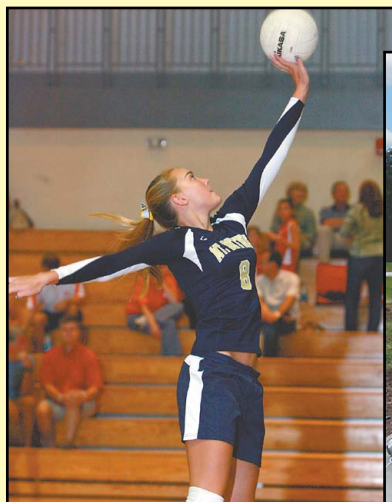


Mt. Bethel Christian Academy Volleyball: A Legacy of Excellence



Here in the south, we enjoy our sports. Whether it be Friday nights under the lights, Sanford Stadium or Turner Field, one needn't look far for a game to watch or even one to play. But here in East Cobb, an area known nationally for baseball, a different sport has been gaining attention lately - volleyball. And Mt. Bethel Christian Academy (MBCA) has figured prominently in that emerging story as a training ground for some of the area's most skilled players.

As a K - 8th grade school, all of Mt. Bethel's students are faced with high school choices to make after 8th grade. Academically, their graduates are matriculating into and excelling at some of the best public and most rigorous private and admission only magnet and interbaccalaureate programs. However, as is often the case at high school level, athletics become very competitive and experience and training ultimately is what will give an athlete an edge. Under the leadership of Roger Kaiser, Athletic Director at Mt. Bethel Christian Academy, MBCA athletes are sharpening that edge. A prime example of athletic preparedness lies with Mt. Bethel's championship volleyball program.

One need look no farther than East Cobb's own Walton High School to see examples of Mt. Bethel's volleyball talent. In 2011, the Walton Raiders volleyball team won the 5A championship, (then) the largest, and arguably, most competitive, classification in the state. Contributing to that tremendous achievement were several Mt. Bethel Christian Academy alumni. Before they became Walton Raiders, setting and spiking for one of the area's most respected varsity high school programs, Kate Schwartz (Junior), Leah Jackson (Junior) and Lindsey Seagraves (Sophomore) were dominating the courts as Mt. Bethel Christian Eagles. Also joining Walton's JV squad as a freshman this year is Mt. Bethel alum, Sarah Maddox.

At Marietta High School, MBCA alumnus, Sarah Dickerson, was captain of the 2011 team and honored with the "Most Valuable Defensive Player" award. Paige Gorski (Junior) plays the middle hitter position on the Lady Trojan's varsity volleyball team at Lassiter High School and joining her

this year as a JV freshman is MBCA 2012 graduate, Morgan Tomcho. Among the ranks of Pope High School's varsity squad, you'll find another MBCA standout, junior Sydney Darden wearing the number one jersey in the outside hitter position. Another East Cobb school, Wheeler High, has also benefitted from the addition of several Mt. Bethel Christian-trained volleyball athletes. In fact, a quarter of the varsity team, are Mt. Bethel alum. Aleena Bubb (senior) and the Squirewell sisters, Catherine (Junior) and Lindsey (Sophomore) are all proud contributors to the Wheeler Wildcats volleyball program.

And lastly, two more members of the MBCA Class of 2012, Emily Jones and Caroline Welsh have joined the volleyball teams of Blessed Trinity and Westminster School, respectively. Caroline, a nationally ranked player, was one of only three freshman invited to play on the varsity team.

Of course, behind every exemplary team is an exceptional coach and the Mt. Bethel volleyball program is no exception. Since 2008, the Lady Eagles have been coached by Head Coach Brian Bergius and Assistant Coach, Melissa Sneed. Coaches Bergius and Sneed bring keen insight into the strategy of the game. Their dogged determination to see every girl live up to her true potential has contributed to the Mt. Bethel Christian Academy Eagle's three year run with undefeated seasons to win the NAML (North Atlanta Metro League) Championship Cup.

