

Schedule for Tuesday, July 16

Time	Session Title	Speaker	Location
8:00-8:45	Registration and Coffee		Saint Andrews
8:45-9:00	Announcements and Hymn/Psalm Sing	Mike McKenna	King Alfred
9:00-9:50	Plenary: Classical Christian Education: What's It All About?	Mike McKenna	King Alfred
	An introductory, 30,000-foot look at classical Christian education, its beginnings, biases, and Biblical foundation.		
10:00-10:50	Laying a Foundation for Practical Perfection: Insisting That It Is Done Correctly in the First Two Weeks	James Waldy	Room 208
	We'll discuss the characteristics of the first two weeks of school at MHA. From lineup to recess to lunch to dismissal, suggestions will be offered for getting protocol and procedures correct in the first days, which will save you hours of time for classroom productivity through the year. "Let's try it again," might be the most common phrase you use in the first couple weeks of school.		
	Math and Science: Seeing the Creator in the World Around Us	Kayla Pollock	Room 209
	Math and science serve to develop a student's analytical reasoning skills so as to unlock the mysteries and wonders hidden in the created world. Training the young mind to observe, concentrate, and contemplate plays a key role in developing an appreciation for the Creator. Studies in math and science should generate a sense of wonder within the student at the order, beauty, genius, and complexity in their world and accelerate them toward becoming a life-long learner of the majestic and deep things of God.		
11:00-12:00	Get Organized	Kathryn Wheeler	Room 210
	Have you ever asked the questions: "What would my teaching day be like if I could find my papers or materials when I need them?" or "Why am I always feeling behind and trying to catch up with my planning?" If so, this seminar is the place for you. During this session, we will explore ideas to organize your space and create a monthly master plan to bring efficiency and purpose to your classroom.		
	First Two Weeks of Upper School	Mike McKenna	King Alfred
	In order for the successful Logic and Rhetoric teacher to get off on the right foot, we will take an in-depth look at the procedures, processes, and planning that must take place to ensure a successful year of teaching.		
12:00-12:45	Lunch Provided		Saint Andrews

Schedule for Tuesday, July 16

1:00-1:50 **Plenary: The Heart of the Matter** James Waldy King Alfred

At Mars Hill Academy, we strive for high academic standards and an orderly approach to educating children according to the model of the trivium. To place first in the nation on the Classic Learning Test for five years running causes us all to rejoice. However, we know that such accolades would be analogous to the whitewashed tombs referred to by Jesus if we were not targeting the hearts of students with a view to training them to "glorify God and enjoy Him" in all they do. This session will address positive and proactive steps to foster an atmosphere of love for God, love for neighbor, honor for parents, and respect for authority.

2:00-2:50 **Shepherding Hearts (Grammar)** James Waldy Room 210

We've likely learned that "discipline" is not inherently negative, and that may be true. Did you know, however, that the earliest use of the word in the 1200s was directly linked to correction and punishment? Full orb'd discipline involves proactive, positive training, as well as corrective chastisement. We'll discuss how we shepherd hearts at Mars Hill and walk you through the proactive principles that we believe prevent a multitude of sins. We'll also explain the steps that are taken for different levels of correction — from the interaction with the teacher to the visit with the principal.

Shepherding Hearts (Upper School) Mike McKenna King Alfred

Engaging students beyond the lesson plan provides rare opportunities for teachers to impact the next generation. Teachers have a unique window into the hearts of students who daily sit under their authority. Any subject being taught should be a launching pad to speak into the lives of a student. R.L. Dabney is quoted as saying, "The education of children for God is the most important business done on earth." Teachers have a weighty stewardship from God to help foster the next generation of faithful followers.

3:00-3:50 **Building an Engaging Science Curriculum** Laura Lucas Room 209

How can you bring science to life for your students, especially under budget constraints and limited class time? In this session, you will investigate a variety of strategies for making science educational, accessible, and fun for students of all ages.

