



KING'S RIDGE
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



HEAD OF SCHOOL

ALPHARETTA, GEORGIA



INTRODUCTION

Located in Alpharetta, Georgia, on a stunning 62-acre campus (and soon to be 80), King's Ridge Christian School (King's Ridge or KRCS) is a leading Christian college prep school serving 836 students in pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade. King's Ridge is unapologetically Christ-centered, multi-denominational, and open to all families and students seeking its school's mission, vision, and passion. At the heart of King's Ridge are students who are known by their teachers and staff, as well as by the larger community where the school resides. Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, King's Ridge has experienced significant enrollment growth (almost 20% over the last 4 years), noteworthy retention, and an enhanced reputation.

King's Ridge was founded by a group of families in north Fulton County, including hall of fame Atlanta Braves pitcher John Smoltz and comedian Jeff Foxworthy. In 2001, King's Ridge began as a K-8 school and greeted its first students at a renovated grocery store. The school quickly grew to 318 students in 2006-2007 and graduated its first senior class. The following school year, King's Ridge welcomed students to the Barbara Adler Academic Center on its new Alpharetta campus. With today's campus, King's Ridge is poised and capable of steadily growing its enrollment to 1250.



PHILOSOPHY

King's Ridge provides a nurturing learning environment supported by the families and community, emphasizing the development of the student: academically, spiritually, physically, emotionally, socially, and ethically.

As such, we believe in:

- An accelerated Christian education of academic excellence providing students with the tools to reach their full potential & be useful in the lives of others.
- Each student has unique gifts requiring specific focus on learning experiences appropriate to age, maturity, and learning style.
- Presenting to students the Christian faith where prayer and worship are integral parts of the entire Christian school community's life and work.
- An educational environment that equips students to deal with the diverse aspects of the world and helps them shape Christian-based responses to complex choices and issues.
- Fostering physical fitness, school spirit, sportsmanship, competition, and teamwork through a comprehensive athletic program.
- Encouraging an appreciation of the aesthetics of music, art, and drama through a cultural arts program.
- A school where students are known, taught, nurtured, and loved collectively by teachers, administrators, parents, and other students, and the inherent value that such an environment brings to each student's success.
- The importance of teaching personal responsibility, honor, moral integrity, and ethical behavior.
- Developing positive attitudes and self-confidence necessary for college prep and lifelong learning.
- Assisting students to develop self-discipline for leadership and compassion for service to others.

MISSION

King's Ridge is a Christian community providing a college preparatory education equipping students to know, to serve, and to believe.

- An environment open to all students who invite and welcome diversity in the student body.
- Supporting parents' partnership and valuing families committed to the School's mission and their active involvement in the lives of their children and the Christian school community.



VISION

King's Ridge will become the number one choice for a Christ-centered, academically excellent college prep school and a place for students to build character, discover their unique purpose and calling, and grow to make an impact that extends far beyond the King's Ridge campus.

PASSION

To bring every student into a personal growing relationship with Jesus Christ while equipping them to do with excellence all that God has called them to do.



KING'S RIDGE AT A GLANCE

Founded: **2001**

Enrollment: **836**

Upper School (9-12): **273**

Middle School (5-8): **254**

Lower School (PK-4): **309**

Alumni: **577**

Employees: **161 (154 Full-time)**

Lower School student-to-teacher ratio: **8:1**

Middle & Upper Schools' student-to-teacher ratio: **17:1**

Upper Tuition: **\$22,600**

Middle Tuition: **\$21,535 - \$21,960**

Lower Tuition: **\$11,500 - \$20,875**

Budget: **\$18M**

Annual Fund: **\$665,000 (2020-21)**

[Click here](#) to download the KRCS School Profile.



ACADEMICS

King's Ridge strives for excellence in all academic areas. Faculty members are dedicated to the success of each individual student and the college preparatory curriculum equips students for significant accomplishment in college and beyond.

King's Ridge is about more than grades. Grades are critical, but the multiple outcomes of learning in an integrated approach extend the school's value.

Enrollment in a Pre-K – 12th grade school allows students the years of progressive support within an accelerated Christian education to identify, unleash, and showcase their potential surrounded by a community who knows, loves, and accepts them.

