

## Things To Pray For As The School Year Begins

Last week a number of counties started their new school year. I know some have been going since late July and others will begin next week. It means college students will be going back to their dorms or houses and start attending their classes. This got me to thinking about our need to pray for students.

In years passed we saw shootings at public schools. Some made the national news while others did not. Some occurred inside the school while others were in the parking lot. We need to pray that students will be safe inside and outside the school building. A number of teachers have been killed in these shootings so let's remember them and pray for their safety.

I have noticed an increase in teachers being arrested due to having an inappropriate relationship with a student. We need to pray that our teachers will not use their position to be sexual predators but protect their students from such predators. At the same time, I realize some students have tempted and enticed teachers to have a sexual relationship with them. We need to pray that all teachers will with stand such temptation.

Schools can be great places of learning but also bullying. For some reason there are students who to ridicule, injure the reputations, and even physically harm other students. We need to pray that those subjected to such treatment will seek help and be able to overcome such actions by their fellow students. Unfortunately, some teachers will ridicule, harass, and make fun of Christians. Let us pray for our young people as they go to school that they will be free from harassment.

Peer pressure is great with young people and some Christians have given into drug usage, sex, and other sins. Let us pray for our young people to shine as lights in a dark world and to be good examples to those around them. The same can be said for our teachers as they can have a great influence for Christ in their classrooms.

Finally, let us pray they will do their best in learning while in school and they will also increase in their knowledge for and love of God as they go throughout this school year. - - Dennis Tucker