



February 1, 2017

Dear Lower School Parents,

It is a joy and a privilege to tell you that Savannah Christian Lower School has just been named one of the **“Top 50 Private Schools in the USA!”** This honor has been bestowed upon us by the Council for American Private Schools (CAPE), located near Washington, D.C. On this basis, CAPE will submit our Blue Ribbon Schools application to the Department of Education where it will be scrutinized. Announcement of the Blue Ribbon Schools selections for 2016 will be made in late September.

As many of you know, Savannah Christian **Lower School** was named one of the **Top 50 Private Schools and a Blue Ribbon School in 2011**. We will always hold that designation for that year. In 2014 the Savannah Christian **Middle School was also recognized as tops in both categories!**

After five years, a school is permitted to again submit an application for recognition, if their test scores are in the top 15% of the nation in **both Reading and Math** for **all** grade levels. The Lower School again met that high bar! A copy of our 2016 Stanford Achievement Test scores is enclosed for your review. You will see the national average, the Blue Ribbon requirement and the Savannah Christian average for each grade level in Reading and Math. I think our students' achievement is amazing!

While completing the application process, we contacted the CAPE office. When we asked whether schools were frequently recognized a second time, we were advised that second time applicants are given **last** consideration of all applicants. They said that it probably wasn't worth the 80 to 100 hours that an application requires. However, we prayed and felt that we were to complete the process. It is clear that God went before us and gave our Lower School favor! Of 102 applications, we were one of the top 50 selected to represent all the private schools in the country.

The remarkable learning levels of our children, represented by these high test scores, are a result of our outstanding teachers and very supportive parents. **Savannah Christian Lower School is blessed to have both!** Our faculty and support staff are cheerleaders and encouragers. Seventy-one percent of our teachers hold Master's degrees and, more importantly, they are committed to the Lord and to our children. Parents value their children's education. They see that homework is done and projects are completed. Children are encouraged to give their best efforts – a pattern for success in the years to come. It is a privilege to be a part of their school years and of their lives!

With thanksgiving,

Ruth Ann Palmer, Ed. D.  
Lower School Principal