



## Listening First, Growing Together

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Dear TC Parents and Supporters,

One of the cornerstones of a healthy family is communication - not assumption, but conversation. Rather than guessing what those we care about are thinking or feeling, we ask. And asking comes with responsibility. Are we truly listening?

There is a difference between asking questions to appear caring and asking because we genuinely want to grow. When we listen well, conversation moves forward with purpose. When we don't, it quietly fades. Most of us have experienced this in our own families and friendships. Often it doesn't happen because someone doesn't care, but because life feels full, overwhelming, or uncertain. In challenging seasons, taking in more information, even when it matters, can feel like too much, or we may fear that what we learn will only make the road harder.

Yet without communication and listening, we cannot fully celebrate our successes or rally together through challenges. The paths that lead to growth and greatness are rarely easy, and they are almost always walked together - with humility, trust, and good listening.

Recently, we sent out a survey intentionally and prayerfully. Much like a teacher gives an assignment not to judge, but to understand and guide, we are asking you to evaluate us. Not to place blame or make rash decisions, but because we are committed to spiritual and academic growth. Growth requires honest feedback.

As we plan for the year ahead, your voice matters deeply. Thoughtful planning is only possible when we understand what is working well and where we need to do better. At the **State of the School**, we will share what the collective TC family has told us, what you have affirmed and where you have challenged us to improve. We asked. We are listening. And we will respond.

Whether the picture we see is partial or clear depends on participation. (The survey close date is January 15). Your willingness to share helps shape the direction of Turlock

Christian School. Not every request can be addressed immediately (just as not every prayer is answered right away), but please know this: we are listening, and we care.

Scripture reminds us,

***“Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry”***  
**James 1:19**

That posture - listening first - is the one we are striving to live out together.

So, let's keep talking. Let's keep listening. And let's continue shaping the future of Turlock Christian School, in faith, together as a family in Christ.

With gratitude,

*Johanna Fischer*  
*TC Board Chair*



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