

# Pray the Word

The Lord is near all who call out to him,  
all who call out to him with integrity.

Psalm 145:18

Will not God grant justice to his elect who cry out to him day and night? Will he delay helping them? I tell you that he will swiftly grant them justice.

Luke 18:7-8

In the same way the Spirit also helps us in our weakness, because we do not know what to pray for as we should, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with inexpressible groanings. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because he intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Romans 8:26-27

This is the confidence we have before him: If we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears whatever we ask, we know that we have what we have asked of him.

1 John 5:14-15

Again, truly I tell you, if two of you on earth agree about any matter that you pray for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, I am there among them.

Matthew 18:19-20

The Lord is far from the wicked,  
but he hears the prayer of the righteous.

Proverbs 15:29



## A Guide to Prayer

This year as we recover from a school year full of modifications due to COVID-19, we are also aware of all the usual concerns in our schools—bullying, racism, shootings, suicide, and many more. Additionally there are the challenges many parents will have with virtual learning, as well as the uptick in domestic violence and abuse. We believe there is a need, more than ever before, to begin the year in a spirit of concerted, intentional, communal prayer.

Thank you for agreeing to join this movement of prayer. Whether you are allowed to walk inside the school or outside, whether you can walk or sit, or even if you can only pray from home, this is your opportunity to shine as a prayer warrior for the heart of our schools.

Thank you for praying.

Noonday Baptist Association

[noondaynet.org](http://noondaynet.org)



# How to Begin

**Confess:** Before you begin, spend a moment confessing any known sin and asking God to prepare and purify your heart so that you can intercede for others.

**Pray How You Feel Led:** Feel free to pray both aloud and silently. Pray corporately in a group and individually, personally. Use the Bible to pray Scripture. Use this guide as a model for what to intercede for, but be open to the Holy Spirit's leading to deviate as well.

# What to Pray For

**Administrators:** Pray that administrators would be given wisdom and guidance to make the best decisions possible.

**Teachers:** Pray for peace, strength, and stamina for teachers as they deal with changing ways of teaching and the needs and demands of the classroom.

**Support Staff:** Pray that support staff (such as cafeteria workers, bus drivers, janitors, assistants, IT staff, and others) would be treated with gratitude and respect and they would be able to see the difference they make in students' lives.

**Students:** Pray that God would grant students knowledge and understanding, as well as the perseverance to finish strong. Pray that their needs would be met in every way.

**Spiritual Presence:** Pray that there would be a strong representation of Christ's love on the campus. Pray for Christians on campus to be a light that would draw others to Christ.

**Safety:** Pray for protection around the campus or wherever virtual learning occurs. Pray against bullying, racism, suicide, illness, drug and alcohol abuse, child abuse, and threats to safety. Pray for a godly spirit.

# See the Need

- 113,000** Number of students in the Cobb County School District (CCSD)
  - 2** The CCSD is the second largest in Georgia; 23rd largest in the nation
- 112** Number of schools in the CCSD
- 13,688** Total number of faculty and staff in the CCSD; largest employer in Cobb
  - 52** Percentage of Cobb students proficient in math
  - 53** Percentage of Cobb students proficient in reading
  - 8** Dropout rate (percentage)
  - 43** Number of suicides in Georgia in 2017 for ages 5-17
- 158** Youth deaths attributable to excessive alcohol use each year in Georgia

