FPD

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
DAY SCHOOL




# INFORMATION PACKET

# Welcome to FPD

**Dear Future Viking Family,**



Choosing a school is one of the most meaningful decisions a family makes. You're not just selecting classrooms and curriculum, you're choosing the people, the experiences, and the values that will help shape your child's future. At First Presbyterian Day School, we never take that trust lightly.

FPD is a place where students discover that hard things are worth doing. Here, learning is not something that simply happens to them; it is something they actively pursue. With teachers who know them deeply and believe in who they can become, students begin to see challenges as invitations — invitations to grow, to stretch, to build confidence, and to experience the joy that follows real effort.

***We want every child to feel the awe and wonder that comes from uncovering truth, asking big questions, and exploring God's world***. Discovery is woven into the fabric of our school. Whether students are reading great books, experimenting in a lab, creating art, serving in the community, or learning through outdoor exploration, they are invited to see learning as an adventure.

And while graduation is a milestone worth celebrating, it is not the finish line. FPD is a launching pad, preparing students with the habits of mind, the strength of character, and the deep sense of purpose needed to step confidently into the world. We want them not only ready for college, but ready for life: ready to lead, to serve, and to make an impact where God calls them.

We count it an honor to partner with families who desire an education that shapes both mind and heart. A place where academic excellence and character formation walk hand in hand. A community that believes children flourish when they are known, loved, challenged, and encouraged.

If that vision resonates with your family, we would be honored to walk alongside you.

Because He is Faithful,



Matt Kitchell
Head of School

# Only at FPD

*FPD provides an unparalleled experience for students and families. Below are examples of some of the many opportunities that are unique to FPD.*

## Building Leaders Through Academic Excellence



FPD's academic clubs provide powerful opportunities for leadership development. From History Club and Honor Council to Spanish Club and more, students sharpen critical thinking and collaboration skills. Our Mock Trial team leads the way—the only private school in Macon to advance beyond regionals in the past five years. They've won Region three of the last four years and competed at District. Annually, FPD students pass the Student Bar Exam to join the Student Bar of Georgia. Through these clubs, students build confidence, character, and a strong foundation for future success.

## Outdoor Education



FPD's 240-acres campus offers a variety of outdoor spaces for students to learn and explore. We offer a garden for lower school students to work in. Two nature trails wind through the campus for outdoor exploration by all students. Our Preschool expansion project will feature two new outdoor learning spaces including a rubber bike track. Outdoor exploration and learning spaces are not a trend in a digitally saturated world. They will become the norm, and FPD will lead the way!

## Christ-Centered Education



While we are known for academic excellence, our foundation is firmly rooted in Christ-centered values, with a deep commitment to the spiritual growth of every student. From the youngest learners to graduating seniors, FPD provides opportunities for spiritual formation that shape students into godly men and women.

## STEAM Innovation Spanning All Grades



By uniting Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) through project-based, hands-on learning, we challenge students to think critically, solve real-world problems, and turn bold ideas into reality. With dedicated STEAM Labs for lower and upper chool, students work with 3D printers, robotics equipment, and programming software. In upper school, FPD offers both a Robotics Team and an Engineering Team that compete on the regional and state level.

## On-Campus, After-School Enrichment



Through FPD's Center for Discovery, lower school students can participate in a variety of after-school programs. Programs are generally geared to elementary students and include art, ballet, music lessons, soccer, tennis, football, and basketball among others. Learn more at www.fpdmacon.org/centerfordiscovery.

## Godly Mentorship



Students spend more hours of their day at school than anywhere else. Therefore, it is important that they are surrounded by godly mentors who not only help them build a strong academic foundation, but also a strong faith foundation. Our faculty serve as amazing mentors for students, and we also encourage older students to mentor the younger students.

