

## Classical Strands Community

### CLASSICAL

**Classical Method Defined: CSC's niche exists in helping equip parents to homeschool their children all the way through high school by way of using the classical method, or the Trivium.**

#### Questions for Parents to ask themselves:

1. Are you familiar with the Trivium? Have you been using it already or is it new to you?
2. Do you believe that memorization is valuable? Why or why not?
3. Are you willing to learn more about the 5 Canons of Rhetoric and the 5 Common Topics of Invention?
4. Are you willing to be your child's PRIMARY educator at home? Are you prepared to take full responsibility for your student's education and to partner with your tutors in the process?
5. Do you plan to attend community with your children each week and to prepare them for classes so that you and they glean the most from community each week?

- Classical Strands Community is here to equip, encourage, and empower parents on their educational journey with their children. It is NOT here to replace the parent as the lead learner/teacher in the home.
- At the Explorations/Fundamentals level (PreK – 6<sup>th</sup> grade), the classical method is modeled during community day. Parents are expected (and required) to be in the classroom with their student's. This will help to equip the parents as they continue the learning process throughout the week. It also provides support for the tutor when extra hands are needed. Community day is not an "off" day for the parent.
- At the Connections Level (7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade), tutors work on developing specific skills, such as research, grammar, rhetoric, exposition, composition, logic, and debate. The subject matter (science, math, literature, etc.) is used to practice those skills. It is not feasible, meeting one time a week, to "teach" your child everything they need to know about each one of these subjects. That responsibility lies with the parent. They remain the lead learner/teacher in the home, and the success of the student rests on the work done AT home. Even though parents do not usually attend class together with their Connections student, the program is still Parent Participatory. Every home MUST have a teaching parent.
- The end goal of classical education is for students to "learn HOW to learn." There is no specific and finite list of what a child should master before high school graduation. Rather than trying to "capture it all," the focus is on equipping the students to learn anything they want. With the proper skills, nothing is beyond their reach. As they leave high school, they are then capable of pursuing the interests and gifts God has given them, and finding success in any field they choose.
- It is the responsibility of the parent to educate themselves in the Classical Model. Some of this understanding will come through conversations with other parents. A foundation, however, can be found in these short essays:
  - The Lost Tools of Learning by Dorothy Sayers: <https://www.pccs.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/LostToolsOfLearning-DorothySayers.pdf>
  - An Introduction to Classical Education by Christopher Perrin: <http://classicalsubjects.com/resources/ICE.pdf>