



KALAMAZOO CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

Undeniably Christian. Academically Excellent.

Going The Extra Mile

Kalamazoo Christian is very intentional in incorporating “faith” throughout all subjects. One example that is very near and dear to my heart is in our elementary Art classroom. Kalamazoo Christian has a very special tradition of making a clay nativity set; this set starts in Kindergarten with baby Jesus (of course, most important), and then each grade level you add a new piece to the scene (Joseph, sheep, angel etc), finishing in 6th grade with a wooden stable. If you are a graduate of Kalamazoo Christian, or have children who graduated, my guess is that you know exactly what I am talking about. IF you have multiple children who attend (ed) Kalamazoo Christian, you might even have SEVERAL homemade, incredibly unique clay nativities to set up accordingly in your home during the Christmas season. Making certain that each piece of nativity has been created by the same child :)

In my role as Director of Recruitment and Retention, as I give tours to prospective families, I LOVE to tour the art room and explain to parents that even in Art class, students get to hear about Jesus and furthermore, the real reason for the “Christmas season”. The response from these prospective parents is always so awestruck... but then, the problem was “ well, my child is going into 3rd grade, how can they create an entire nativity?” My reply was always “Don’t worry, we have a wonderful Art teacher who will help your child catch up with the additional pieces.” You would do that, the parents would ask, “of course” I replied.... I think that I had this conversation with over 100 families ... Can you imagine HOW many CHILDREN Ms. Gavan has helped get caught up and complete their Nativities. Thank you to Ms. Gavan for taking the extra time to make sure that new families get their complete Kalamazoo Christian Nativity set!

- **Jaime Ekkens, Recruitment & Retention Specialist**