As an independent, pre-preparatory school, Mt. Bethel has a well-established reputation for providing an exceptional academic foundation for its graduates. But just as an excellent education nurtures and challenges a child's mind and spirit, providing unparalleled opportunities for children to grow physically as well sets Mt. Bethel Christian Academy apart in the East Cobb community.

For more information on Mt. Bethel Christian Academy and their academic and athletic program, contact Rhea Adkins, Director of Admission at 770-971-0245 or rhea.adkins@mtbethelchristian.org.

While the public schools in East Cobb County do a good job of providing a quality education, many East Cobb parents seek out "a better fit" for their junior scholars. Finding a quality private school can be a daunting task. As a first step, take a look at our seventh annual list of private schools. Many of these schools will be hosting Open Houses this month, and quite a few have registration deadlines in January or February. So if you are considering private education, now is the time to investigate your options.

Atlanta Academy, The

2000 Holcomb Woods Parkway
Roswell 30076
678-461-6102
www.atlantaacademy.com
Tuition: \$6,000-\$12,400
Grades: 18mos-8
Students: 245
Head of School: Angela Naples

Atlanta International School

2890 North Fulton Drive
Atlanta 30305
404-841-3840
www.aischool.org
Tuition: \$19,080--\$21,780
Grades: 3K-12
Students: 1,100
Headmaster: Kevin Glass

Atlanta Girls' School

3254 Northside Parkway NW
Atlanta 30327
404-845-0900
www.atlantagirlsschool.org
Tuition: \$19,700
Grades: 6-12
Students: 206
Head of School: Joan King (interim)

Blessed Trinity Catholic High School

11320 Woodstock Road
Roswell 30075
678-277-9083
www.btatholic.org
Tuition: \$11,100
Grades: 9-12
Students: 970
Principal: Frank Moore

Brandon Hall School

1701 Brandon Hall Drive
Atlanta 30350
770-394-8177
www.brandonhall.org
Tuition: \$26,095-\$54,995
Grades: 6-12
Students: 135
Headmaster: Dr. John L. Singleton

Casa Montessori

150 Powers Ferry Road
Marietta 30067
770-973-2731
www.casamontessori.com
Tuition: \$8,100-\$10,400
Grades: PreK-6
Students: 160
Directors: Florence & Suzanne Johnson

Chrysalis Experiential Academy

10 Mansell Court East, Suite 500
Roswell 30076
770-649-7077
www.chrysalisexp.org
Tuition: \$17,000-\$20,000
Grades: 6-12
Students: 42
Director: Richard Becker

Cottage School, The

700 Grimes Bridge Road
Roswell 30075
770-641-8688
www.cottageschool.org
Tuition: \$22,950-\$23,950
Grades: 6-12
Students: 135
Director: Jacque Digieso

Cumberland Academy of Georgia

650 Mt. Vernon Highway NE
Atlanta 30328
404-835-9000
www.cumberlandacademy.org
Tuition: \$20,900
Grades: 4-12
Students: 75
Principal: Don Sasso

Davis Academy

8105 Roberts Drive
Atlanta 30350
770-671-0085
www.davisacademy.org
Tuition: \$14,000-\$17,000
Grades: K-8
Students: 630
Head of School: Amy Shafron

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1340 Terrell Mill Road
Marietta, GA 30067
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www.Shreiner.com

PRIVATE SCHOOL GUIDE

East Cobb Christian School

4616 Roswell Road
Marietta 30062
770-565-0881
www.eccs.org
Tuition: \$4,600-\$6,200
Grades: K-8
Students: 117
Principal: Teresa Staley

Eastside Christian School

2450 Lower Roswell Road
Marietta 30068
770-971-2332
www.eastsidechristianschool.com
Tuition: \$5,515-\$7,120
Grades: K-8
Students: 346
Head of School: Judith Cripps