Beyond the Essay: How to Measure Understanding at the Dialectic Level Christopher Jero Room 208

The dialectic level of education focuses on understanding, logical implication, and cause and effect. Assessments — whether assignments, quizzes, or tests — should measure a student's progress in logical reasoning about the topic of study. Assessments should also serve as a tool to develop reasoning skills. This session describes how to design assessments that require the application of reasoning skills. It explains how the concepts of logic class can be applied to various kinds of assessments in Bible, literature, and history classes. Topics include how to develop questions that encourage attentive reading, designing student presentations that stimulate synthesis and analysis, and the effective use of multiple choice.

Schedule for Tuesday, July 16

7:00-9:00

Pagan Plays for Christian Students, Part 1*

Andy Stapleton

Room 210

**(Additional fee applies to this three-part series.)*

Like so many other areas of modern life, theater traces its roots back to ancient Greece. In Ninth Grade Humanities class at MHA, students enjoy three plays written by Sophocles: *Oedipus the King*, *Antigone*, and *Electra*. These three stories are an entertaining mix of disturbing, heart-breaking, and profound. During this three-part seminar for parents and teachers, we will enjoy and analyze these plays together, considering both what they express about the ancient Greek worldview and what lessons they hold for today's Christian students.

Hebrew is Easy*

Christopher Jero

Room 207

**(Additional fee applies to this three-part series.)*

God assured the prophet Ezekiel that he was not being sent to people of difficult language (Ezekiel 3:4-6). Like any language, learning to read Hebrew takes time and practice. Yet even a little familiarity with Hebrew yields a wealth of insight! This class explores basics of Hebrew language and script with a view to acquiring insights into the Bible that get lost in translation. We will learn to decipher Hebrew script, to change the meaning of Hebrew words by changing their form, and to understand important Hebrew vocabulary. Among other insights, we will explore how acrostic Psalms work; we will discover the significance of Hebrew names in the biblical narrative; and we will uncover literary allusions obscured by English translation. We might even sing Hebrew songs and use Hebrew greetings. Although the class will not result in the ability to read the Hebrew Bible, it will forever change how participants read their English Bible!

Schedule for Wednesday, July 17

Time	Session Title	Speaker	Location
8:45-9:00	Announcements and Hymn/Psalm Sing	Mike McKenna	King Alfred
9:00-9:50	Plenary: Seven Laws of Teaching: Practically Speaking Gregory's Seven Laws of Teaching will be unpacked with an eye toward the practical application of day-to-day instruction.	Mike McKenna	King Alfred
10:00-10:50	Are You a Conductor or a Performer? What we look for in effective lessons. James will walk you through the 75-point rubric that is used for training and observation of teachers. Those 75 points capture elements both philosophical and practical with emphasis upon the wisdom found in The Seven Laws of Teaching. You'll come to understand why a proper lesson observation focuses more on the activities and participation of the students than the performance of the teacher. Are you a conductor of the orchestra or a solo performer on the stage?	James Waldy	Room 210
	Lesson Planning: Applying the Seven Laws Making sure that the principles of the Seven Laws are incorporated into our daily lesson plans goes a long way to ensure successful teaching.	Mike McKenna	King Alfred
11:00-12:00	Phonics Instruction at MHA: Developing a Love for Reading from the Start Giving our youngest students a solid foundation in phonics sets them up for a life of reading and writing. In this workshop we will discuss ways we engage our students in phonics and literature. Examples will be given for activities we use to make phonics and literature both meaningful and fun for our littlest learners.	Natalie Walls	Room 208
	From the Outside in: Transitioning to CCE from the "Other Side of the Fence" Have you always had a dream to teach but feel that you are getting into the game a little late? Hear the personal story of how a child's persistent prayer led to one teacher leaving a lucrative career in the business world to become a teacher. You'll glean insights about the joys, challenges, and surprises that have come with transitioning into the field of education. This presentation will benefit those changing careers to pursue teaching, as well as those managing or mentoring teachers who have recently made such a transition.	Laura Lucas	Room 209
12:00-12:45	Lunch Provided		

Schedule for Wednesday, July 17

1:00-1:50 **Filling the Unforgiving Class Period with 50 Minutes Worth of Distance Run** James Waldy King Alfred

James will model for teachers a typical classroom period from opening to closing bell to demonstrate strategies and methods for getting the very most out of every class period. Opening exercises, strategies for effective review, advanced organizers, lesson flow per time markers, and effective endings to a lesson session will be discussed. The emphasis of this workshop is practical application. Principles can be applied at any level of the trivium.