King's Ridge graduates understand that learning is a life-long privilege and it extends far outside the classroom walls. Opportunities in Christian life development, competitive athletics, enriching fine arts, and community involvement offer real-life lessons.

VISION FOR EVERY KRCS STUDENT

It is often noted that there is something different about a King's Ridge graduate. They are different from their peers. They carry themselves with a maturity that comes from responsibility, a sense of purpose, and a distinct note of humble confidence and grace attributed to years of experiences that allow them to know who they are and who Christ is in them.

King's Ridge Graduates are:



SELF-CONFIDENT

servants who learn to recognize where God is calling them to work and serve in the direction of their passion and purpose.



SELF-AWARE

leaders who understand their gifts and how they can best contribute.



SELF-DIRECTED

learners who have a life-long curiosity to know more, have mastered the Art of Learning and are empowered to know how to find the information.





LOWER SCHOOL (PK-4)

Lower School launches students into college prep, starting in a nurturing environment with differentiated instruction specific to each child's unique gifts and talents.

The reading program supports continued growth by providing a strong foundation for primary students and allowing older students to make their own reading selections. The math program encourages students to stretch their minds by teaching them more than one solution to every problem. Elementary science and social studies focuses on a hands-on approach with labs and projects. Students are engaged in the learning process throughout the curriculum and collaborate using emerging technologies. Through this experience, students become creators and begin developing skills to become self-directed learners.



Faith integration occurs throughout the day including a weekly chapel. King's Ridge focuses on Christian education by teaching the Bible rather than a particular denominational belief. Teachers integrate a Christian perspective into the literature, math, science, and social studies units they teach. In addition to Christian education, students participate in six other special classes each week including physical education, Spanish, music, visual art, media center, and guidance as needed.

MIDDLE SCHOOL (5-8)

Over the course of a student's time in middle school, they will navigate numerous important developmental milestones as they transition from childhood into adolescence. The middle school is intentionally structured to serve students most effectively during this unique and critical developmental period.



At the foundation is the relationship between the student and the teacher. Knowing their students is of utmost importance to develop students academically, emotionally, and spiritually.

One way that community is built is through small advisement groups, divided by grade and gender, that meet twice a week during the school year. Another way that teachers develop meaningful relationships with students is through small class sizes that enable faculty to provide individual attention and support students.

The middle school seeks to develop students' sense of giftedness along with their call to use those talents for something much bigger than their own self-interests. In that pursuit, all middle school students take year-long Christian Education classes, participate in a weekly Chapel program and grade level service projects where they go out into the community. Additionally, all middle school students have the opportunity to go on two multi-day, out of state mission trips on which they serve others in different communities and have dedicated times of praise and worship.



UPPER SCHOOL (9-12)

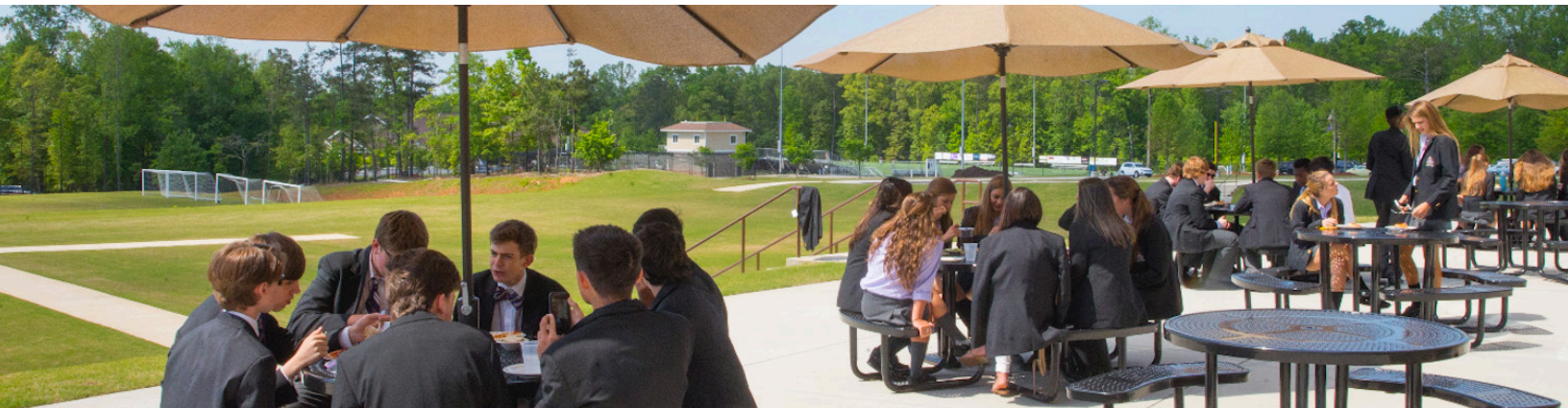
The high school narrows the focus to college readiness in both academic level and process. With 21 Honors courses, 18 AP courses, and a 100% college acceptance rate, it is critical that students be prepared for success in the college environment and beyond. Students develop accountability with time management, self-advocacy and research, writing and study skills, and technology that lay the foundation for college-level work. Self-awareness allows students to understand that each person has something to offer in collaborative settings. Students are encouraged to stretch their minds beyond their comfort levels and take risks knowing it may lead to discoveries of learning while developing their character and integrity by following the Honor Code.

