

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PRAY. Use this Guide to continue to pray for education; go to unitethechurch.org/ap4c for additional prayer guides about other ongoing issues. Pray about how you might be able to help

- We suggest prayer-walking your community school(s) as they prepare for the return of students.

LEARN.

- Visit unitethechurch.org/cope to see more information about the Cost of Poverty Experience, a calendar of upcoming events available for you to attend, and a form to request more information.
- Go to unitethechurch.org/education to learn about ongoing needs, opportunities, and assets.
- Visit texasschools.org and search for school districts near you for specific data related to school achievement by year, subject, and grade.
- Learn more about how to advocate for change at childrenatrisk.org/about-car.
- Learn about new Texas school funding legislation in a June 11 *Dallas Morning News* article: <https://tinyurl.com/y3zees66>

SERVE.

- Check with your church if you don't know whether or not you have a partnership with a local school. If so, find out how you can help.
- If your church doesn't have a partnership but would like to consider starting one, look at www.unitethechurch.org/education then email education@unitethechurch.org.
- The Commit! Partnership helps drive student achievement in Dallas County from cradle to career. Volunteer opportunities are available. For more information, visit commitpartnership.org/get-involved#invest

TELL. Tell your friends, family, and co-workers about these needs and opportunities. Look at the resources above so you're ready to share helpful information with others as God puts it on your heart.



EDUCATION PRAYER GUIDE

"In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us." Titus 2:7-8

This prayer guide's topic is **Education**

Every child in Greater Dallas should have access to a quality education—including the 375,000 students in Dallas County whose families are economically disadvantaged. Our low-income public schools carry a heavy load and desperately need our prayers.

This coming school year, the community has an unprecedented opportunity to come alongside public school staff to help them serve their children and families: the *COPE for Schools* Initiative:

- The staff of public schools in most major DFW districts are using COPE (Cost of Poverty Experience), for professional development.
- COPE reignites teacher empathy and creativity about how to teach, engage families, and meet the needs of students in poverty.
- Unite is helping them leverage it as a catalyst to bring community partners around the staff, children, and families.
- Our goal is to eventually see every public school in DFW have at least one church partner in addition to corporate and nonprofit partners to help meet their needs.

Please prepare your heart before you begin to pray through the AP4C categories, so that these Scriptures and your time with God can renew your heart for our Metroplex.



AP4C model was established in collaboration with **Movement Day Greater Dallas** and is facilitated by **Unite**



All Scripture quotations are taken from the Holy Bible, NIV translation.

SALVATION

“and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,” 2 Timothy 3:15-16

- Praise God for the freedom to share openly about His word.
- Pray for students eager to share their faith with their classmates; pray for boldness, but also gentleness and respect.
- Ask God to inspire Christian teachers, students, and parents to talk about their faith in creative ways through speeches, art, and other projects.
- Continue to pray for the salvation of individuals within your sphere of influence.

THE CHURCH

“But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.” 1 Peter 3:15

- Praise God for the 150+ churches known to be loving and serving public schools across Greater Dallas and ask Him to help them make a deep impact.
- Praise God for the opportunity *COPE for Schools* is giving the community to come alongside the schools, and pray that the Church fully embraces it as we prepare for Fall classes.
- Pray the Church is seen as a partner in the community and a safe haven for students seeking love and a relationship with God.
- Pray that because of our love for them, every child, teacher, and parent would know they are precious, beloved, and worth Jesus’ sacrifice.

OUR COMMUNITIES

“Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 5:19

- Praise God for the teachers and school administrators in your community, and pray for them as they begin preparations to return.
- Pray for peace, patience, strength, and renewed energy for teachers, administrators, and others serving children on a daily basis.
- Pray that businesses and nonprofits will also come around the schools so that they are fully resourced to meet the needs of the children and families — especially as a result of *COPE for Schools*.
- Pray for the parents and caregivers to be more engaged with their children’s schools this year.

TRANSFORMATION

“let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance” Proverbs 1:5

- Pray for improvement in our schools so that every child from every community has the opportunity to attend a high-performing school.
- Pray for wisdom for school board members who are in roles of great influence. Pray their decisions will move the districts forward and improve access to quality education for all.
- Pray that God would soften the hearts of the “gatekeepers” within the schools, districts, and communities who may be hardened toward the Church.
- Ask God to guide decision-makers as education techniques continue to evolve with time—that the American education system would meet the needs of our students and our world.
- Praise God for the enormous steps that were taken in the last state legislative session, and pray for the districts and schools as they implement the various changes.