

The Lynden LINK

Vol. 16 - Nu. 5, April 29, 2018

Cornerstone Christian School
~~ Lynden, WA ~~

Chairman's Report

Threats?

Recently, I met with an old high school friend. We reminisced and talked about our past. We talked about growing up in a Reformed church and school community including the benefit and challenges with this. He asked a question that stuck in my mind. *What is the biggest threat to your church denomination?* This question caught me off guard. It is not something that I had really been thinking about. What was the biggest threat? My mind went to what has been happening with our Dutch sister churches. How the influences of the world and culture have been affecting how that church views the Bible, church, and religion. The symptoms that are present in the church come from cultural influences on homes and families. These influences also show up at school and in how our children think about things.

My thought about this being the biggest threat was not shared by my friend. Instead he told me that he thought that the biggest threat was materialism. At first, this thought was surprising to me. Does materialism so affect our lives that it penetrates our Church, our schools, and our homes?

After some time of reflecting on this, I realized that this was a thought that needed some consideration. How much time is spent on our study of the Word and living our lives for the sole purpose of glorifying God? How much time is spent on worldly pursuits for our enjoyment, security, or personal ambition? Where do we spend our time? How do we spend our money?

Are we short sighted? Or do we have an eternal outlook? How we prioritize things says a lot about ourselves. It says a lot to those we are being an example to.

When you travel through the Old Testament in the Bible you can see patterns of faithfulness and

faithlessness. As you go through the books of Judges, Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles you can the cycles that the church went through. Belief in God, followed by chasing after other gods, punishment by God, and then repentance. Are these patterns that we are aware of? Are these patterns something we should be concerned about? Are we in one of these patterns?

When we reflect on the humble beginnings of our parents and grandparents can we relate to their thoughts as new immigrants? Many came with not much more than the clothes on their back. Yet with these humble beginnings they made it a top priority to establish and attend reformed churches. Even travelling long distances to make sure they could attend church and to be a part of its growth. With very little time and money they also made sure that Reformed schools were established for their children. Schools with a covenantal flavor where all students of the church could attend. This was more important than vacations, homes, cars, and other material items. Time and effort was spent with an eye to the future – not the immediate future but an eternal future.



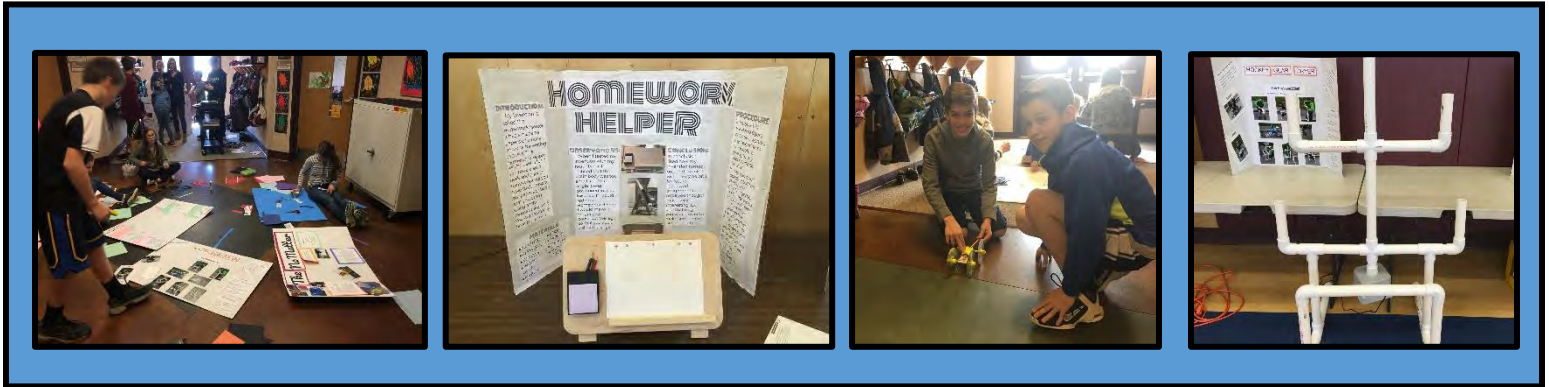
As we reflect on this, could we say that materialism is a threat to our church, our school, or our lives with the Lord? Are our priorities for our immediate needs or do we proceed relying on the Lord? Can we learn a lesson from Israel or from our forebears? Do we show a good example to our children by how we prioritize things? Are we looking long term when we think about our church and school? Or are we materialistic? These are questions that we should all reflect on as we prioritize our life in the Lord. There are many “gods” vying for our time and attention. We must take a good look in the mirror at our priorities and see how they align with the will of the Lord.