Eaton Academy

1000 Old Roswell Lakes
Parkway
Roswell 30076
770-645-2673
www.EatonAcademy.org
Tuition: \$15,000-\$20,000
Grades: K-12
Students: 80
President: Bridget Eaton-
Partalis

Epstein School, The

335 Colewood Way NW
Sandy Springs 30328
404-250-5600
www.epsteinatlanta.org
Tuition: \$4,995-\$18,725
Grades: 18mos-8
Students: 550
Head of School: Stan Beiner

Faith Lutheran School

2111 Lower Roswell Road
Marietta 30068
770-973-8921
www.faithlcms.org
Tuition: \$4,300-\$8,415
Grades: Preschool-8
Students: 220
Principal: Jack D. Hibbs

Fellowship Christian School

10965 Woodstock Road
Roswell 30075
770-641-6816
www.fellowshipchristianschool.org
Tuition: \$3,250-\$12,980.
Grades: K4-12
Students: 780
Headmaster: Dr. Bob Burris

Greenfield Hebrew Academy

5200 Northland Drive NE
Atlanta 30342
404-843-9900
www.ghacademy.org
Tuition: \$13,169-\$25,974
Grades: Infants-8
Students: 364
Head of School: Rabbi Lee
Buckman

Harvest Baptist School

3460 Kellogg Creed Road
Acworth 30102
770-974-9091
www.harvestbaptistschool.org
Tuition: \$1,900-\$4,100
Grades: K3-12
Students: 72
Principal: Bill Lystlund

Heiskell School, The

3260 Northside Drive NW
Atlanta 30305
404-262-2233
www.heiskell.net
Tuition: \$4,830-\$13,455
Grades: Preschool-8
Students: 300
Director: Cyndie Heiskell

High Meadows School

1055 Willeo Road
Roswell 30075
770-993-2940
www.highmeadows.org
Tuition: \$5,200-\$16,000
Grades: Preschool-8
Students: 387
Head of School: Jay
Underwood

Holy Innocents' Episcopal School

805 Mount Vernon
Highway NW
Atlanta 30327
404-255-4026
www.hies.org
Tuition: \$11,000-\$21,510
Grades: Preschool-12
Students: 1,390
Acting Head of School:
Gene Bratek



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Riverside is still enrolling cadets for our fall semester.

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Gainesville, Georgia

Choosing A Private School

The reasons cited over and over again by families who send their children to private schools include individual attention, small classes, teacher excellence, and high academic standards.

Your decision to consider an independent/private school is just the beginning. While private schools set high standards and emphasize values, they are wonderfully distinct from each other. There are day and boarding schools; coeducational, girls', and boys' schools. Enrollment varies from a few dozen to a few thousand students. Some independent schools are progressive, others more traditional in structure. Private schools also serve a varying range of students in terms of abilities and interests. Some schools offer special programs such as intensified instruction in the fine and performing arts, experiential learning projects, or travel abroad seminars. Many schools excel at rigorous intellectual preparation; others are dedicated to average learners; and some specialize in teaching bright students with learning disabilities. Since each of these schools has something unique to offer, ideally you are trying to match a student's needs with the appropriate school. Write or call the admissions office for published information about a school's philosophy and programs, and then make an appointment to visit.


If you haven't done so already, contact each potential school for information dealing with philosophy, curriculum, extracurricular offerings, admission process, and financing options. Compare each school's literature with the items on your list; this should give you a preliminary sense of which schools are a good match. Take into account what type of environment would be best for your child and consider his or her individual strengths as you examine each school's program.

The best time to apply is in the fall preceding the academic year of the student's admission; however, applications are considered throughout the school year. Most schools will require a personal interview, admissions testing, and information from your child's current school. Ask the individual school for the details of its application procedures and testing dates.

