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Annapolis-Area Christian School Chooses Inclusion for Upcoming School Year

School partners with CLC Network to ensure children with special needs are included in mainstream education programs

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. (September 2015) – Annapolis Area Christian School, located in Severn, Maryland, has partnered with CLC Network to more fully understand individuals with disabilities and to build support systems that enable their inclusion in all aspects of school life. CLC Network is a national non-profit committed to promoting the development of people with a variety of abilities and disabilities to live as active, integrated members of their communities.

“We believe that Christian schools should be leading the effort to meet the needs of all learners, whether they struggle in school, excel academically, or anything in between,” said Rick Kempton, superintendent at AACCS. “Consultants from CLC Network will help us to identify the necessary resources and materials to make sure students with a variety of ability levels are included and supported at our school, as well as provide guidance and coaching to our educational support staff. We are excited to partner with the CLC Network and look forward to what we can accomplish together.”

The partnership will allow Annapolis Area Christian School to more effectively welcome children with special needs into their educational community. Two teacher consultants will be assigned to the school to assist with creating individualized student plans, curriculum assistance, transition plans, behavioral intervention plans, and general academic and social inclusion within the school. The school will also have access to best-practice online professional development sessions on Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHA), Autism Spectrum Disorder, Behavior Management, Differentiated Instruction, Neurodevelopment, Bullying Prevention, Anxiety, and Depression in the Classroom, and Restorative Justice, as well as school psychologists to help understand and create strategies for struggling learners.

“My teachers came away from our initial CLC Network training on differentiation with tools that they will immediately put to use as they seek to reach all students within their classrooms,” said middle school principal Rick Slenk. “CLC Network’s experience in helping schools serve a broader learning community is critical for building our confidence as we welcome more diverse learners.”

"We believe that inclusion for students at all levels of ability changes the school community for the better," said Elizabeth Lucas Dombrowski, CLC Network executive director. "We are thrilled

to work with Rick Kempton and the entire Annapolis Area Christian School staff to implement best practices that help all students reach their potential."

For interview opportunities and media inquiries concerning the above, please contact Gwen Vryhof Bultema at 616.617.6284 or gwen@bultemagroup.com.

About CLC Network:

CLC Network is a national non-profit committed to promoting the development of people with a variety of abilities and disabilities to live as active, integrated members of their communities. The organization partners with families and organizations to more fully understand individuals with disabilities and to build support systems that enable their inclusion in all aspects of life. For more information on CLC Network or a list of available resources, visit www.clcnetwork.org.

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