As to matters pertaining to the operation of the school: soon (on Tuesday, May 1st) we will once again have our Spring membership meeting. I would like to encourage all to attend. It is important that we achieve a quorum so that we can approve the schools budget for next year. At this meeting there will also be an update from Debbie Johnson about the Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College. A technology presentation will also take place, which looks to be thought provoking and informative. Your attendance, support, and input at this would be greatly appreciated.

At a previous board meeting we could hear of a report of a visit with a family from the Protestant Reformed Church who would like to send their children to our school starting in the 9th grade next year. Stephen and Rachel Dykstra plan on sending their oldest daughter to Cornerstone. We welcome this family to the school and hope that it will be a blessing to you.

We can also be thankful for all the work that the CBM has been doing behind the scenes with keeping the school in good working order and with the extra work that they did recently by replacing all the gym light bulbs with new LED lighting. Thanks to all involved for making this happen. Special thanks go to John Heystek for helping with the procurement and installation of this lighting.

We are getting to a busy time of year at the school with the end of the school year in sight. There are exams and projects that are occupying the time of both students and teachers. May the Lord give the perseverance needed to complete the tasks and duties ahead. We also will see several students leave for the other side of the country as they travel to Washington DC. We wish you all traveling mercies and hope that you have a good time of fellowship together!



Treasurer Report

By this time, you may have had a chance to look over the 2018/19 budget proposal. In formulating this proposal, the board tried to account for all the variables involved. In recent years, the school society has voiced the desire to move towards a funding structure that is not quite so dependent on variable income (donations, fundraising, operating pledges). The board has tried to fulfill this desire, but it has proven to be difficult, given the number of tuition-paying families that we are working with. At the same time, there is the worthy desire to keep tuition as low as possible. Considering these factors, we have proposed a modest increase in tuition and dues while at the same time keeping expenses as low as possible. So, we are moving slowly in the direction of being less dependent on variable income. We look forward to your input at the upcoming membership meeting.

In the last Link, I mentioned that Cornerstone provides an educational experience that acknowledges God's

creative power, authority, and sovereignty. This time, I would like to take note of the fact that we also are an institution that emphasizes the existence of absolute truth. This is in contrast to our surrounding culture, which emphasizes the relativity of truth. We see this mentality all around us, and our culture is suffering because of it. So many in our day are trying to live their lives without a firm reference point for knowledge, morality, and ethics. But how grateful we can be that we are not lost in this quagmire of relativity! At Cornerstone, part of our purpose is to "teach all subjects in the curriculum as parts of an integrated whole, in a thoroughly Scriptural framework." When we start with a Scriptural framework, we have the source of ultimate truth and a firm reference point in our academic endeavors. Thanks be to God for revealing Himself to us in the Scriptures!

Short Reports of the Board

Short Report, CCS Board, March 5, 2018

The chairman opened the meeting with reading and prayer. The minutes from Part I of the previous meeting were approved. The agenda was adopted.

The Board reviewed progress on several Strategic Plan items of focus, including college and career counseling and an updated Board manual.

Incoming mail was reviewed.

The Board reviewed the latest Principal's report. An advertisement for a PT position teaching an elective course is approved for publication. The proposed 2018/19 school calendar is reviewed. A proposal for an athletic committee to oversee the NWYBL and NWYVL is submitted.

The SMA report was provided. It was noted that S. Houweling received his H1-b visa.

The CBM/IT Committee reported that the gym lights will be replaced with LED bulbs during spring break. The IT Committee is reviewing options for more robust wifi.

Under General Matters, the Board reviewed its annual calendar. The first principal evaluation is underway. A favorable report is received regarding a recent visit with a potential member from the PR church.

Action items were reviewed and the next regular meeting was set for April 9 at 7:30pm.

Part I of the meeting was concluded.

After a short break, Part II of the meeting was opened. Minutes from the previous month's meeting were approved. The agenda was adopted.

There was no incoming mail.

S. Hofford shared the latest Treasurer's report. Main items of focus included monthly financials and a preliminary 2018/19 budget review.

R. Demooy presented a report on behalf of the SMA. Healthcare was discussed for certain staff.

Action items were reviewed.