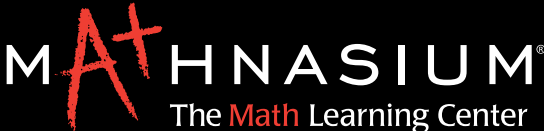
In short, choosing the right school for your child is likely the most important single decision you might make in terms of setting the proper path and direction for life. A little preparation and research on the part of parents will go miles toward making the ultimate destination clear at the exit ramp. 🚗

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PRIVATE SCHOOL GUIDE

Holy Spirit Preparatory School

4449 Northside Drive, Atlanta 30327 (Upper School)
4820 Long Island Drive, Atlanta 30342 (Lower School)
4465 Northside Drive, Atlanta 30327 (Preschool)
678-904-2811
www.holyspiritprep.org
Tuition: \$5,196-\$18,670.90
Grades: PreK2-12
Students: 723
President: Gareth N. Genner

Howard School, The

1192 Foster St.
Atlanta 30318
404-377-7436
www.howardschool.org
Tuition: \$25,500-\$26,750
Grades: K-12
Students: 243
Head of School: Marifred Cilella

Loveff School, The

4075 Paces Ferry Road NW
Atlanta 30327
404-262-3032
www.loveff.org
Tuition: \$19,210-\$22,740
Grades: K-12
Students: 1,610
Headmaster: William S. Peebles IV

Lyndon Academy

485 Toonigh Road
Woodstock 30188
770-926-0166
www.lyndonacademy.org
Tuition: \$11,000-\$13,000
Grades: Jr. K-6
Students: 127
Headmaster: Linda Murdock

Marist School

3790 Ashford Dunwoody Road NE
Atlanta 30319
770-457-7201
www.marist.com
Tuition: \$16,300
Grades: 7-12
Students: 1,080
Principal: Rev. Joel Konzen, S.M.

Mount Paran Christian School

1275 Stanley Road
Kennesaw 30152
770-578-0182
www.mtparanschool.com
Tuition: \$2,574-\$14,309
Grades: PreK3-12
Students: 1,208
Headmaster: Dr. David Tilley

Mount Vernon Presbyterian School

471 Mt. Vernon Highway NE (PreK-6)
510 Mt. Vernon Highway NE (7-12)
Atlanta 30328
404-252-3448
www.mvpschool.com
Tuition: \$7,035-\$16,925
Grades: PreSchool-12
Students: 806
Head of School: Dr. J. Brett Jacobsen

Mt. Bethel Christian Academy

4385 Lower Roswell Road
Marietta 30068
770-971-0245
www.mtbethelchristian.org
Tuition: \$9,380-\$10,650
Grades: PreK-8
Students: 493
Head of School: Jim R. Callis

North Cobb Christian School

4500 Lakeview Drive
Kennesaw 30144
770-975-0252
www.ncchristian.org
Tuition: \$3,450-\$11,545
Grades: K3-12
Students: 850
Head of School: Todd Clingman

Pace Academy

966 W. Paces Ferry Road NW
Atlanta 30327
404-262-1345
www.paceacademy.org
Tuition: \$19,600-\$22,570
Grades: K-12
Students: 1,070
Head of School: Frederick Assaf

Porter Academy

200 Cox Road
Roswell 30075
770-594-1313
www.porteracademy.org
Tuition: \$18,200
Grades: PreK-8
Students: 65
Head of School: Claudia Porter

Primrose School of Sprayberry

2531 East Piedmont Road
Marietta 30062
770-578-4832
www.primrosesprayberry.com
Tuition: N/A
Grades: Infant-Kindergarten
Students: 150
Principal: Christine Stadler

Queen of Angels Catholic School

11340 Woodstock Road
Roswell 30075
770-518-1804
www.qaschool.org
Tuition: \$7,050
Grades: K-8
Students: 504
Principal: Kathy Wood

Riverside Military Academy

2001 Riverside Drive
Gainesville 30501
770-532-6251
www.riversidemilitary.com
Tuition: \$29,7500
Grades: 7-12
Students: 407
Academic Dean: Dr. Jim Robison