How to Read Latin or Greek like a Roman Christopher Jero Room 208

When approaching simple sentences, students of Latin and Greek often adopt methods of translating that are not the same as reading. These methods usually fail when the student encounters original Latin texts. This session provides tools and tips for enabling students to process meaning from left to right and experience the mental operation of truly reading an inflected language. It explains how to use a reading approach from the very first Latin lessons to prepare students for advanced reading, and how the same method works with extremely complex sentences. The tools are effective for Latin and Greek but can be adapted to any foreign language.

2:00-2:50 **Learning & Loving Latin (or any other subject for that matter)** Lisa Cunningham Room 209

In this workshop, we'll discuss how to build strong foundations by using chants, songs, games, paddles, and more. This workshop will center largely around introducing beginning Latin, but the principles can be applied to any subject. Come and be a student in our Latin workshop and find some tools you can use in your classroom next year which will get every student involved.

How to Teach the Bible Without Spoiling It! Christopher Jero Room 208

Unlike other texts that students may study in school, the Bible brings an authoritative message that the teacher is obliged to communicate faithfully. God designed the whole of Scripture with a distinct framework into which every passage finds its place. This session explores how an understanding of the Bible's framework should guide the Bible teacher's lesson plans. It helps teachers study biblical texts with reference to the framework, and so avoid lessons that are out of sync with the intent of the text. It introduces tools for communicating the Bible's big picture to students and preserving the dynamic of unfolding drama that is built into Scripture.

Schedule for Wednesday, July 17

3:00-3:50 Classroom Management in the Lower Grammar (K-2) Kathryn Wheeler King Alfred

Classroom management in the lower grammar classroom includes teachers, students, and their parents. Come learn the tools we use for classroom management in the lower grammar classroom at MHA, as well as how we invite parent buy-in and support.

Developing Your Classroom Management Plan for Any Grade Level Laura Lucas Room 210

What does a respectful, engaged scholar look like in your classroom? What will you do when your students are disrespectful, off task, or not ready to learn? In this hands-on workshop, you will develop a framework for a written classroom management plan. You will leave with a living document that will become your playbook for effectively managing your day-to-day interactions with your students and set you up for success heading into a new school year.

7:00-9:00 Pagan Plays for Christian Students, Part 2*
**(Additional fee applies to this three-part series.)* Andy Stapleton Room 210

Like so many other areas of modern life, theater traces its roots back to ancient Greece. In Ninth Grade Humanities class at MHA, students enjoy three plays written by Sophocles: *Oedipus the King*, *Antigone*, and *Electra*. These three stories are an entertaining mix of disturbing heart-breaking, and profound. During this three-part seminar for parents and teachers, we will enjoy and analyze these plays together, considering both what they express about the ancient Greek worldview and what lessons they hold for today's Christian students.

Hebrew is Easy, Part 2* Christopher Jero Room 207
**(Additional fee applies to this three-part series.)*

God assured the prophet Ezekiel that he was not being sent to people of difficult language (Ezekiel 3:4-6). Like any language, learning to read Hebrew takes time and practice. Yet even a little familiarity with Hebrew yields a wealth of insight! This class explores basics of Hebrew language and script with a view to acquiring insights into the Bible that get lost in translation. We will learn to decipher Hebrew script, to change the meaning of Hebrew words by changing their form, and to understand important Hebrew vocabulary. Among other insights, we will explore how acrostic Psalms work; we will discover the significance of Hebrew names in the biblical narrative; and we will uncover literary allusions obscured by English translation. We might even sing Hebrew songs and use Hebrew greetings. Although the class will not result in the ability to read the Hebrew Bible, it will forever change how participants read their English Bible!