M. Vreugdenhil closed the meeting with prayer.

Short Report, CCS Board, April 9, 2018

The chairman opened the meeting with reading and prayer. The minutes from Part I of the previous meeting were approved. The agenda was adopted.

The Board reviewed progress on several Strategic Plan items. A Board Manual has been completed and adopted.

There was no incoming mail.

The principal presented his latest report. Items of discussion included an update on the Home Economics course for 2018/19 and a brief staff update. Overall, things are operating smoothly.

The SMA report was provided, detailing the visa application status of certain staff as well as an update on membership.

The CBM/IT Committee reported that the gym lights have been replaced. The IT Committee continues to look at ways to improve the school's wifi network.

The Ed Comm reported that an Operations Manual has been completed. A summary of curriculum review and development was given.

Under General Matters, the Board reviewed its annual calendar. Things are tracking as scheduled.

Action items were reviewed and the next regular meeting was set for May 7 at 7:30pm.

Part I of the meeting was concluded.

After a short break, Part II of the meeting was opened. Minutes from the previous month's meeting were approved. The agenda was adopted.

There was no incoming mail.



Education Committee Report

The Education Committee continues to review the Language Arts curriculum. We divided the Language Arts skills into reading, writing, grammar, vocabulary, spelling, speaking and listening. These skills are important for all subject areas, so intentional instruction for each area will equip our students well.

Senior project presentations are in full swing, and the Ed Comm is again privileged to be part of the audience. We wish the students well in their work and thank the mentors, parents and teachers for their time and efforts as well! When the presentations are completed the juniors and seniors can look forward to their east coast trip in May.

"If you want to change the world, start off by making your bed." This was said by Admiral William McRaven in a commencement address to the University of Texas class of 2014. He substantiated his claim by saying that making your bed gives you a sense of accomplishment, helps you move from one

task to then tackle the next, and also makes you value the importance of doing seemingly little things. Although his speech was not from a Christian point of view, he does make a valid observation. In the school setting, the seemingly little things do make a difference. In some of our school and classroom rules we encourage our students to come to school on time, to dress neatly, to study their spelling lists, to speak kindly, and even to put their indoor shoes on the shelf in the hallway at the end of the day. Will these things in themselves change the world? Probably not. Will they promote good habits in the students' lives? Yes! Even more so, when we consider that we as Christians have the added incentive to do all things well in service to the Lord every day, we can encourage one another and teach our children that the little things do matter.

For the Ed Comm, Christine Hofford

Principal Report

The hallways are quiet on this Tuesday afternoon at 3:34. It's a sharp contrast to the bustling hubbub of activity that was our annual Grandparents Day. At 10:15 our young students can be seen welcoming their favorites, high school students move in between tables serving coffee and cake, grandparents are sitting, chatting - socializing together, the noise of scraping chairs and children's laughter fills the air as gifts are shared from grandma's purse. It's not an exaggeration to say that Grandparents Day is one of the highlights on our school-events calendar. Thank-you grandparents for making this day special for the students by showing interest in their work, sharing lunch with them and for shining the light of Christ in their lives. Hearty thanks for blessing us with your presence last week.

Students Serving Students

As the year rolls on, we continue to be enthused and excited with the way many of our young men and women in the high school are stepping up to serve in their capacity as a member of the student leadership team. I think our students 'stepping up to the plate' can be put down to a number of factors including the creation of opportunities, parental encouragement, staff resourcefulness (Ms. Willis as sponsor-teacher on STAMP) and a desire on our students part to serve the neighbor and to take responsibility. I'm sure many of us, as parents, notice a change in the trajectory in our homes too – when we expect our

children to take charge of their responsibilities. When we foster initiative, promote good communication, and hold them accountable for their behavior – then our children begin to thrive - taking ownership of what needs to be done. As our children get older, we take a few steps back to give them the room to make mistakes, to take charge of their chores, their homework, their behavior etc. Sometimes, we're tempted to pull out the safety net too quickly. Our children become reliant on us to pick up their stuff, to do their chores, to pull them out of trouble, and to make excuses for their poor choices. As we near the end of the year - it's a good opportunity to reflect. Do you encourage your children to be involved in service opportunities – also at school? Do you help them push themselves outside their comfort zones – whether that be in public speaking, organizing events or supporting younger students in their studies? There are so many positives that flow from a heart that is willing to serve and be engaged. As staff, we are so thankful for the way many of our HS students have led assemblies, thanked volunteers & speakers, coordinated events (how good was Spirit Week!), served on a (grad) committee, tutored younger students and the list goes on. Fantastic job, students! If you're not there yet, may you be inspired to step up to the plate in the new school year in some capacity.

