



COVER OUR SCHOOLS

RESTORING OUR COMMUNITY BY SUPPORTING EDUCATION

PLANNING GUIDE



THE BASICS FOR ESTABLISHING A
PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE CHURCH
AND NEIGHBORING SCHOOLS

JAMES 5:16b "THE EFFECTIVE FERVENT PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS MAN AVAILS MUCH."



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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this guide is to assist you through the process of partnering with neighboring schools within your local church community. Our goal is to bring awareness to numerous concerns that are taking place on school campuses across our nation. Circumstances include school shootings, the increase of students experiencing mental health challenges, increased student suicide, and the rise in students participating in maladaptive behaviors to cope with trauma and life circumstances.

In addition, we would like to bring awareness to the nationwide shortage of teachers, the overwhelmedness of teachers and administrators, multiple vacancies of faculty and staff on all campuses, and the overall need to cover our education system.

Please note that the goal or focus of this campaign is NOT to recruit faculty, staff, students, or family members of your partner schools as members of your congregation. Individuals should also NOT force their religious beliefs on others or condemn individuals who live by different principles or religions.

The ultimate goal of this campaign is to restore our communities with the increased participation of the Church through prayer (faith) and actions (works); to represent Christ within our community by supporting local schools. This guide can be used by faith-based community organizations, community leaders, churches, and individual ministries.

While every school may or may not accept your help, we want school personnel to know that their local church is there to assist in whatever way possible and that their local church cares about the faculty, staff, and students at that school.

We are delighted that you are considering joining this movement as we glorify God and represent Him in our communities!

If you have additional questions and concerns after reading through this guide, do not hesitate to contact us at info@coverourschools.com, and we will gladly assist.



Kelley J Bell

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ABOUT COVER OUR SCHOOLS

IT'S TIME TO RESTORE OUR COMMUNITIES



THE PROBLEM:

The state of our society.

What makes a society function? Family, Marriage, Education, Government, and Church are the five pillars, also known as social institutions, on which society functions. Unfortunately, our communities and country are in the state they are in because of the attack on these institutions. To see a change in this world, we must restore these institutions.

THE SOLUTION:

The Church must do its part if people want to see change.

The word church is referred to in two ways. First, according to biblical principles, the Church is a reference to the body of Christ, the believers, the ekklesia, the "called out ones" who assemble. Secondly, the church references the local church, the building where believers gather.

The purpose of the Church (the body of Christ) is to manifest the characteristics of Jesus Christ on the earth. Ephesians 3: 10 -11 (NLT), "10 God's purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. 11 This was his eternal plan, which he carried out through Christ Jesus our Lord." So what are some characteristics of Christ that the Church should display? Jesus is love (1 John 4:8), omnipotent (Isaiah 9:6), Jesus is life (John 1:4), and He is truth and grace (John 1:14). The Church must manifest love (John 13:35), the power of God (Ephesians 3:20), His life (Colossians 3:4), uphold His truth (1 Timothy 3:15), and manifest His grace (Ephesians 2:7)

The Church is to follow God's plan and patterns set in the New Testament by submitting to God's Spirit and obeying His will. When the Church, the Body of Christ, and local assembly of believers, fulfill their assignment, God will be glorified throughout the earth. It is also the Church's responsibility to combat the powers that oppose the Kingdom of God.

Ephesians 6:12 (NKJV) "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places." The devil is no match for the Church. But how does the Church combat the attacks of their enemy? They do this through activating and using their spiritual weapons, one of which is prayer. Ephesians 6: 18 (NKJV) "18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints."



ABOUT COVER OUR SCHOOLS

IT'S TIME TO RESTORE OUR COMMUNITIES



THE POWER OF PRAYER:

One of the most powerful tools that believers have access to is prayer.

People will experience God's divine glory and power on earth through prayer. James 5:16 "Confess your trespasses to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."

Through prayer, believers can communicate with God (Jeremiah 29:12), learn about His will and fulfill His purpose and mandate (Jeremiah 33:3), and triumph against the enemy (Ephesians 6:18). Many times believers pray for themselves, family members, and friends for direction, clarity, healing, or breakthroughs.

It's time that the Church intentionally prays for their communities and use their line of communication to God to call on His power for protection, clarity, and provision for all individuals connected to their neighboring schools.



COVER OUR SCHOOLS BY FAITH



Scripture tells us it is impossible to please God without faith. Therefore, our goal as the Church is to please God through our actions as we represent Him on Earth. What is faith? Hebrews 11: 1-3 ESV "1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. 2 For by it, the people of old received their commendation. 3 By faith, we understand that the universe was created by the word of God so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible."

As we come together as the body of Christ to restore our communities, we stand by faith through our church and school partnerships; we will glorify God. Our belief is therefore grounded in the promises of God and His abilities. Through these partnerships, our communities will experience the transforming power of God's love, peace, guidance, and protection to all connected.

This Campaign asks the Church to activate their faith through prayer and declarations over the schools they choose to cover. All churches have the means to cover our schools in prayer. To specifically cover things that are taking place in the spiritual realm that impact our administrators, teachers, classified support, students, and families. You must believe, have faith, that God will answer your prayers.

On the following page is a detailed list, but not exhaustive, of prayer requests and declarations we are asking you to stand in agreement with for our schools.

We want you to pray for your schools and provide prayer opportunities for those connected to the school. After signing up for the Campaign, you will receive a detailed list of how to offer school prayer opportunities.