## Robust Athletic Program



Vikings compete in the Georgia Independent Athletic Association (GIAA) in regional and statewide competitions in multiple sports. Many FPD graduates have gone on to compete at the collegiate level in a wide variety of sports. FPD's athletic programs cultivate a love for physical fitness and sportsmanship, emphasizing discipline, commitment, and teamwork over individual recognition. Our dedicated coaches inspire students to reach their full potential while supporting one another and honoring God in every aspect of their journey.

## Comprehensive Arts Program



FPD offers multiple opportunities in band, theatre, visual art, dance, and chorus. FPD also has a strings program for lower school. In visual art, FPD students have been recognized with several awards, including a perfect score on the AP Art exam. Likewise, FPD's marching band and one-act performers consistently earn competition awards. All Fine Arts faculty are professionals in their fields.

**Explore more at www.fpdmacon.org**

# At a Glance

founded in **1970**

serving **3K-12TH GRADE**

more than **750** students

acre campus **240**

more than **3400** alumni

AGES & STAGES - All curriculum is based on the appropriate age and stage of child development & growth into independent, lifelong learners.

## Academics

**15:1**
student:teacher ratio

**39**
AP and honors classes offered
Dual Credit &
Dual Enrollment also offered

**1:1**
student tablet ratio in 5th-12th grade

**22+**
student clubs and organizations

**76%**
of full-time faculty with advanced degrees

**80%**
of seniors score above the national average on the SAT

**26**
average number of AP Scholars per year for the last 10 years

**3X**
FPD is Macon's only three-time U.S. Department of Education National Blue Ribbon School

## Distinctions

Recognized in 2018 and 2024 as an Exemplary School by the Association of Christian Schools International.

A family-focused community with strong connections between students, teachers, administration, and families.

FPD is Macon's only three-time U.S. Department of Education National Blue Ribbon School designee.

All curriculum is taught from a biblical world and life view, providing a strong academic and faith foundation.

Experienced college counseling department to help students navigate the college application & acceptance process nationally.

**100%**
College Acceptance

**Top Public Colleges**
Citadel
Illinois
Naval Academy
Ohio State
Penn State
UGA
Wisconsin
Auburn
Clemson

**Engineering**
Georgia Tech
MIT
Purdue
Virginia Tech
Colorado School of Mines

**Christian**
Belmont
Biola
Liberty
Pepperdine
Samford

**Top Liberal Arts**
Furman
Richmond
Spelman
Washington & Lee

**Art/Music**
New England Conservatory
Rhode Island School of Design
Dean
SCAD

**Top Private Colleges**
Dartmouth
Lehigh
Miami
NYU
Wake Forest
Vanderbilt

*FPD students have been accepted to these schools during the last 5 years.*

## Athletics

**21** varsity sports teams

**21** middle school sports teams

### ATHLETIC TEAMS INCLUDE:

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cross Country
- Football
- Golf
- Shooting Sports
- Soccer
- Softball
- Spirit Cheer
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Track & Field
- Volleyball
- Wrestling

### CAMPUS FACILITIES INCLUDE:

- 2 gymnasiums
- 3.1 mile cross country trail
- Track & Field
- 8 Tennis Court Complex
- Pickleball Complex
- Soccer Complex
- Softball Complex
- Baseball Complex
- Football Stadium (2 Practice Fields)

## Arts

**4**
theatre productions each year

### BANDS INCLUDE:

5th Grade Concert Band
6th Grade Symphonic II Band
7th/8th Grade Symphonic I Band
9-12 Wind Ensemble
FPD MS Jazz Band
FPD HS Jazz Ensemble
FPD Spirit of the Vikings Marching/Pep Band

### AP ART CLASSES INCLUDE:

2D Design
3D Design
Drawing

**9** spaces on campus dedicated to the arts

### ART PROGRAMS

Band
Chorus
Dance
Art
Technical Theatre
Theatre
Photography
Ceramics Design
Literary

