

Foundations

Reflecting on God's provision for SWCS

The Beginning: Foundations #1

Dear SWCS Family,

A few weeks ago, the founding headmaster of Southwest Covenant, Van Hough passed away at the age of 79. I had the privilege of leading the graveside service for his wife, Donna, and their family. He served as headmaster for thirteen years, and this school remains a living legacy of his steadfast faith and commitment to bringing Christ-centered education to Canadian County.

Jack "Van" Hough, son of Dr. Jack Hough—a respected audiologist and co-founder of Covenant Community Church—launched SWCS in 1982 with the prayerful support and encouragement of the church's elder board. From its inception, Covenant Community Church faithfully blessed the school with immeasurable support and spiritual accountability, a partnership that continues to this day.

History anchors our future, and our commitment to American history is evident in our investment in the 8th-grade trip to Washington, D.C., and the senior trip to Boston and Plymouth. Just as these journeys highlight God's providential hand in the founding of our nation, a clear understanding of our own school's history is equally essential. It safeguards our mission, ensuring we remain faithful to our founding purpose: to provide an education firmly grounded in a biblical worldview.

I always enjoy sharing our school's history and governance with prospective parents. However, I understand these details may not remain at the forefront of your mind. As both a reminder and a personal reflection after serving on this campus for thirty-four years, this is the beginning of a series of emails titled *Foundations*. In this series, I will revisit our history, explain our governance structure, and highlight the principles that continue to guide us today.

My prayer is that, as we reflect on God's faithful provision, we will remain unified as a school family. May we stand steadfast in our commitment to a biblical worldview and to the Gospel that shapes all we teach and defines how we live together as the family of God.

If you have questions about our history, governance, or how these shape our mission today, I would love to visit with you. Please join me in the coming weeks, to reflect on God's provision for Southwest Covenant to advance our mission of educating and equipping students to influence the world for Christ.

With gratitude,
Steve Lessman, SWCS Head of School