School Events

We've had busy weeks during March and April.

Here are some of the highlights:

- The basketball season came to a close towards the end of February/the beginning of March. Practices generally start mid-November - so it can be a time consuming, mentally challenging commitment for our coaches. We salute you for your dedication and thank-you for giving your time and talents in such a generous way: Martha Kruyswijk (MS girls), John Vreugdenhil (MS boys), Kyle Lodder, Jon Dykstra, & Nate Chase (HS boys), and Janice Dykstra & Trina Visser (Varsity girls).

- Some of our athletes have quickly moved onto volleyball which is going on at the moment. We're thankful for the time that Kam Veldman (boys) and Karla Leyenhorst dedicate to helping our players improve. If you haven't seen a game yet this season – you should check it out. Our students can play! The game schedule can be found at www.nwyouthvolleyball.com.

- This past week our first batch of seniors presented their senior projects. This is an exciting time for staff, ed comm members and mentors. Here again, students are required to step up and take responsibility for their time, scheduling, commitment, communication and other important life skills. Mr. Chase will be doing his part to prime the students to be well prepared (and professionally attired) and we wish the students the very best as they finalize their project and presentation.

- No sooner will the senior project presentations be over and our juniors and seniors will be jetting off to the East coast for the 'DC trip'. We wish students and chaperones a wonderful time as their learning is taken outside the classroom in a big way! What a

fantastic opportunity! Mr. Chase puts in a tremendous amount of work into the coordination of the fundraising, site bookings and trip planning. Thank-you, Mr. Chase, for your dedication and labors to make this all happen!

- Coming up our students will be involved in a School Speech Contest (May 4), Quad-School Speech Contest (hosted in Lynden on May 9), School Sleepover (May 11), and Sports Day (June 1).



Support

Thank you Cornerstone community, for the support you demonstrate for the school. As I witness each school day go by and as we serve with many community members on a variety of committees, I stand amazed at the Lord's blessings through your service. As staff, we delight in our work because of the parental support, the beautiful building, the expansive resources, the volunteer help, a proactive and supportive board and the list goes on. We highly value your input and enthusiasm for the Reformed education that goes on at CCS. May that long continue!

May the Lord continue to provide the strength and desire to complete this school year to His glory.

CBM Report

Not much news on the CBM front. Thank you to those who came out to help with the spring cleanup! There wasn't a whole lot of jobs to do besides the regular cleanup of flower beds and

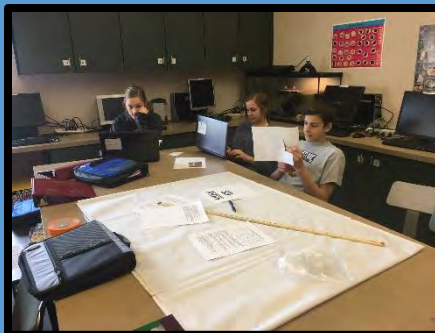
such. But still.... many hands made an all day job into a few hours. Give yourself a pat on the back if you made the time.... if not?..... potentially see your name on the next CBM committee nomination :-)

IT Report

There's been a flurry of activity going on in the IT world. We are currently working on improving the WiFi in the school. It is proving to be a time consuming and potentially costly endeavor. But we will exhaust the time consuming part first:-)

We hope you can all make it out to the membership meeting. Jack, and a couple other backups, will have an awesome presentation on Google Classroom. The

plan will be to implement this next year, throughout the school. If you have questions about your kids access to the internet, (in the school setting) this would be the good time to bring up those concerns. And hopefully we can answer them adequately. Until then, stay off the computer and get outside....it's too beautiful this time of year to waste your time on one. :-)



Ladies Aid Report

Hello from the Ladies Aid! We hope you are enjoying the spring weather. Since our last entry there have been many busy ladies digging and potting and tending to the plants that are going to be sold at our plant sale.

Hopefully the new location at school will be a good success. Thank you to all of you that have spent time making this happen. Our Plant sale is going to be extended to 2 extra weekends this year, so please stop by the school and check out the beautiful annuals and perennials that have been cared for and grown with love! The Garage Sale is also coming up. Stay tuned for when you can drop off your Spring cleaning results at the Kleyn residence.