COVER OUR SCHOOLS BY FAITH



- Protect the schools from random acts of violence taking place on campus.
- Declare that the following spirits and every other spirit attached to its groupings are ineffective and powerless in their tactics and strategies on each school campus that you are praying for: the spirits of suicide, depression, anxiety, fear, sexual impurity, infirmity, grief, fatigue, lust, pride, deceit, confusion, heaviness, oppression, discouragement, frustration, insecurity, control, retaliation, strife, and rebellion.
- Pray that administrators and teachers can balance the demands of their job.
- Pray that God gives teachers the creativity and ability to create engaging lesson plans to help students learn the content.
- Pray that God's presence will fill every part of the campus.
- Pray for the strength and boldness of the students, faculty, and staff that are believers on the school campus so that they can represent Christ without fear.
- Pray that schools will have abundant resources based on their specific needs and desires.
- Pray that leaders on campus lead in a way that considers the needs of those under their leadership.
- Pray for the kindness amongst students.
- Pray that each student has a safe adult on campus for support and will go to them when they need help.
- Pray that administrators and teachers renew their passion for molding the minds of our future leaders.
- Pray that administrators and teachers can build positive relationships with students and their families.
- Pray that parents and caregivers will actively participate in the academic success of their student(s).
- Pray that the schools create systems that quickly and effectively eliminate bullying amongst students.
- Pray that there is enough mental health support for students on campus. Social workers, mental health counselors, school counselors, SAFE Coordinators, and psychologists can meet the needs on their campus.



COVER OUR SCHOOLS BY WORKS

"FOR AS THE BODY WITHOUT THE SPIRIT IS DEAD, SO FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD ALSO."

JAMES 2:26



All churches can partner with schools by their faith, but this Campaign also asks churches who can partner with schools through works. While we use our faith through prayer to address spiritual concerns, we use our works to address materialistic and natural needs. We know that every church may not have the human resources or finances to support the schools through work, but that is okay! Still commit to covering our schools through prayer.

However, if your church can assist some of the school campuses you commit to covering, we will provide you with details to support your schools through work. Please note that each school may have specific needs. Each school also may have a different process in regards to getting involved. Please communicate with the school principal before purchasing items or having members sign up for specific tasks.


If your church has abundant resources to support schools through work, we ask that you go outside your local community and assist a Title One School. A Title One School is a low-income school where most students receive free and reduced lunch. Local church membership consists of members of their local community, so the neighboring churches to Title One schools may not have the resources to meet the physical needs of those schools. We urge you to assist in supporting those campuses as you see fit.

After signing up for the Campaign, you will receive a detailed but not exhaustive list of ways to support schools through works.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

NO MATTER THE SIZE OF YOUR MINISTRY, YOU CAN POSITIVELY IMPACT YOUR COMMUNITY



HOW TO SELECT SCHOOLS

The goal is to select schools near your church, ministry, or community-based organization. First, you can do this by accessing a list of school districts in your state and identifying schools close to your ministry. Secondly, by doing a Google search of schools within your zip code and selecting schools based on the proximity. The third option is also covering the schools your members attend.

HOW MANY SCHOOLS SHOULD I SELECT?

There is no limit to how many schools you can select to cover through prayer. However, be aware that however many schools you decide to cover through prayer, we do want you to make contact with the school throughout the school year. This can be done via the template email that we will provide to you to send.

Suppose you select to physically partner with a school using the examples listed in the previous section on works. We ask you to assess the available resources of your church and commit to the number of schools based on that availability. You should have more schools covered through prayer than you will cover via works. If you decide to partner with a school physically, you must contact the school principal to determine the steps needed.

WHAT DO I DO AFTER I SELECT THE SCHOOLS I WANT TO COVER?

Once you have selected the schools you will cover, please notify Cover Our Schools by completing the survey indicating the schools you have chosen. Once your pledge is received, you will receive a Church Implementation Guide for your next steps. This guide includes an introductory email template and a checklist to support you throughout the school year. In addition, the emails will give you the vocabulary needed to introduce yourself to your chosen school and explain your intent and purpose.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I COMPLETE THE SURVEY?

Once you complete the survey, you will receive a confirmation email from Cover Our Schools within 3-5 business days. At that time, you will receive your Church Implementation Guide, which will assist you for the remainder of the school year.

The schools you have selected will receive a School Guide that explains the campaign and gives school administrators additional information needed to establish and maintain a faith-based partnership.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

NO MATTER THE SIZE OF YOUR MINISTRY, YOU CAN POSITIVELY IMPACT YOUR COMMUNITY



WHAT IF MY CHURCH IS NOT ABLE TO PROVIDE WORKS BUT ONLY PRAYER?

If your church can only pray for schools and not volunteer additional time and resources, please still sign up! Prayer is the most powerful tool we have as believers and is imperative to release the power of God throughout our communities.

DO WE HAVE TO PRAY ON SCHOOL CAMPUSES?

Prayer is not limited by geographical location, so you do not have to pray on school campuses. Suppose you are interested in participating in Nationwide Campaigns such as See You at The Pole. In that case, you can do so with the Principal's permission. The ultimate goal is for prayer to be used as a proactive matter, not reactive. If your church already has an Intercessory Team, you may include specific prayer requests for the schools selected during your scheduled prayer times.

DO WE HAVE TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY?

To track this campaign's progress, we ask that everyone completes the survey for data purposes. It only takes a few minutes of your time to complete, so please complete the survey. After signing up, if you realize you cannot commit, email us at info@coverourschools.com, and we can remove your commitment anytime.

THE TIME IS NOW

IT'S TIME TO RESTORE OUR COMMUNITIES

We see the state of our communities worldwide, and it's time for us, the Church, to do more to help make a change.

I appreciate your consideration of joining the cause and for taking the time to read this guide.

If you are ready to make a change in your community, complete the survey today to receive your Church Implementation Guide, and let's get to work!

