

---

# “Future Casting: A Campus Master Plan”

Tony Fajardo

Head of School

Northside Christian Academy

333 Jeremiah Boulevard, Charlotte, NC 28262 - 704-602-2283

John C. Cissel II (Consultant)



---

**Northside Christian Academy, Est. 1961**

**Accredited by:** Association of Christian School International (ACSI)  
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)

---

**Northside Christian Academy, Est. 1961**



Northside Christian Academy was founded in 1961 by Northside Baptist Church, under the direction of Dr. W. Jack Hudson. The school began with 44 students in kindergarten through third grade. The school operated in the church buildings on Old Concord Road in north Charlotte. Both the church and the school grew steadily, and the ministry bought property in 1971 to build a new facility. Northside Baptist church purchased 116 acres in the original transaction. Over the years, additional property was purchased to complete the campus. In the meantime, the school kept adding grades until it had its first graduating class, the Class of 1973.

Godley Construction Company, directed by NBC member Fred Godley, built the new facility, and in the fall of 1973 the school moved to the current location. The educational wings that the school occupies were actually completed first, and a few months later the church auditorium was completed. By March of 1974 the entire ministry was located at the property. Dr. Hudson chose the 333 Jeremiah Boulevard address because of the Scripture verse that the Lord had impressed upon him through the construction process. "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not" (Jeremiah 33:3).

In the early days Headmaster Paul Montgomery did much to develop the program. Other key figures were Coach Marty Benton (who helped develop the athletic department) and Rev. Barry Shearer. Rev. Shearer served short term as a geometry teacher and headmaster, then returned to church staff but continued his involvement in Christian Education. He served as president of the North Carolina Christian School Association from 1991-2007. NCA was an active, accredited member of that association followed by its affiliation with ACSI and the accreditation process. These leaders were followed by capable men and women who have influenced many lives for Christ.

---

**Northside Christian Academy, Est. 1961**

Accredited by: Association of Christian School International (ACSI)  
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)

The current student body is over 550 students from pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade. Typically, students score well above national averages on the Stanford Achievement Test, and 98 percent or more of the graduating students go on to further programs of study. NCA graduates are currently serving in business, law, medicine, education, and Christian ministry, just to name a few areas. The school's graduates have been accepted at over 100 colleges and have pursued programs of study both nationally and internationally. Last year's graduating class scored above the national score in each of the three areas of the SAT and earned in excess of 1.7 million dollars in scholarship offers. NCA's faculty members are known for their longevity and their desire to train young men and women to be godly leaders in their culture. The school has enjoyed a rich history of leading the way in Christian Education for 51 years, and is well-situated to continue to develop Kingdom leaders in the twenty-first century.

The project emphasis of Northside Christian Academy has been a Campus Master Plan in order to address the functional and aesthetic needs of the school and athletic facilities. In the process of pursuing this goal, the school committee empowered the Head of School to move forward with the plans to meet with John C. Cissel II the Van Lunen consultant assigned to Northside and gather more information. John's tremendous understanding and astuteness has helped guide us through this process in a proficient and well-organized method. At John's professional suggestion we have now contracted Beals Alliance to start the first phase of our Campus Master plan.

In response to our request, Beals Alliance submitted a proposal to provide an Interactive Workshop Environment (IWE) feasibility master plan for the renovation of the Northside Christian Academy Athletic facilities in Charlotte, North Carolina.

The Head of School at Northside Christian Academy (NCA) informed Beals Alliance that the school was looking to re-master plan their existing Northside Christian Academy athletic site to accommodate new athletic facilities upon their existing site. A main programmatic driver of the master plan and proposed renovation is the feasibility to accommodate new regulation high school softball field, tennis courts as well as renovate their existing track, soccer and football venues, as well as a brand new gymnasium.

After several back and forth conversations, Beals Alliance proposed to provide the following services in accordance with the Head of Schools request and understanding of the project:

A. Project IWE Feasibility Master Plan.

1. Coordinate with NCA to complete and execute agreement between Beals Alliance and NCA.

2. Project start-up administrative tasks will include the following:
  - a. Establish files and administrative procedures
  - b. Finalize, prepare and adopt sub-consultant contracts as necessary
  - c. Prepare a schedule and submit to NCA for approval
3. Review data pertinent to the project including survey, site maps, reports and pertinent historical data. (NCA to provide above information).
4. Review insert appropriate type codes, ordinances and policies pertaining to the proposed project design.
5. One videoconference meeting with project stakeholders to
6. Clean up feasibility plan based on programmatic desires presented in IWE meeting.
7. One video conference or teleconference meeting with NCA to review the feasibility plan and any modifications, additions or phasing prior to finalizing.
8. Finalize feasibility master plan and construction costs with phasing.
9. Color rendering of feasibility master plan.(Digital File)
10. Turn over finalized feasibility master plan and associated costs (digital files).
11. Project administration.

Northside Christian Academy can have a great deal of confidence that a solid process is underway to address the important issues impacting the school's future. Key issues have been identified by the administrative team and will now be submitted to the scrutiny of the school committee and President.

This plan has been identified as intentional, meaning that it is more than just interesting explorations or welcomed additions to the program. Instead, it is essential to moving Northside Christian Academy toward its desired future, and thus must be funded fully to be accomplished fully.

For the most part, this plan can be fulfilled through shifts in focus, priorities, and accountability within the existing staffing and resource structure. However, a few of the proposals—e.g. remodeling the current facilities or embarking on a capital campaign-will generate significant financial implications.

The size of this plan is daunting. Clearly, the needs are great, and therefore so is the plan. But concentrating on the most significant aspects of this plan and doggedly pursuing them will be the greatest challenge of implementation.

The task before Northside Christian Academy is more like a marathon than a sprint, and must be approached accordingly. Indeed, it is more like a marathon relay, where the success of the venture is as much in the hands of future participants as the current staff.

Because the administration provided the bulk of the impetus and involvement for this plan, the administration must pay particular attention to communicating and involving both the school committee and the rest of the Northside Christian Academy staff in order to generate ownership and thereby increase the ability to realize the ambitious yet necessary goals represented here.

No one can see the future. Each person and institution must make decisions that provide the best opportunity of moving closer to the purposes that God has laid out for us. In all cases, we can depend on the Lord, who, for NCA, has been faithful for 51 years of the school's existence, and can be relied upon for the next 51 years as well.

*“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.” (Proverbs 3:5-6)*



---

**Northside Christian Academy, Est. 1961**

**Accredited by:** Association of Christian School International (ACSI)  
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)