

AGATHOS

CLASSICAL SCHOOL



Agathos Classical School
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www.agathosschool.com

Mission Statement: Using the tools of classical education, Agathos Classical School assists Christian parents in teaching and training their children to the glory of God.



Good for Children, Good for the World

Agathos exists to support parents in teaching and training their children to the glory of God. Using the time-proven tools of classical education, students develop *a love of learning* and the capacity to pursue any area of study to which the Lord leads them. While college and career readiness are not the primary goals of classical Christian schools like Agathos, graduates of such programs far exceed peers in these measures. Educators employ the methods that have helped produce *the greatest contributors to civilization* for well over one thousand years – authors, architects, scientists, theologians, artists, statesmen, and leaders of families and of nations.



“Upon our first visit to Agathos, we were impressed by the respect within the classroom. The way that Agathos challenges students to pursue excellence, through diligence and for the glory of God, is a great blessing to our family.” — Jonathan & Ella

“Agathos provides an incredible balance of good teaching, Godly admonition, and genuine love for our kids. We count it a privilege to be in partnership with such a capable, extraordinary group of teachers and staff.” — Mark & Tina

“Agathos partners with parents in preparing their children to become the leaders that our world desperately needs. This school helps young men and women build the courageous hearts and strong minds necessary to seek justice, love mercy, and walk in humility through all spheres of life.”

— Tenn. State Rep Sheila Butt

THE AGATHOS PHILOSOPHY

Good for Children, Good for the World



ἀγαθός (ä-gä-thos) = good, that which is beneficial and worth passing on to others

Using the tools of classical education, Agathos Classical School assists Christian parents in teaching and training their children to the glory of God.

We desire our graduates to be young men and women who possess the classical tools that enable them to acquire the facts, reason clearly, communicate eloquently, and live a life to the glory of God.

Agathos Classical School recognizes that an excellent education never takes place in a moral or philosophical vacuum. We believe it is founded upon a disciplined, eager attention to learning, which rests upon the student's moral character.

Recognizing these principles, and in support of parents' God-given responsibility to educate their children, Agathos seeks to provide:

- *A clear and consistent model of Christian life through its staff and board members*
- *Encouragement to develop a relationship with God the Father through Jesus Christ*
- *A rigorous, classical education, in which grammar (facts), logic (relationships), and rhetoric (persuasive expression) are emphasized in all subject areas*
- *Training to recognize and appreciate truth, goodness, and beauty*
- *Teaching from a biblical world view*
- *Preparation to further the kingdom of God through our students and graduates now and in the future in ways that we cannot imagine*



Distinctly Christian, Distinctly Classical

Jesus Christ, as the Creator of all things, is at the center of every class. Students are taught to see the nature of God in every subject and the connections between subjects.

“Classical education,” explains Susan Wise Bauer, “depends on a three-part process of training the mind. The early years of school are spent in absorbing facts, systematically laying the foundations for advanced study. In the middle grades, students learn to think through arguments. In the high school years, they learn to express themselves.”

This classical pattern, called the trivium, has successfully prepared students for college and for life for more than one thousand years. It matches children’s intellectual development and teaches them how to think, rather than what to think. Heeding Biblical calls to acquire knowledge, understanding, and wisdom is the essence of Agathos — that which is good.

Note: Susan Wise Bauer is a writer and historian, faculty member at the College of William and Mary, Editor-in-chief and co-owner of Peace Hill Press which publishes history and literature resources for parents and teachers who are educating students in the classical tradition.



Grammar School

As every shoe-buying parent knows, grades one through six span years of astounding growth! While students lose an entire set of baby teeth, we work hard to help them acquire language mastery.

Latin instruction begins in third grade, laying an invaluable foundation for English grammar and vocabulary, writing, modern languages, science, law, theology, and medicine. Higher standardized test scores may be viewed as icing on the Latin cake. Young students enjoy absorbing all kinds of knowledge through songs, recitation, and games.

As students grow and their minds mature, they will have a solid foundation of knowledge on which to build understanding and wisdom.