Discussion-based, student-led classes are facilitated through the recent introduction of Harkness pedagogy. The Harkness method increases student participation and facilitates higher-level thinking skills.

“ Students are encouraged to stretch their minds beyond their comfort levels and take risks knowing it may lead to discoveries of learning while developing their character and integrity by following the Honor Code.

counseled on how to focus efforts and strategically plan a path that will place them in the best position possible to achieve their goals. On a parallel track parents meet with a college counselor to understand their role in the college application process.

Internships and mentors are chosen during these years to assist students as they identify their gifts and talents. The Director of Christian Life is actively involved with students to guide them in their Christian walk toward faith and servant leadership through community service, as well as national and international mission trip opportunities.



The term “college prep” becomes very real as students research colleges that will serve as both an ideal fit and a culture that offers relevant experiences and networks to provide them avenues for their unique paths in life. A tailor-made college application process is developed with the student and family in mind. Even before Upper School begins (in the eighth-grade year), students begin following a college application timeline.

Through a relational apprenticeship model, students are

PREFECT PROGRAM

King's Ridge has a Prefect program in which student leaders are selected from the incoming senior class who possess a high degree of commitment to King's Ridge's values and ideals. Their influence within the school community is based on their character demonstrated through service to KRCS. All prefects are responsible for forming a committee of students from each Upper School grade to assist in the management of their office.



THE ARTS

King's Ridge Fine Arts is state and nationally recognized for performing and visual arts. The Fine Arts Department and Fine Arts Academy offer students the opportunity to engage in a unique co-curricular program: rigorous, academically excellent, college preparatory classes and professional-level arts training in the context of a Christ-centered school culture. Lower and Middle School students produce and broadcast morning announcements through the Tiger TV Network. The enormously popular after-school and summer Fine Arts Academy offers instruction in music, voice, and dance.

The school day consists of elective options in fine arts followed by immersion in a student's chosen art: Dance, Instrumental, Theatrical, TV/Film, Visual Arts, Vocal Arts and Worship. King's Ridge Fine Arts prepares young artists with the skill for creative expression, critical thought, and academic success to discover their unique purpose and calling.

ATHLETICS

As a young school, King's Ridge is a proven leader and now has seven alumni competing in professional sports. With the Class of '21, six members signed college letters of intent. The athletic facilities are exceptional and include the Student Center Gym, Barbara Adler Academic Center Gym, and Archer Field. A closing date has already

been set to purchase an additional 18 contingent acres to further build out the school's athletic facilities and fields.