## Service

**15,100+**
cumulative community service hours by graduating classes during their high school careers

**2** mission trips to Casa Hogar annually

**100+** community organizations served each year

**100%**
of students participate in service opportunities each year

### MULTIPLE SERVICE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

Project LEAD
Bible Buddies Mentorship, among others

### FPD IS ACCREDITED BY:

The Association of Christian Schools International **(ACSI)**
The Southern Association of Independent Schools **(SAIS)**
The Council of Educational Standards and Accountability **(CESA)**

**THE MISSION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN DAY SCHOOL IS TO EDUCATE AND EQUIP STUDENTS TO CHANGE THE WORLD FOR GOD'S GLORY.**

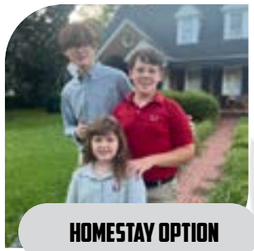
# International Program

Welcoming students from around the world, FPD offers a comprehensive college-preparatory education in a supportive, Christ-centered environment. Our International Program provides students with opportunities to excel academically, explore new interests, build lasting friendships, and experience American culture.

Through challenging academics, diverse extracurricular opportunities, small class sizes, and personalized attention, students are encouraged to discover their potential and prepare for success at universities in the United States and beyond.

At FPD, international students are more than classmates—they are valued members of our Viking family, where they are known, supported, and encouraged to grow in knowledge, character, and faith.

## Housing Options



**HOMESTAY OPTION**

FPD offers carefully selected host families who provide international students with a welcoming, supportive home environment. Through a thorough approval and matching process, students are paired with families who share similar interests and preferences.



**INTERNATIONAL HOUSE**

For students who prefer a residential living experience, FPD offers the Jones Family International Residence. Under the care of a host family, students enjoy a welcoming, community-focused environment with shared meals, activities, and opportunities to explore the local area.

## Support Staff



**MELISSA BROWN**

Ms. Melissa Brown is the Director of the International Program. Ms. Brown is from Macon and is a member of First Presbyterian Church. Ms. Brown has been an educator for 25 year, 18 of those at FPD.



**JESSICA JOHNSON**

Mrs. Jessica Johnson serves as the International Program Coordinator at First Presbyterian Day School. Mrs. Johnson is passionate about building meaningful relationships with international students and their host families.



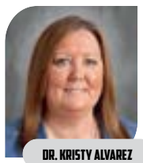
**MELISSA BROWN**

Mr. Brad Thompson has spent nearly 30 years at FPD, where he has faithfully served in multiple capacities. He spent 12 years in the classroom as a teacher and has guided countless students on their academic journeys as FPD's College Counselor for 16 years.



**MARY JO SIMMONS**

Mrs. Mary Jo Simmons is our School Counselor. With18 years of experience in education and a deep passion for serving students and families, she spent 12 years teaching math — including two years at FPD — and most recently served Monroe County Schools as a diagnostician and school psychologist.



**DR. KRISTY ALVAREZ**

Dr. Kristy Alvarez is the Dean of Academics. Dr. Alvarez is a member of North Macon Presbyterian Church. Dr. Alvarez has been an Educator for 30 years, 13 of those at FPD as a classroom teacher and administrator.