Schedule for Thursday, July 18

Time	Session Title	Speaker	Location
8:45-9:00	Announcements and Hymn/Psalm Sing	Mike McKenna	King Alfred
9:00-9:50	<p>Plenary: The Gospel and Grades</p> <p>As Christian educators, we seem to have a problem. From the same mouth we command students to follow the rules and we urge them work hard to earn good grades, while we also invite them to receive salvation from God as a free gift of his grace. Is this really a problem? We will explore how to clarify these important issues for our students in life-giving ways.</p>	Andy Stapleton	King Alfred
10:00-10:50	<p>Teaching from a Cart: How to Maintain Your Supplies and Your Sanity</p> <p>Discover tips and tricks from an experienced teacher who has taught hundreds of students from a cart over the past seven years. You will learn how to leverage different carts for specific purposes and strategies for keeping supplies organized across different subjects or grade levels. This presentation will benefit teachers without their own classrooms who need to physically transport supplies to multiple locations each day, as well as teachers with a room that may use a cart for special activities or technology needs.</p>	Laura Lucas	Room 304
	<p>Teaching Hermeneutics as a Historical Journey</p> <p>Classical education emphasizes the study of primary texts over textbook syntheses. Primary texts are particularly important in the study of biblical hermeneutics, because the "rules" of sound interpretation were developed through a long history of error and correction that continues to this day. This session explores how to make primary texts, including interpretations of ancient Jewish sects, church fathers, reformers, and modern critical interpreters, accessible to high school students. It demonstrates how to design a lesson that works from student observation and discussion to abiding hermeneutical principles.</p>	Christopher Jero	Room 208
11:00-12:00	<p>Every Room's a Stage</p> <p>Join us as we discover how to transform any room to a stage. We'll discuss plays, reader's theater, poetry, oral presentations, and competitions. Drama requires role-playing and helps us better understand humanity. Good public speaking is a goal of the rhetoric school, but the grammar of public speaking starts in the grammar school. We'll explore the importance of public performance, ways to use it to enhance your studies, and even assessments. Walk away with ideas for incorporating role-playing and public speaking into your classroom. (If there's interest, we'll also cover ideas for starting an after-school drama program or summer camps.)</p>	Lisa Cunningham	Room 210

Schedule for Thursday, July 18

Astronomy: The Capstone of the Quadrivium

James Waldy

King Alfred

In many classical Christian school science curricula, astronomy often gets ignored. James will make an argument not only for its inclusion in your program, but also why its exclusion is a mistake. Astronomy, the mathematical art of number in time and space, allows for an integrative review of all aspects of the students' K-12 education. The literary stories of the mythology of constellations; the use of the luminaries for determining signs, seasons, days, and years; the development of trigonometry as a child of astronomy; and the formation of a solid apologetic for God's creation of the cosmos through His natural laws are but a few of the aspects of learning and wonder that are available in astronomy. Did we mention navigation, history, world cultures, cosmological art, space exploration, and the proper evolution of the Christian worldview? Come explore how the "heavens declare the glory of God" in nearly every aspect of life and inquiry.

12:00-12:45 Lunch Provided/Panel Discussion on Integration

1:00-1:50

For the Love of Grammar

Traci DeBra

Room 210

Parse like a pro with strategies that work! Ignite a love for Grammar and a passion for language in the hearts and minds of your students through the strategies presented in this workshop. We will examine a variety of "tools" for your classroom and participate in hands-on activities that will increase your students' understanding of English Grammar. During our time together, we will discuss the value of singing and choral analysis, the use of manipulatives to solidify learning, and the integration of instructional methods that will promote understanding and increased retention. Learn new tips and strategies for classroom instruction, and encourage your students to love Grammar!

Why Humans Need Humanities

Andy Stapleton

King Alfred

Because American culture has forsaken God, people are struggling to understand themselves correctly as the image of God. The Christian study of humanities — including history, literature, art, and music — solves this problem, because it directs students toward their true identity and purpose in union with the true image of God, Jesus Christ. We will consider how to apply this approach in a Classical and Christ-centered classroom.