CLASSICALLY EDUCATED
STUDENTS LEARN HOW TO THINK
CRITICALLY AND INDEPENDENTLY,
AND HOW TO PERCEIVE THE INTER-
RELATEDNESS OF ALL SUBJECTS.



LOGIC SCHOOL

Grades 7 and 8 concentrate on organizing facts learned in the Grammar stage while helping students address the question, “Why?”

A formal study of logic gives focus to the naturally argumentative nature of students in this stage of development.

Agathos Logic students have ranked highly on national Latin exams and in the Math Olympiad, an annual worldwide math competition.

Each student is inducted into one of four Houses: Mattaeus, Marcus, Lucas, or Johannes — comprised of 7th-12th graders. Each House eats lunch together weekly and participates in a year-long competition spanning academic, athletic, and enjoyable contests. This system creates opportunities for leadership, teamwork, and inclusion.

At the close of the school year, Logic students dress up to dine and socialize using their best manners at the Headmaster’s Dinner.



Seventh and eighth graders are taught the fine art of dining and socializing, along with manners, in Protocol Class.

Fencing is a unique extracurricular opportunity for students in grades 3-12. Agathos views athletics as an integral part of education and fulfilling its mission because of the lessons it affords in commitment, teamwork and overcoming adversity.



THE AMAZING STORY OF AGATHOS' MOCK TRIAL CHAMPIONS



Mock Trial Competitions, in which students play the roles of attorneys and witnesses to try a fictional court case before a real judge, are typically dominated by large schools with well-established programs and experienced upperclassmen. Agathos' inaugural Mock Trial team, heavy on sophomores and freshmen, astonished 12 counties by winning the District 11 Championship and then going on to place 6th in the 2016 Tennessee State competition.

What led to such an amazing rookie debut? The students were smart and hard-working, and yet so were their opponents. They received excellent coaching from local attorneys Jason Whatley and Cory Ricci, but they weren't the only team to benefit from strong coaching. They probably were not the only team who sought God's blessing and strove to glorify Him in their efforts.

HOW they were educated, however, for years preceding their Mock Trial participation, differed distinctly from others. Classical education trains

students to acquire facts, analyze them logically, and communicate eloquently. Students think on their feet during socratic questioning and express their views in class discussions. They practice rhetorical skills in writing and debates, and hone their presentation skills in speech class.

Rather than being taught what to think, they are taught *how to think*. Such preparation certainly contributed to the team's performance, and they eagerly anticipate next season!



RHETORIC School

Grades 9 -12



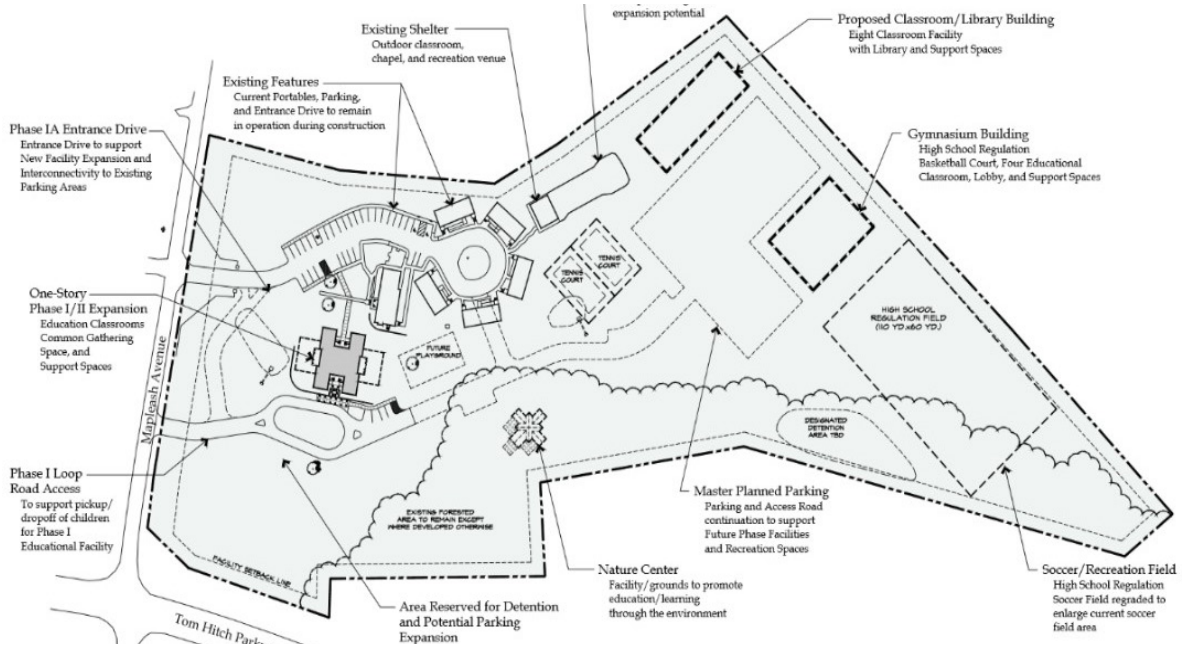
In the Rhetoric school, students develop eloquence, poise, diction, and presence. But even more importantly, they practice presenting their knowledge truthfully, humbly inviting listeners to consider and embrace both what is said and the pursuit of truth that led to it. Doing so enables them to fill positions of leadership in any endeavor — in the sciences, humanities, business, politics, or the arts.

