

# Whitefield Academy hosts conversation on faith, youth activities with Jeff Francoeur

Marietta Daily Journal · 11 Feb 2026 · Staff reports

Whitefield Academy, a Christcentered Christian school serving students from PreK through grade 12 in Smyrna, recently welcomed parents to campus for an evening focused on navigating youth sports and extracurricular activities while keeping faith, wisdom and perspective at the center.



The event, Keeping Faith at the Center of Youth Sports and Activities, was part of the Whitefield Parent Association Collective, a series designed to equip parents from a Christian perspective as they navigate the joys and challenges of raising children. The WPA Collective reflects Whitefield Academy's commitment to educating the whole child by walking alongside families and engaging deeper questions of identity, formation and faith that shape life both inside and outside the classroom.

The evening featured guest speaker Jeff Francoeur, a retired Major League Baseball player, television broadcaster and host of the Pure Athlete podcast.

Francoeur shared insights from his professional career, personal faith journey and experience as a parent, encouraging families to keep Christ at the center amid the pressures and expectations often associated with youth sports and extracurricular activities.

Throughout the evening, parents were invited to consider sports and activities not as defining measures of success, but as opportunities for discipleship, character formation and spiritual growth. Francoeur emphasized the importance of grounding children's identity in faith rather than performance, and of approaching competition, achievement and commitment with biblical perspective and balance.

One parent shared that the event was “incredibly impactful for both my husband and me,” adding that it encouraged them “to step back, let our sons struggle at times, and trust God with the outcome.” She noted that the reminder that their children’s identity is found in Christ, not in performance or achievement, was “something we truly needed.”

The Whitefield Parent Association Collective exists to support parents through intentional, faithfilled conversations on topics relevant to family life today. By addressing the broader context of a child’s life, including academics, athletics, relationships, technology and identity, Whitefield Academy seeks to serve families who desire an education rooted in Christian truth and shaped by a comprehensive approach to student growth.

For more information, visit [whitefieldacademy.com](http://whitefieldacademy.com).