Schedule for Thursday, July 18

2:00-2:50 **Connective Community & Parent-Teacher Partnerships** Traci DeBra Room 209

Students spend approximately 13 years of their life growing and learning within your Classical Christian school community, so it is vital to create a school culture in which your families and students are seen, known, and connected. Our schools should reflect a commitment to Christ-centered learning and Christ-centered relationships. Capture the heart and vision for living in Christian community, partnering with parents, and maximizing the possibilities for deep connections in your K-12 Classical Christian classrooms and school.

Teaching Classical Languages to an Academically Diverse Classroom Christopher Jero Room 208

This session helps Latin and Greek teachers whose language classes contain students with a wide range of language aptitude. The teacher does not have to choose between a pace that leaves struggling students behind and one that leaves language-oriented students sitting idle and bored with language class. This session provides strategies for keeping every student engaged and progressing in language learning throughout an entire class period.

3:00-3:50 **Nuts & Bolts: The Tactical and the Practical** Traci DeBra & Lisa Cunningham Room 112

Avoid chaos and confusion within your day by implementing organizational tools and strategies in your grammar school classroom. In this workshop, you will learn techniques and practical steps to maintain order and create routines that will improve your classroom culture. You'll leave with ideas and tips to help your students remain organized and engaged from the first bell to the last.

Evil: A Problem in Every Worldview Andy Stapleton King Alfred

Everywhere we turn, we find evil. We find it in both ourselves and our neighbors. We find it in both the past and the present. We even find it in the stories we read together in class. Evil is troubling, no matter where we find it. This workshop will examine how to respond to the problem of evil, whether the class is theology, history, or literature.

7:00-9:00 **Pagan Plays for Christian Students, Part 3*** Andy Stapleton Room 210
**(Additional fee applies to this three-part series.)*

Like so many other areas of modern life, theater traces its roots back to ancient Greece. In Ninth Grade Humanities class at MHA, students enjoy three plays written by Sophocles: *Oedipus the King*, *Antigone*, and *Electra*. These three stories are an entertaining mix of disturbing heart-breaking, and profound. During this three-part seminar for parents and teachers, we will enjoy and analyze these plays together, considering both what they express about the ancient Greek worldview and what lessons they hold for today's Christian students.

Schedule for Thursday, July 18

Hebrew is Easy, Part 3*

Christopher Jero

Room 207

**(Additional fee applies to this three-part series.)*

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Schedule for Friday, July 19

Time	Session Title	Speaker	Location
8:45-9:00	Announcements and Hymn/Psalm Sing	Mike McKenna	King Alfred
9:00-9:50	Imperative of Beauty	Mike McKenna	King Alfred
	<p>Because we were created in God's image, we were made to desire beauty. In a very real sense, we were created for beauty. And yet, even in our classical Christian schools, how many people continue to believe that beauty is in the eye of the beholder? In this seminar, we'll examine beauty as an objective reality and the necessity of our response to its call.</p>		
	Decorating Do's & Don'ts	Lisa Cunningham	Room 210
	<p>Decorate with intentionality that reflects truth, beauty, and goodness in your classroom. What does your space reveal about you? What do you value? Your room is an important place to show and model truth, goodness, and beauty. In this workshop, we'll concentrate on designing a beautiful space. Sample bulletin boards will be shown with practical, how-to-do it yourself tips. We'll take a look at ways to incorporate art and scripture; how to consider color, proportion, placement, and accessories; as well as ideas which encourage wonder.</p>		
10:00-10:50	Plenary: Male and Female He Created Them: Teaching Boys and Girls in Today's Culture	Mike McKenna	King Alfred
	<p>Who would've believed that our gender-bending culture would end up where it is today with regard to questions of basic human biology? How do we teach boys and girls about biblical masculinity and femininity in the midst of a world that seems to be losing its collective mind on this topic? Let's discuss some principles and practices.</p>		
10:50-11:00	Closing Announcements, Psalm Sing, Dismissal		King Alfred