Quintilian, the Roman rhetorician, viewed the aim of education as: The good man speaking well.

Much learning occurs around oval Harkness tables in discussion, and sometimes debate, with one another and teachers. Each senior presents and defends a researched thesis in public. In math and science courses, students learn to express their understanding of difficult concepts through words, as well as through successful calculation and experiment. Students examine the traditions of art, history, literature, theology, and philosophy chronologically, recognizing the “Great Conversation” of the ages, and considering what it means to participate in it.

The classes are rigorous, but not just for the sake of being hard. We cannot articulate more than we understand, and we cannot understand that with which we have not wrestled. Such effort is unavoidable because our world is complex and challenging. And it is in desperate need of the type of graduates Agathos seeks to produce: Good people who speak well.

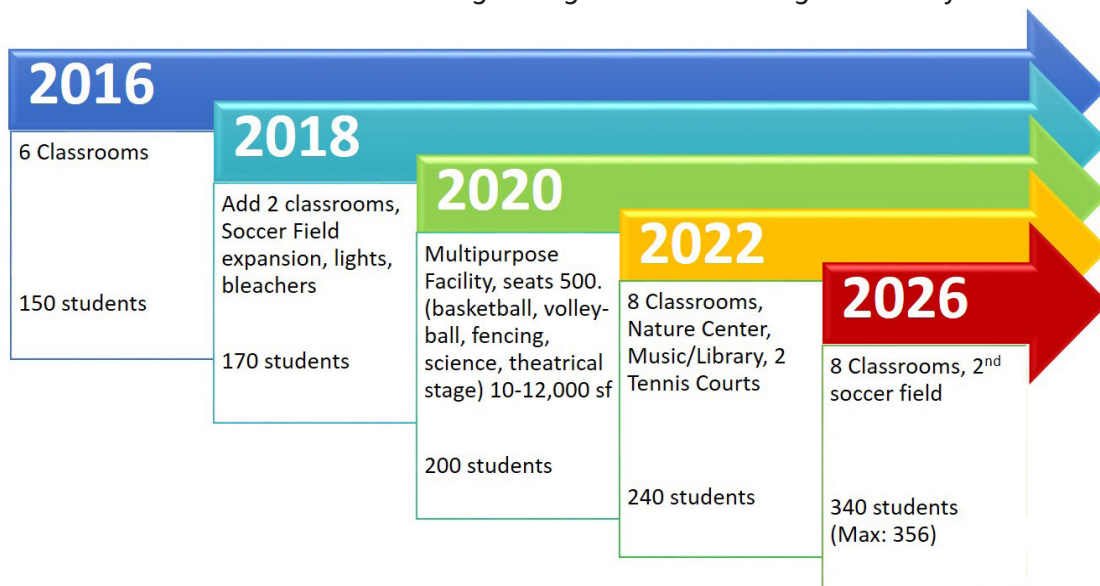
CAMPUS PLAN



LONG RANGE PLAN

Established in 2003, Agathos produced its first graduate in 2015.

