

GREENBRIER CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



STATE OF THE ACADEMY

2025 - 2026

Executive Summary – State of the Academy 2025-2026

On October 7, 2025, Greenbrier Christian Academy presented its annual State of the Academy address. The presentation highlighted the school's mission, accomplishments, and vision for the future, while sharing results from parent and employee surveys and outlining ongoing initiatives and goals.

Vision and Mission

Dr. Ron White, Greenbrier Christian Academy's Founder and Superintendent, shared the Academy's vision to provide a Biblically based education to families in the Hampton Roads community. The Academy's mission emphasizes partnering with parents and the local church to help students know Jesus Christ, pursue academic excellence, and grow in wisdom and character.

Parent and Employee Survey Insights

A spring 2025 survey conducted by SchoolRight revealed strong support for Greenbrier Christian Academy's mission, culture, and commitment to faith-based education. Key strengths included a Christ-centered mission, caring community, strong safety measures, and small class sizes averaging 15–16 students.

Facilities and Future Priorities

The Academy continues to enhance campus security with updated systems and additional personnel. Plans include further improvements in communication, extracurricular offerings, and facility upgrades to support academic and co-curricular growth.

Upper School Overview – Mrs. Wendi White

Highlights and Accomplishments

- **Spiritual Growth** – Students participate in weekly chapels, summer Bible studies, and advisory groups. The school maintains strong engagement through multiple relationships, including faculty advisors, support staff and coaches, an Athletic Chaplain, and service events such as Operation Blessing and Night to Shine.
- **Academic Excellence** – The Academy offers nine AP courses, sixteen dual enrollment options, and an AP Capstone Diploma program—one of only 2,500 schools worldwide to do so. GCA students on average scored well above national norms in NWEA testing. Several students who earned national recognition for academic achievements, including a prestigious research fellowship and top performance awards, were highlighted.
- **The expansion of STEP (Successful Techniques for Education Progress) Services** available to students.
- **A comprehensive redesign of the Upper School schedule** to increase student opportunities, discipleship, and lessen teacher load.

New and Emerging Programs

- Gator Gardens – A hands-on agricultural program where students grow, harvest, and sell produce. In its first year, the program cultivated 19 different items and generated \$1,647 in sales.
- SOAR to Success – An innovative aviation program preparing students for careers in aerospace, flight, drone operations, and aviation maintenance. Students participate in hands-on labs, internships, and can earn certificates and credits toward aviation careers.
- Capstone AP Diploma program.
- Entrepreneurship Diploma Certificate option offered through the new Entrepreneurial Mindset program.

Lower School Overview – Dr. Jennifer Harrison

The Lower School and Beginnings Academy continue to experience remarkable growth and success, reflecting the dedication of staff and the strength of the Greenbrier Christian Academy community. Dr. Harrison emphasized gratitude for the partnership with families and teachers' daily commitment to providing a nurturing, Christ-centered education for students.

Program Growth and Highlights

- Enrollment and Demand – Early childhood programs (First Steps, Beginnings, and Foundations Academy) have grown rapidly, with a current waitlist of 113 families seeking placement for their infants and toddlers.
- Classroom Experiences – Preschool and elementary students engage in a rich variety of learning experiences including Spirit Days, Farm Day, Grandparents' Day, and thematic lessons integrating faith, academics, and creativity.
- Academic and Faith Development – Teachers are focused on strengthening literacy and math instruction, fostering critical and creative thinking, and grounding students in faith. The school-wide chapel theme centered on the names of God from Psalm 23 has been a unifying and spiritually enriching experience.

Specialty Programs and Enhancements

The Lower School expanded opportunities in specialty areas, including robotics within STEM to align with Upper School programs, a revitalized music curriculum with performance showcases, and continued excellence in art, PE, and library programs. Students' artistic and literary creativity have been celebrated through events like the Art Extravaganza and engaging themed units in the library.

Future Vision and Facility Plans

A major focus for the coming years includes the construction of a new early education building designed to house all early childhood programs under one roof. A previously secured grant will help furnish and equip this facility. Additionally, GCA won a national contest providing a new \$40,000 playground structure. Upon completion, the early education classrooms will have direct access to age-appropriate outdoor play areas, enhancing both learning and recreation.

Closing Message

The State of the Academy 2025 presentation reaffirmed Greenbrier Christian Academy's commitment to faith, academic excellence, and community partnership. Through continued growth and innovation, the school remains dedicated to helping students thrive spiritually, intellectually, and personally.