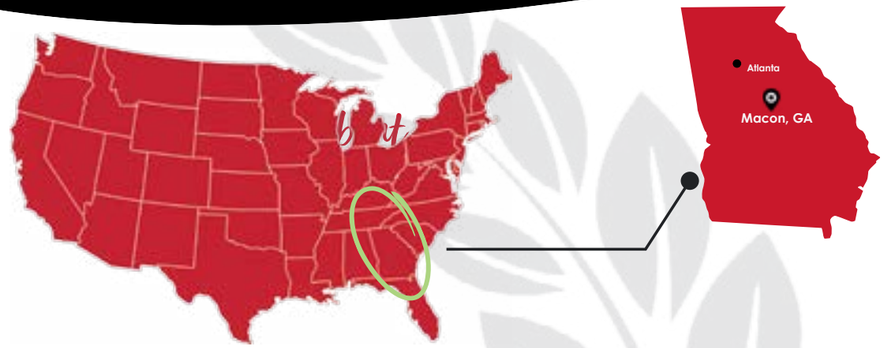
**SHANE HALL**

Mr. Shane Hall is our Upper School Principal. Mr. Hall began his teaching career at FPD in 2009 and has served our school for 15 years. Mr. Hall also served at The Westfield School for two years as Dean of Academics and an Honors World History teacher.



**DR. DREW SHEALY**

Dr. Drew Shealy serves as the STEM Director and Assistant Principal of the Upper School. He brings 16 years of experience in education, including the past four years at FPD. Dr. Shealy is a member of First Presbyterian Church in downtown Macon.




Located just 85 miles south of Atlanta, FPD offers convenient access to Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, one of the world's busiest airports. With flights to destinations around the globe, international students are easily connected to home and the world beyond.

## All Inclusive Tuition for 2026 2027 School Year: $52,840

## A Community Where You Belong

At FPD, international students become part of a welcoming, Christ-centered community where meaningful friendships and connections extend beyond the classroom. Through special events, Spring Break trips, visits to Atlanta's international markets, and gatherings with fellow international students and host families, students build lasting relationships and experience American culture. They also connect with younger students through programs like Bible Buddies and Prayer Pals, creating opportunities for mentorship, service, and spiritual growth. At FPD, students find a supportive community and a place to call home, even when far from their own.





## For more information and to apply

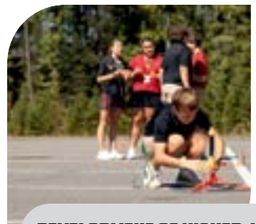
SCAN ME

# Middle School

## 6th-8th Grade

Life in the middle school is exciting and active! Students begin to define their skill sets and find their niche. They learn more about their God-given talents and ability to take their education to the next level. FPD's middle school supports students as they grow from elementary learners into high school–ready students. Godly mentors work with each student to boost his or her confidence and prepare him or her for the increasing academic demands of high school and college. As a result, students are grounded in their faith and equipped for the next step in their education.

***Middle school is a transformative period when students strengthen the skills they will need in high school and beyond.***



FPD middle school students develop higher-level thinking skills that go beyond memorization. They learn how to problem solve, collaborate, and communicate their results.

**DEVELOPMENT OF HIGHER-LEVEL THINKING SKILLS**



Through service learning, community outreach, and weekly chapels, students learn the importance of gratitude and giving back. They learn to use their skills and gifts to make an impact for God's glory.

**CULTURE OF GRATITUDE & GIVING**



FPD middle school students learn to respect others and lead by example. They gain leadership skills through service opportunities, clubs, sports, and other activities led by FPD's godly mentors and advisors.

**DEVELOPMENT OF LEADERSHIP & RESPECT**



FPD's middle school class sizes are small enough for each and every student to be known and loved by godly mentors.

**KNOWN & NURTURED**



From athletics to academics to the arts, middle school students explore diverse opportunities that are all grounded in a biblical worldview.

**VARIETY OF OPPORTUNITIES**



Middle school students benefit from built-in activities that reinforce social-emotional learning. The Park offers outdoor games and physical activity that strengthen these skills, and the House system was created to support this as well.

**SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING**

## Athletic Teams

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Spirit Cheerleading
- Cross Country
- Football
- Golf
- Shooting Sports
- Soccer
- Softball
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Track
- Volleyball
- Wrestling

## Fine Arts Programs

- Theatre & Tech Theatre
- 6th Grade Symphonic Band
- 7th & 8th Grade Symphonic Band
- Jazz Band
- Marching Band
- Art I, II, III
- Basketball Pep Band

## Clubs and Activities

- Robotics
- Math Club
- Mock Trial Club
- Spelling Bee
- Science Fair
- TOME

## Middle School Houses

FPD fosters a strong sense of community in Middle School through our House system. Students are placed into one of four Houses and remain with that House throughout middle school, building meaningful relationships and a lasting sense of camaraderie. Each House is named after a Fruit of the Spirit, reinforcing our Christ-centered values. Throughout the year, students participate in House events and friendly competitions—including House Socials, House Relays, House Dress Down days, and service opportunities—that strengthen connections and school spirit.

## Field Trips

FPD middle school students take several overnight field trips designed to bring classroom learning to life through hands-on experiences. In 6th grade, students visit Rock Eagle to explore science and teamwork in an outdoor setting. In 7th grade, students travel to Fernbank and the World of Coca-Cola, connecting classroom concepts to real-world applications. During 8th grade, students explore Georgia's coast—including Savannah, Tybee, Jekyll Island, St. Simons, and the Okefenokee Swamp—gaining a deeper understanding of history, ecology, and culture through immersive learning.

## Heart for Service

- Backpack Ministry
- Campus Clubs
- And many others through our Dress Down Fridays

## Curriculum

| | 6TH GRADE | 7TH GRADE | 8TH GRADE |
|---|---|---|---|
| MATH | Math 6 | Pre-Algebra, Accelerated Pre-Algebra II, Algebra I | Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Honors Geometry |
| SCIENCE | Life Science | Earth Science | Physical/Environmental Science |
| LANGUAGE ARTS | English 6 | English 7 | English 8 |
| GEOGRAPHY | Americas & Europe | Asia, Africa, & The Pacific | Georgia History & Civics |
| BIBLE | Bible 6 | Life of Christ/Genesis & Exodus | Life of Christ/Genesis & Exodus |
| LANGUAGE | | | Latin I/Spanish I |
| PHYSICAL ED. | P.E. 6 | P.E. 7/Health | P.E. 8 |
| FINE ARTS | Art, Band, Theatre | Art I, II, or III, Band, Theatre, Tech Theatre | Art I, II, or III, Band, Theatre, Tech Theatre |
| OTHER | STEM & Problem Solving, Book Club, Design & Modeling | STEM & Problem Solving, Book Club, Medical Detectives, Science Challenge, App Creator | STEM & Problem Solving, Book Club, Medical Detectives, Science Challenge, App Creator |

# High School

9th-12th Grade

FPD's high school offers an academically challenging curriculum underpinned by sound biblical principles. We define our Profile of a Graduate as a lifelong learner, challenged by the gospel, equipped for wellness, self-aware and growing, engaged and persuasive, and sensitive to others. Achieving this goal requires a curriculum that exposes students to a thoughtful sequence of study, building a foundation of knowledge in each discipline and encouraging analysis and application. When FPD students graduate, they are equipped with a strong academic foundation, healthy habits of mind, the ability to succeed at our nation's finest colleges, and make an impact for God's glory.

***In addition to a strong academic foundation, FPD students are equipped to take on future challenges and opportunities through the unique FPD educational experience. Students develop healthy habits of mind that form the foundation for their lives.***



**THINK CRITICALLY & SOLVE STRATEGICALLY**

FPD high school students are challenged to think through solutions and discover new ways of solving problems. These skill sets form the foundation for lifelong learning and the ability to succeed when faced with challenges in the future.



**DISCOVER THEIR PATH**

FPD high school students learn that true, long-lasting joy comes from following Christ and using talents to glorify Him. Students have multiple opportunities to discover their talents through extracurricular programs, athletics, fine arts, and elective classes.



**EXPERIENCE GODLY MENTORS**

Godly mentors are a key element of the FPD experience. At FPD, students are surrounded by faculty and coaches who partner with parents to help students learn to make good choices and decisions.