At the Upper School, student-athletes compete in these varsity sports:

- Fall: Cheerleading, Cross Country, Equestrian, Football, Softball, and Volleyball
- Winter: Basketball, Swimming, and Wrestling
- Spring: Baseball, Golf, Lacrosse, Soccer, Tennis, and Track and Field

Middle School programs are competitive and during the 2020-21 school year, the Tigers made five Metro 10 playoff appearances. Middle School student-athletes compete on these teams:

- Fall: Cheerleading, Cross Country, Equestrian, Football, Softball, Tennis, and Volleyball
- Winter: Basketball, Swimming
- Spring: Baseball, Golf, Lacrosse, Soccer, and Track and Field

Also a robust Jr. Tiger athletic/camp program for PK-8th grade students that includes: Basketball, Cheerleading, Equestrian, Flag Football, Lacrosse, and Soccer.



CHRISTIAN LIFE

The word "community" is very important at King's Ridge. Within the student body, staff, board and family community, King's Ridge strives to model the same deep sense of fellowship, love, and respect the early church displayed towards one another. Annual class retreats are one such way that a close-knit community is fostered between students, and between teachers and students.

King's Ridge seeks to instill in students' hearts a deep and sincere gratitude

and love for Jesus Christ that results in a desire to serve and share that love with others. Service is an integral part of the Christian Life program. Students and families are provided opportunities throughout the year to serve others within their communities and throughout the greater Atlanta area.

Mission trips enable students to not only serve others, but to serve others while expanding their worldview through experiencing different

cultures and communities locally, nationally, and internationally.

Chapel is a time set apart for King's Ridge students to participate in a relevant, age-appropriate environment, so that they can connect with God and grow in their personal relationship with Jesus Christ. The goal is for all students to look forward to Chapel each week and come with the anticipation of experiencing God in a new and fresh way.



FINANCES & FUNDRAISING

With an \$18M operating budget, King's Ridge is in solid financial condition and debt service is managed easily at just over 4% of the annual expense budget. Enrollment has been growing at an impressive rate and its momentum suggests steady enrollment increases for the next several years.

The school's culture of philanthropy is strong. Participation in the Annual Fund has increased steadily, and the 2020-21 Annual Fund garnered \$665,000. In addition, King's Ridge recently raised almost \$5M in one weekend to launch a new capital campaign.

GOVERNANCE & ACCREDITATION

King's Ridge is governed by an exceptional Board of Trustees primarily composed of parents, non-parents, and clergy. The Board includes 13 Trustees, including the Head of School. The current Board Chair is in his first year of a four-year term and has served on the Board for the last 5 years. Standing committees include:

Advancement, Christian Life, Finance, Governance, and Nominating.

King's Ridge is accredited by:

- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
- Southern Association of Independent Schools
- Cognia
- Georgia Accrediting Commission

It holds memberships in:

- National Association for College Admission Counseling
- Southern Association for College Admission Counseling
- Georgia Independent School Association
- Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools
- Council on Educational Standards and Accountability
- College Board



CESA-SAIS ACCREDITATION VISIT COMMENDATIONS (OCTOBER 2019)

King's Ridge is well-positioned to be the "first choice" among area schools, public and private. As word spreads about the vitality of the school's mission, vision, and passion, enrollment will grow. As enrollment grows, athletics should gain in momentum; arts should continue to flourish, and academics, grounded in biblical truth, will remain a clear value proposition for the school.

We were extremely impressed by the spirit, commitment, positive energy, and enthusiastic sense of community found at King's Ridge. The entire school community is dedicated to an inclusive process of continuous improvement. The Board of Trustees is providing appropriate governance and it is delegating to the Head of School the responsibility for fulfilling the mission. The faculty, staff, and students embrace the mission of the school and have worked together to form an impressive school culture. The school's leadership is to be commended on developing a Christian educational institution that truly reflects the mission and beliefs upon which it was founded.

The educational and personal experiences of the students are the driving force behind all aspects of the school. Statements about the need for changes and improvements were always prefaced by statements which underscored how positively the entire community feels about the school. The school is eager to collaborate on ideas and discuss the emerging trends in education while at the same time the school community recognizes that new ideas must be addressed through the lens of its distinctive Christian school culture and history.



THE OPPORTUNITY

Since its founding in 2001, King's Ridge has only had three Heads of School: Barbara Adler (Founding), David Rhodes (2007-2017), and the current Head of School, Dr. Jeff Williams. In Summer 2021, Dr. Williams announced that he will become the new Head of School at his high school alma mater in Texas, effective July 2022. He is enthusiastic about helping the Board of Trustees and the new Head of School ensure a seamless transition.