Enrollment is 156 and growing in the double digits annually.





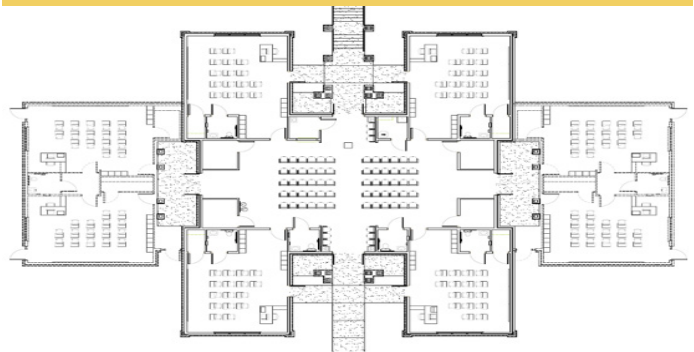
GROWTH **ATTESTS TO** GOD'S GRACIOUS REACH

New building will extend Agathos' reach to more children and families

DEPENDENT UPON FUNDRAISING,
WE EAGERLY ANTICIPATE:

- Six to eight new classrooms in 2016
- Science lab for grades 7-12
- Increased frequency of music and art classes
- School assemblies year round in the common space (current gatherings held in outdoor pavilion, weather-permitting)
- Following this campaign, future projects would include a multi-purpose building and additional classrooms to migrate all students from portable "learning cottages" to brick and mortar buildings

NEW FLOOR PLAN



SUPPORTING AGATHOS IS AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE

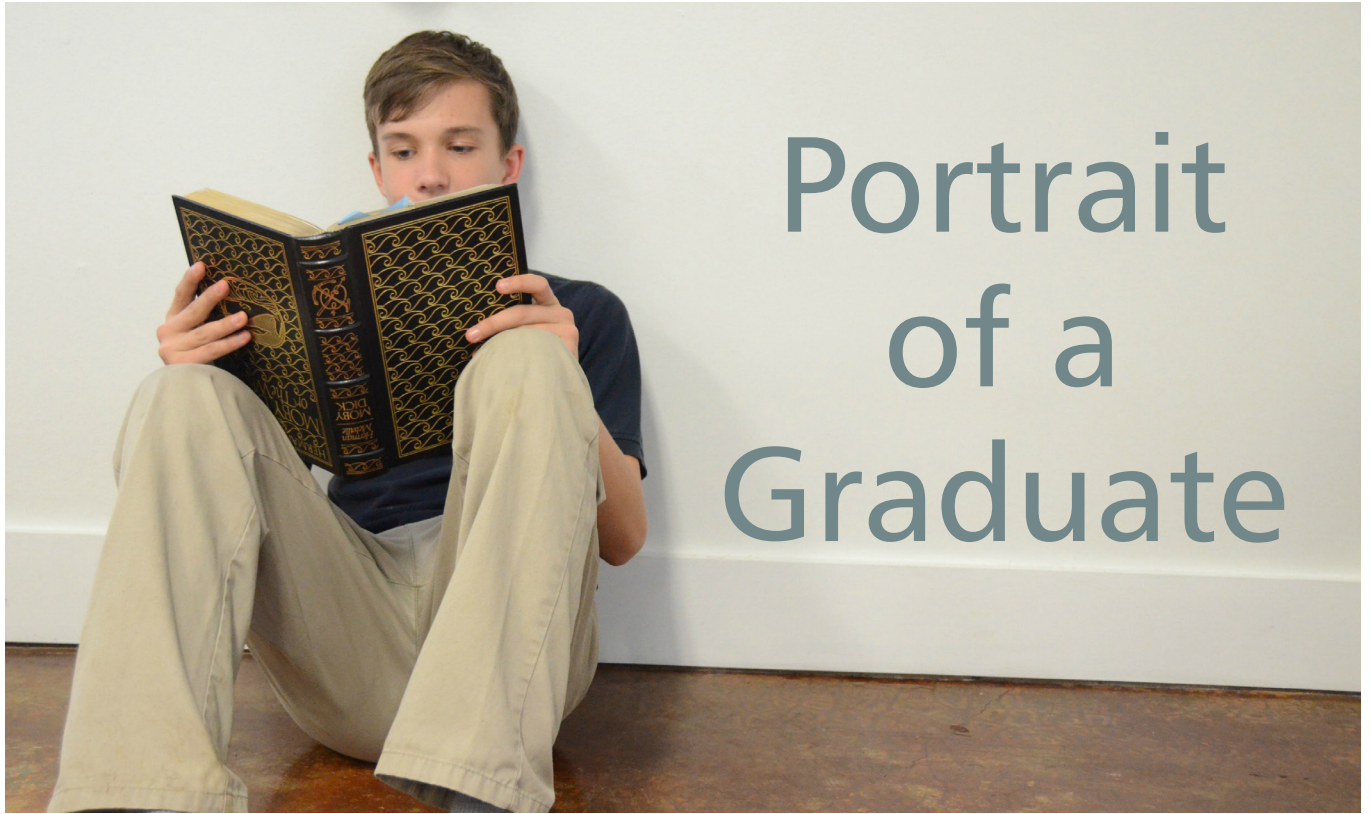
This world desperately needs leaders with the capabilities and character that Agathos imbues. Great efforts by many people have aided in the founding of Agathos, but ultimately all glory and honor for establishing and upholding this school must be given to Christ. Unless the Lord builds a house, or school in this case, we believe the workers labor in vain. Agathos is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

