., 6 meals, and all activities listed under the HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES heading is **\$155/person** based on a minimum of 40 participants.

And One More Thing: One of the things we are strongly instituting into the high school this year is more *student leadership*. We want all of our high school students to be involved in something and contributing value to the high school. So far this summer, we have had a high school meeting with all of our student governors to go over their role, and job descriptions. They were very much involved in the planning of this retreat and will be heavily involved in running the retreat happenings. We are getting together for another meeting this month to plan out some other things for the year. We are excited for the year and hope you will be blessed!

Enjoy the rest of your summer, as we eagerly await the start of a new and blessed school year.

Mr. Elgut and Mr. Keating

Wednesday, Sept. 29	Thursday, Sept. 30	Friday, Oct. 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 6:30 AM leave from School <input type="checkbox"/> 12:30-5:30 PM Arrive at Wilderness Adventure; unpack, Lunch, teambuilding games, 1 of 3 planned activities. <input type="checkbox"/> 6:00 PM Dinner <input type="checkbox"/> 7:00 PM Worship & Devotions <input type="checkbox"/> 9:00 PM Evening Activity <input type="checkbox"/> 11:00 PM Bed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 7:30 AM rise & shine <input type="checkbox"/> 8:00 AM Breakfast <input type="checkbox"/> Worship & Devotions <input type="checkbox"/> 9:30 AM 1st Activity <input type="checkbox"/> 12:30 pm Lunch <input type="checkbox"/> 1:30 pm 2nd Activity; free time, prep time for night Variety Show, etc. <input type="checkbox"/> 6:00 PM Dinner <input type="checkbox"/> 7:00 PM Worship & Devotions; Senior Prayer; Variety Show; Senior Game <input type="checkbox"/> 11:00 PM Bed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 9:00 AM leave for School <input type="checkbox"/> 3:30 PM Arrive at school