The School's Strategic Plan was approved in late 2019 and the Board of Trustees expects the new Head of School will further refine and execute the plan going forward. With its implementation, there is already significant upward and positive momentum.



KING'S RIDGE KEY FOCUS AREAS:

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Focus on the maturing of our students' relationship with Christ while fulfilling our passion statement at the highest level.

RESOURCES

Endow and secure the future of King's Ridge while prudently managing current resources to sustain institutional excellence.

ACADEMICS

Advance a challenging and engaging academic program that balances traditional and innovative practices and experiences that exemplifies the best in student education, producing graduates ready to thrive in college and beyond.

FACULTY

Recruit, hire, support, and retain exceptional faculty who live and deliver the mission of King's Ridge.

COMMUNITY

Strengthen and enrich the tapestry of relationships that defines the King's Ridge community.

[Click here](#) to download the KRCS Strategic Plan.



RESPONSIBILITIES

Reporting to the Board of Trustees, the Head of School will be responsible for leading King's Ridge into its next exciting phase of growth. He or she will ensure that the school fully meets its mission to provide a Christian, college preparatory education equipping students to know, to serve, and to believe. The Head of School will foster a Christ-centered culture that places a premium on community and relationships. This person will also oversee the financial and operational health of the school to guarantee its long-term sustainability and growth. Specific duties include the following:

- Exemplify and uphold the King's Ridge mission, vision, and passion, while protecting and enhancing the school's Christ-centered community.
 - Evangelize the mission, vision, passion, and strategy to all stakeholders.
 - Refresh the current strategic plan and, in concert with the Board of Trustees, develop and execute further plans to guide the school into the future while upholding its traditions and values.
 - Serve as the "public face" of the school, informing current and prospective parents about the benefits of its education, and articulating the school's mission and aspirations in order to grow enrollment, to promote philanthropic giving, and to ensure that King's Ridge is well known, highly regarded in the greater Atlanta community, and a national leader – the number one choice for a Christ-centered, academically excellent college prep school.
- Serve as a visible, approachable, and accessible leader who is engaged in the school.
 - Promote the effective operations and ongoing progress of King's Ridge by building a strong team, ensuring an efficient and effective administrative structure, empowering others, and attracting, hiring, and retaining highly qualified, knowledgeable faculty, coaches, and administrators who support and uphold the school's mission.
 - Steward the resources of the school through sound fiscal management and planning and prudent oversight and development of facilities.
 - Continually refine the school's academic and extracurricular programs, updating pedagogical methods, and integrating new developments in education and technology to ensure that King's Ridge provides a first-rate educational experience.
 - Ensure athletics and fine arts are exceptional and achieve the King's Ridge vision - number one choice.
 - Play a lead role in fundraising activities by cultivating and soliciting donors both on an ongoing basis and in conjunction with future capital campaign activities.





CANDIDATE QUALITIES

LEADERSHIP

- One whose dedication to the King's Ridge mission inspires the trust, confidence, and support of a wide range of constituencies and encourages the entire community to grow in it.
- A strategic and visionary leader whose imagination, ability to anticipate needs and opportunities, and purposeful and courageous approach to change advances the school consistent with its mission, vision, and passion.
- A skillful manager who optimizes a team's potential through collaboration, high expectations, delegation, accountability, and the empowerment of others.
- An open and welcoming person whose active involvement in daily life at King's Ridge generates a strong sense of community.



EXPERIENCE

While it is expected that many candidates will come from the world of faith-based or independent schools, the Search Team welcomes "nontraditional candidates" whose career experiences and leadership skills may meet the requirements of the position.

- Experience leading in an educational or professional setting that values scholarship and critical inquiry, encourages personal development, promotes ethical behavior, and sustains a strong sense of community.
- A successful track record in strategic planning, financial planning and administration, and managing an organization of a similar or larger size.
- A history of establishing, evaluating, and refining programs and initiatives consistent with King's Ridge's mission.

- A background that includes serving as the "public face" of an organization with internal and external constituencies such as local business, civic organizations, government leaders, and prospective students and parents.

SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

- Interpersonal and communication skills to articulate a Christ-centered mission, to execute strategic initiatives, and to preserve and grow a culture that places utmost importance on relationships that define Christian community.
- Adept at building and nurturing relationships to exercise leadership among the Board, administration, faculty, staff, coaches, parents, students, and alumni.
- Sound business and financial acumen.
- Skilled at recruiting, recognizing, and retaining talented faculty and staff members and effectively training and delegating to them while ultimately remaining accountable for their results.
- Familiarity with the field of education in general, including current trends and best practices.

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

- A strong Christian, who affirms and upholds the School's Statement of Faith.
- An "educator at heart" who loves students of all ages and has a palpable enthusiasm for shepherding the growth of children and adolescents.
- A servant leader who blends humility and care for others, the confidence necessary to make difficult decisions, and the ability to manage conflict and secure resolution.
- A highly relational person who knows stakeholders by name, invests in individuals, and desires to build Christian community.
- A person who blends an understanding of tradition and existing culture with a willingness to challenge conventional thinking, to take prudent risks in pursuit of excellence, and to have the wisdom to differentiate and prioritize good and great ideas.
- A decision-maker who gathers input from others and is transparent regarding motivations and outcomes.



ABOUT ALPHARETTA, GA

Alpharetta is perfectly positioned between the enchanting & adventurous North Georgia Mountains & the vibrant international city of Atlanta. Whether you're new to the city or a lifelong resident, there's just so much to discover in this beautiful and vibrant Southern city. Alpharetta truly has it all. A unique blend of incredible job opportunities, great shopping and cultural events & abundant green space. It's no wonder Alpharetta is one of the hottest markets in both commercial & residential real estate. Through all of its progress, the city has kept its down-to-earth character. Which may be why people who live here usually stay here.

Located just 4 miles south of Milton, which was included in 24/7 Wall Street's 2020 Best Cities to Live in Every State, Alpharetta is a community with a character all its own. Part Southern, part cosmopolitan, but always down to earth and accessible. Whether you're looking for a home for your business or yourself, you'll find everything from tranquil street locations to high rises, from swim & tennis neighborhoods to wooded escapes. The people in our community come from all ages & backgrounds, but they all share a sense of excitement & expectation.



#1 OF 453 - BEST PLACES TO LIVE IN GA

#1 OF 453 - BEST PLACES TO RAISE A FAMILY IN GA

#1 OF 164 - BEST SUBURBS TO LIVE IN GA



THINGS TO DO IN ALPHARETTA

Located just 22 miles north of Atlanta, Alpharetta is a family friendly destination with over 250 shops within a five-mile radius and more than 200 dining options. There are always things to do in Alpharetta. Here are just a few attractions:



**ALPHARETTA
MUSIC CITY**



**AMERIS BANK
AMPHITHEATRE**



**DOWNTOWN
ALPHARETTA**



**NORTH
POINT MALL**



SEARCH PROCESS & TIMELINE

The King's Ridge search is underway to appoint a new Head of School who will begin on July 1, 2022. The Board of Trustees has appointed a Search Steering Committee to conduct the search and has engaged NextEd to provide support. Compensation will be highly competitive with comparable schools in the region.

All candidates will be treated with the utmost confidentiality and discretion. Interested candidates should submit the following as one single merged PDF document to KRCS@next-ed.com:

- Interest cover letter
- Resume
- Statement of personal Christian faith
- Contact information from 5 references (name, relationship, email, phone). References will not be contacted without prior permission from the candidate

NextEd will continue the recruitment process until a candidate has been selected by the Search Steering Committee, but given this highly desirable opportunity, we anticipate the following timeline:

APPLICATION DEADLINE

NOVEMBER 1, 2021

(though candidates will be considered and processed immediately upon discretion of NextEd and the Search Steering Committee)

SEMIFINALIST INTERVIEWS

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2021

FINALIST VISITS

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2021

APPOINTMENT

DECEMBER 2021-JANUARY 2022



PLEASE DIRECT ALL INQUIRIES AND NOMINATIONS IN CONFIDENCE TO:

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