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770.973.2731
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Schenck School, The
282 Mt. Paran Road NW
Atlanta 30327
404-252-2591
www.schenck.org
Tuition: \$27,070
Grades: K-6
Students: 250
Head of School: Gena W. Calloway

Shiloh Hills Christian School
260 Hawkins Store Road
Kennesaw 30144
770-926-7729
www.shilohhills.com
Tuition: \$3,040-\$7,715
Grades: K3-12
Students: 271
Principal: John D. Ward

Shreiner Academy
1340 Terrell Mill Road
Marietta 30067
770-953-1340
www.shreiner.com
Tuition: N/A
Grades: 2K-8
Students: 200
Head of School: Sarah Walker

Sophia Academy
2880 Dresden Drive
Atlanta 30341
404-303-8722
www.sophiaacademy.org
Tuition: \$11,800-17,000
Grades: K-9
Students: 90
Director: Marie S. Corrigan

St. Francis Day School
9375 Willeo Road
Roswell 30075
770-641-8257
www.saintfrancisschools.com
Tuition: \$9,900-\$17,000
Grades: PreK-8
Students: 725
Principal: Farish Wheeler

St. Francis High School
13440 Cogburn Road
Alpharetta 30004
678-339-9989
www.saintfrancisschools.com
Tuition: \$16,500-\$17,600
Grades: 9-12
Students: 725
Principal: Colette Staak

St. Joseph Catholic School
81 Lacy Street
Marietta 30060
770-428-3328
www.stjosephschool.org
Tuition: \$5,878-\$7,641
Grades: K-8
Students: 490
Principal: Patricia Allen

St. Jude The Apostle School
7171 Glenridge Drive NE
Atlanta 30328
770-394-2880
www.saintjude.net
Tuition: \$6,656-\$7,975
Grades: K-8
Students: 523
Principal: Zia Davis

St. Martin's Episcopal School
3110-A Ashford Dunwoody Road
Atlanta 30319
404-237-4260
www.stmartinschool.org
Tuition: \$10,000-\$16,500
Grades: PreK3-8
Students: 610
Headmaster: Dr. James E. Hamner

Swift School, The
300 Grimes Bridge Road
Roswell 30075
678-205-4988
www.theswiftschool.org
Tuition: \$21,495-\$21,895
Grades: 1-8
Students: 215
Head of School: Richard J. Wendlek

Trinity School
4301 Northside Parkway
Atlanta 30327
404-231-8118
www.trinityatl.org
Tuition: \$13,950-\$19,750
Grades: 3yrs-6
Students: 634
Principal: Stephen G. Kennedy

Walker School, The
700 Cobb Parkway North
Marietta 30062
678-581-6921
www.thewalkerschool.org
Tuition: \$10,420-\$18-630
Grades: PreK-12
Students: 1,016
Head of School: Jack Hall

Weber School, The
6751 Roswell Road
Atlanta 30328
404-917-2500
www.weberschool.org
Tuition: \$22,695
Grades: 9-12
Students: 225
Head of School: Sim Pearl

Westminster Schools, The
1424 West Paces Ferry Road NW
Atlanta 30327
404-355-8673
www.westminster.net
Tuition: \$19,205-\$22,270
Grades: Pre1st-12
Students: 1,846
Principal: William Clarkson IV

Whitefield Academy
1 Whitefield Drive
Mableton 30126
678-305-3000
www.whitefieldacademy.com
Tuition: \$9,730-\$19,410
Grades: PreK4-12
Students: 650
Headmaster: Dr. John H. Lindsell

Wood Acres School, The
1772 Johnson Ferry Road
Marietta 30062
770-971-1880
www.woodacresschool.org
Tuition: \$2,700-\$9,600
Grades: Peschool-8
Students: 450
Head of School: Judy Thigpen



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