Kansas City Christian School

More Difficult Than Running a Business

A conversation with David Stetler, KCC Board Chair, alumnus, and father of five current KCC students

In 1951, ten Kansas City families began praying for a school that would teach every subject in light of God's unchanging truth. A year later, Kansas City Christian School ("KCC") was formed. Seventy-five years later, David Stetler, who has started and sold businesses, served as a COO, and spent ten years in full-time ministry, says leading it is more difficult than any of them.

AT A GLANCE	
Founded	1951, by ten Kansas City families
Students	450 students, preschool through 12th grade
Community	Families from more than 100 churches
Location	4801 W. 79th Street, Prairie Village, Kansas
Tuition Assistance	More than $1.1 million to 211 students in the 2024 to 2025 school year
Funding	No federal funding for tuition, sustained by families and donors
Next Chapter	Currently serving 450 students, with a vision to grow to 750 to further KCC's mission.
Legal Name	Kansas City Christian School Association | 501(c)(3) | EIN 48-0623381
Website	kcchristianschool.org

OUR MISSION

KCC partners with Christian families, training their children in a biblical worldview, Christlike character and wisdom, and the academic, vocational and life skills they need, so that they live Christ-Centered lives, loving and serving God and others in their homes, churches, and communities.

FROM THE CONVERSATION

- **More Difficult Than Business:** A Christian school demands clarity of mission in every hire, every classroom, and every decision. That, more than budget, is what makes it the most difficult thing David has led.
- **A ministry, a School, and a Business:** An independent Christian school is all three at once. Families can treat it as one option among many. The board treats it as a ministry that must also keep its doors open.
- **Everyone is Being Formed:** Every education forms its students. The question is what they are being formed by. At KCC, spiritual formation and academic excellence are woven together, not traded off.
- **A Different Kind of Compounding:** David's classmates include pastors, missionaries serving overseas, and business leaders who carry their faith into their work. The teachers and coaches who invested in them may never have seen the return.

WHAT MAKES KCC DISTINCTIVE

- **Christ-Centered Education:** Every subject and every co-curricular activity, from the classroom to the soccer field, is approached in light of God's unchanging truth, KCC's top two priorities, spiritual formation and academic excellence, are complementary goals.
- **Teachers Who Shape Lives:** Teachers who are called to Christian education change the lives of students. KCC's goal is to empower talented teachers to excel in their craft.
- **Why Christian Education:** The values a family holds sacred are formed, or undone in the hours a child spends at school, Christian education is designed to reinforce what is taught at home and at church, not compete with it, and that is increasingly important as we form the next generation of leaders.
- **Ministries Working Together:** Begun about 15 years ago with the ministry Freedom Fire, KCC's Urban Education Initiative brings students from the urban core into a Christian education and onto a path toward college. The students are blessed, and the KCC community is blessed in return.

continued on page 2 →

NOTABLE QUOTES

“Not today. You don’t deserve it. You have to earn it.”
-David’s high school soccer coach, after an undefeated team’s 2-0 win, as told by David Stetler

“The teachers love my kids so much that they demand their best.”
-David Stetler

“Clearly we’re all being formed, but what are we being formed by?”
-David Stetler

“Public schools survive because of tax dollars. Private schools survive because of the generosity of donors.”
-John Christensen

WAYS TO GIVE

Give Online	kcchristianschool.org/apps/pages/donate Choose the General Fund or Tuition Assistance, or scan the giving code below.
By Check	Payable to Kansas City Christian School Association 4801 W. 79th Street, Prairie Village, KS 66208
Stock, Real Estate and Business Interests	KCC accepts appreciated securities, real estate, and closely held business interests (S corporation, LLC, or C corporation). Contact Tracie Burrow, CFO, at tburrow@mykccs.org or (913) 648-5227 for transfer instructions.
Donor-Advised Funds, Foundations, and Estate Plans	Recommend a grant, or name KCC in a will or trust, as Kansas City Christian School Association, EIN 48-0623381.
New for 2027	The federal Education Freedom Tax Credit offers up to $1,700 per taxpayer for cash gifts to approved scholarship granting organizations, and Kansas has opted in. Ask KCC which organizations serve its families.

GET INVOLVED

Visit	Schedule a campus tour at (913) 648-5227. Many families start in preschool or transitional kindergarten.
Attend	Come to a KCC basketball game this season for the small-town crowd and the energy.
Pray	For KCC’s teachers, students, and families, and for wisdom as the board plans for the school’s next chapter.

LISTEN TO THE CONVERSATION

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SCAN TO GIVE
TO KANSAS CITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

SCAN TO LISTEN
TO EPISODE 22 MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

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Presented by StoryOne Family Office. StoryOne’s John Christensen serves in a volunteer capacity as Treasurer of the KCC Board, and hosts John Christensen and Cameron Bond are KCC parents. Ministry Spotlight is informational. It is not an investment or charitable-giving recommendation, and nothing here is legal or tax advice. StoryOne Family Office is an independent registered investment adviser registered with the SEC. Tuition assistance figure from KCC’s Form 990 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.