

The background is a light blue and green collage. It features several colorful paper butterflies in shades of purple, pink, yellow, and orange. There are also some brown branches and a book titled 'PETE' visible in the bottom right corner. The text is centered within a white rectangular box with a thin blue border.

Eastside

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Nurturing covenant children

TO REFLECT THE MIND OF CHRIST



BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE

+nurturing environment

We believe that being a Christian school is not just a nice idea, but that biblically-based instruction is a necessary approach to education. Colossians 1:16 states

that all things were created by Christ and for Him. This truth affects all that we do—how we govern our school, who we hire as staff, who are our students, and how we present Christ.

Our mission statement reads, “Teaching covenant children to reflect the mind of Christ.” Because we believe that God’s covenant is with believers and their children, we view our students as children of God. In our instruction and correction of students we seek to cultivate, nurture, and strengthen their love for the Lord and desire to serve Him in all areas of life.

We believe that God has given parents the responsibility to raise their children to fear and love the Lord. For this reason our school is not a parochial (church-run) school but a parental school. We expect parents to take an active role in their child’s education, both through personal involvement and oversight of the school. Through the school association, Eastside parents elect a school board—six rotating members who are involved in the running and supervision of the school.

Eastside is located on the grounds of First Protestant Reformed Church and operates from the same doctrinal basis. Since our beginning in 1997, we have been a member of the Federation of Protestant Reformed Christian Schools. The school board’s oversight of the school is based on the doctrines, practices, and standards that we share with these institutions.

CHRIST *+distinctively* Reformed CENTERED

Eastside Christian School is a small, multi-grade school that developed out of the desire of parents for a distinctively Reformed Christian school on the east side of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

In many ways, we look like other Christian schools in the area; we have caring teachers and staff who provide a quality, Christ-centered education, we have supportive parents who are involved in and believe in the mission of the school, and we have a body of students who care about each other and who work hard at their studies. But there are things about us that are worth highlighting.

Eastside offers a Christ-centered and distinctively Reformed education that is both academically challenging and accommodating of individual needs. Our Pre-K through 8th grade features small class sizes and high teacher/student ratio, a multi-grade classroom structure, and personalized instruction as well as special needs education when called for. Tuition rates are very competitive with a generous multi-child discount.

MULTI-GRADE CLASSROOMS

One of the first things you'll notice is that Eastside utilizes multi-grade classrooms. Each of the classrooms is led by a certified teacher with help from aides and qualified volunteers. Currently, the rooms are broken down into the following grades: Pre-K through Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd through 3rd, 4th through 6th, and 7th through 8th.

Multi-grade classrooms can be seen as a challenge, but our teachers do an excellent job of engaging the students at their level and pushing them to the next. And students and staff also enjoy a benefit from mixed classrooms; lasting, often life-long bonds form between fellow students and with teachers as the entire student body and staff get to know each other very well. Students reach across grades and personality types to become friends with students they might have overlooked at a larger school.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION PERMEATING EVERY SUBJECT

Eastside provides students a quality, focused education that covers all necessary subjects to prepare students for high school, starting from Pre-K handwriting all the way to 8th Grade science. Important to us is that each and every subject area at Eastside is taught from the perspective of Christ being Lord and Creator. In history (His story), students are taught to see God's sovereign plan unfolding for His glory. In math, students are taught to marvel at the order, logic and wisdom of our God. It is our goal to help our students see and grow in their understanding of the Lordship of Christ in every subject area and to live for His honor in all areas of life.

In addition to teaching all subject areas from a Christian perspective, we also seek to nurture our students' understanding and adoration of the Lord through regular classroom and all-school devotions, Bible classes, Bible memory, and daily singing of praises to God.

MUSIC AT EASTSIDE

Studies have shown that studying music, especially learning to play an instrument, improves a person's ability to learn other subjects including math, science, and language. Eastside believes that learning music promotes a more balanced and complete use of the way our minds gather and assess information, and plays an important role in forming a person's character relating to others and living to glorify our God. Students in grades 4th through 8th participate in orchestra and choir, both of which meet multiple times a week and include performances throughout the year. Students are excited about the musical opportunities at Eastside and it has become a valuable part of our school culture.



ACADEMIC SUPPORT

I Corinthians 12 teaches that the body of Christ is composed of many members of differing abilities and gifts. As a small school, we can offer personalized instruction tailored to a student's unique needs. The Christian Learning Center is utilized for individualized assessment and help, as well as for giving us direction as we strive to ensure that all our students use their abilities to the fullest in the classroom. We are able to avail ourselves of Grand Rapids Public Services for students who require additional outside help, including occupational and speech therapy.

SOCIAL LIFE AT EASTSIDE

Eastside's small school structure gives us the ability to build a unique sense of community. We strive to personify the body of Christ by creating a calm, warm, nurturing environment where students and teachers can work and grow together.

Eastside builds this sense of community with activities such as regular all-school devotions, chapels, all-school recess games, and an end-of-the-year picnic. Other activities include GR Symphony performances, Parent-Student Bike Hike, Jr. Riverbank Run, Grandparents' Day, Field trips, and Pizza and Game Night.

Eastside alumni report a good transition to high school or a larger school, and remember fondly the bonds they formed with both teachers and students at Eastside.

TUITION

Eastside offers a very competitive tuition rate, with an aggressive multi-child discount. In addition, there is a \$1000/student contribution from the Eastside Foundation to help offset the cost of tuition for families. Contact us for more information.

CONTACT US

Contact us for more information or to schedule a visit. We would love to hear from you!

Phone: 616.942.2939

Email: info@eastside-christian.org

Website: www.eastsidechr.org

LOCATION:

2792 Michigan St. NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506
(just west off the East Beltline)