“The education of children for God is the most important business done on earth.

It is the one business for which the earth exists. To it all politics, all war, all literature, all money-making, ought to be subordinated; and every parent especially ought to feel, every hour of the day, that, next to making his own calling and election sure, this is the end for which he is kept alive by God — this is his task on earth.”

- Robert Lewis Dabney (1820-1898) American Christian theologian, Southern Presbyterian pastor, Confederate Army chaplain, Chief of Staff and biographer for General Stonewall Jackson



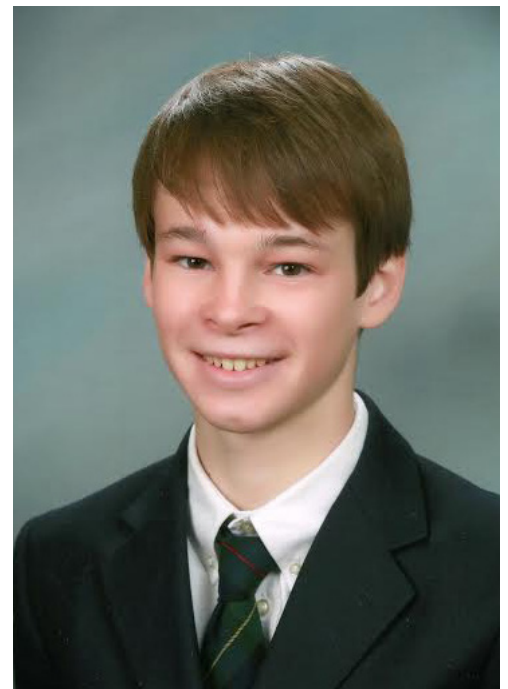


Portrait of a Graduate

Andrew Seago, oldest son of one of the school's five founding families, became the first graduate of Agathos Classical School in 2015.

His 12 years of classical training prepared him to achieve a near-perfect ACT score and earn entrance into Notre Dame's Glynn Family Honors Program, in which he is studying architecture.

Throughout high school, Andrew competed nationally in saber fencing tournaments. Andrew set a high bar in character and achievement for future alumni.





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