

Covington Latin School Open House February 2011

Hi! My name is Michael Wilmhoff. I am 13 years old and I am a freshman here at Covington Latin School. Today, I am going to share with you about my unique experience at Latin School and why I'm so happy my parents allowed me to attend here.

The transition for me into High School was much easier than I actually expected. Almost immediately, I had a sense of belonging. It didn't seem to matter that I wasn't a Catholic. Actually, 40% of the school is non-catholic. Everyone was friendly and we all just wanted to have fun together.

The first two weeks of school, the faculty had an orientation program for us where we could meet new friends and "get into the routine". We played games and had a chance to sign up to be in sports or join the many clubs that CLS offers. For example, there is a Chess Club, Band and Student Council. And...don't worry...if you don't think that one of the clubs here is for you then you can start a new club as long as you have five student sponsors and one faculty sponsor. This year, as part of the Junior Classical League we made a trip to Louisville for the weekend where we competed against other schools in Latin competitions.

To further help with the transition, I was given a Peer Counselor that was a junior or senior that I could go to with any questions. But, I found that I could go to my teachers and they were happy to answer my questions as well. The teachers were all very approachable and they truly do care.

That's one nice thing about a small school. Everyone knows your name and we have a really strong sense of community here. For example, when I started here many of my teacher's still remembered my cousin who graduated Latin School in 1994 ...and that's NOT because he was a problem student either! In fact, my cousin met and married his wife who also graduated from CLS and they are great examples of successful leaders today.

Okay, so how tough is it? Well, I'm not going to kid you...it's demanding! But I find that if I use my time wisely it is reasonable. I am still able to balance school with my favorite outside activities like Boy Scouts where I use the leadership skills I've learned at CLS to lead my troop on the Senior Patrol. When people find out that I attend CLS, I find that they have a new respect for me because of the reputation that CLS has earned in the community. Latin School has helped me to understand that I have more potential than I realized and that I can make a difference in the world. I don't regret my decision to become a Trojan! Let CLS give you the chance to achieve, excel and belong! Thank you.