



## **Parents are Difference Makers**

Our Lutheran Schools look to partner with parents to help families develop a strong faith foundation for the kids. Academics are critically important to our success on many levels, but academics are not eternal, so they are not #1. Our #1 purpose is helping to grow faith - 2 Peter 3:18. This is work that has eternal consequences. We help families "store up treasures in heaven" – Matthew 6:20. What is

bothersome is that our "batting average" is not 100%.

Attending our Lutheran Schools does not guarantee that all kids go to heaven. What we do know is faith is developed and nurtured by hearing the Word of God – Romans 10:17. If the Word is not present, faith is more likely to be uprooted. It would make sense then that our Lutheran schools' #1 goal in pursuing our purpose is to saturate our environment in the Word. Even with this knowledge and effort, we also need help. See, our adversary is very good at what he does – 2 Cor 2:11. It would be exceedingly prideful to assume we can do this by ourselves. It is critical to enlist all the help we can.

What are the other "factors" in the process to building one's heavenly treasure? If we can identify the variables and enlist their help, we will increase our success rate. In a recent survey by the University of Phoenix, the #1 "influencer" on young people is parent(s). According to this survey, dad's influence is statistically greater than mom's, but mom is still #1b. The #2 is teacher(s). Coaches are #5, and pastors/youth leaders are #8, and other family members and friends round out the top 10 in the survey. These positions need to be leveraged for faith development if we hope to maximize our heavenly treasures. If you desire to, or you already wear one of these titles, be forewarned: "If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea" — Matt 18:6.

Dads, Moms, Teachers, Coaches, and Pastors have very important jobs, and if the focus is to do these jobs for earthly treasures (our paychecks), then we totally missed our Calling, and we should look for the millstone..... As a Christian school, we hope to partner and strengthen the entire "influential network" (one could refer to this as the Church, not the social media mess) in order to increase our heavenly treasures and grow the Kingdom – Gen 1:28 & Matt 28:19-20. Join the Great Commission work being done right here!

Come Lord Jesus, Amen!

Paul Steinhaus, Principal

## Let's partner together!