**PREPARE TO EXCEL IN COLLEGE**

FPD students are not only accepted into top colleges, they graduate with critical thinking skills, writing skills, study skills, and healthy habits that allow them to excel in college. Furthermore, FPD's college counseling department works with each student to help select his or her best college based on goals and preferences.



**GROW AS A LEADER**

Through leadership development programs such as Project Lead, students learn to be godly leaders and set positive examples that impact their communities for God's glory.



**HEART FOR SERVICE**

FPD's community service program equips students to follow Christ's example through meaningful service. High school students complete at least 120 service hours—60 in face-to-face service—using their gifts to serve others locally and beyond

## Varsity Athletic Teams

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Spirit Cheerleading
- Cross Country
- Football
- Golf
- Shooting Sports
- Soccer
- Softball
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Track
- Volleyball
- Wrestling

## Fine Arts Programs

- Theatre
- Musical Theatre
- Theatre Tech
- Symphonic Band
- Jazz Band
- Marching Band
- Literary Competition
- Hip Hop Dance
- Prop Dance
- Tap
- Vanguard
- Visual Arts
- Photography
- Sculpture
- Ceramics

## Clubs and Activities

- Advanced Programming
- Art Club
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes
- History Club
- Honor Council
- Mock Trial Team
- Mu Alpha Theta
- National Honor Society
- Pep Club
- Praise Band
- Project Lead
- Robotics Team
- Spanish Club
- Student Activities Council
- TOME Literary Society

## Diploma Endorsements

FPD offers Diploma Endorsements in Community Service, Fine Arts, and STEAM to recognize students with strong interests and substantial extracurricular commitment in these areas. These endorsements support students as they explore continuing study, career, and lifetime involvement.

Students must take designed coursework, make a significant extracurricular commitment, participate in integrative practicum activities, and complete a culminating senior experience.

## Heart for Service

Community Service at FPD is an important part of our school's culture. Our program is distinctive in that it focuses on distressed populations through mission/service trips, direct service, and indirect support of ministry agencies.

The program is student-led, student-motivated, and student-generated. Students create, plan, and implement projects that benefit the Macon community as well as others around the state, nation, and internationally.

## Honors Classes

- English 9
- World Literature 10
- World History
- Geometry
- Algebra II
- Pre-Calculus
- Biology
- Advanced Biology
- Chemistry
- Advanced Chemistry
- Latin III, IV
- Spanish III, IV

## AP Classes

- Language & Composition 11
- Literature & Composition 12
- U.S. Government & Politics
- U.S. History
- European History
- Calculus AB
- Calculus BC
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics I / Physics II
- Latin
- Spanish
- Studio Art 2D, 3D, Drawing
- Statistics
- Computer Science
- Computer Science Principles

## Dual Credit

In addition to our AP program, FPD offers a dual credit option for select classes through Toccoa Falls College.

# Profile of a Graduate

A graduate of FPD will be

**A LIFELONG LEARNER –**

academically prepared with knowledge, skills, and habits of mind to succeed in university studies, preparation for career, and as an independent lifelong learner

**CHALLENGED BY THE GOSPEL –**

grounded in the Gospel and its implications, with the tools to grow spiritually and understand and apply a Biblical worldview and ethic

**EQUIPPED FOR WELLNESS –**

equipped with knowledge, skills, and habits of mind to live a healthy and responsible lifestyle

**SELF-AWARE AND GROWING –**

confidently developing academic, artistic,and/or athletic gifts and interests and using them in fulfilling and impactful ways while appreciating the gifts and interests of others

**ENGAGED AND PERSUASIVE –**

able to winsomely participate in the public marketplace of ideas as a listener and communicator – understanding, critiquing, and challenging worldviews and their implications – working effectively with others of diverse viewpoints and backgrounds while maintaining integrity of beliefs

**SENSITIVE TO OTHERS –**

cognizant of the needs of others and the community and challenged to participate in meeting those needs