In other news we have been looking into the cost and logistics in the kitchen of purchasing a larger sink. Things haven't turned out to be as simple as we would like with this renovation, but we are actively looking into different options and will have something to present to the membership at our fall meeting.

Mats have been purchased and installed for the Gaga Ball Pit. Are your children's knuckles in better shape?

It is such a blessing to be part of a community of willing volunteers. Thank you for your help, and all praise to God for blessings our efforts!

For the Ladies Aid, Sharon Veldman

Upcoming Events

May 9 – Public Speaking Contest

May 10 – Ascension Day

May 28 – Memorial Day

June 1 – Sports Day

June 4 – Quad School Track Meet (gr.6 & 7)

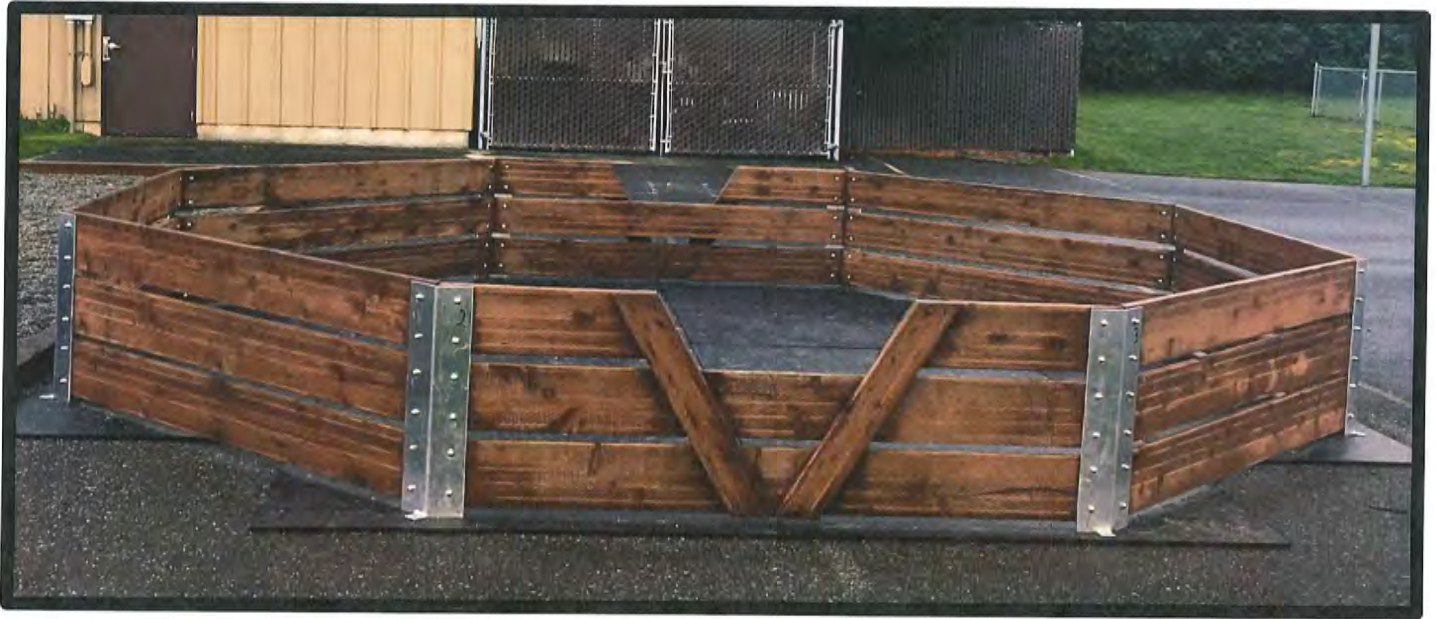
June 7 – Eighth Grade Graduation

June 15 – Last Day Of School

June 15 – Senior Graduation

Elias Kobes
 Casey
 Josh
 Sean DeBoer
 Adam DeBoer
 Meleah K.
 Thank you!
 Mikayla K.
 C. O. H. N. Hofford
 Ellie
 Thank you!
 Levi B
 Mica L
 Evan Brown
 Tessa Burger
 Zachary Ueldman
 Kyle DeMooy
 Aiden Burger
 Justin Carson
 Claire C
 Briana Postmus
 Kayella K.
 Lucy!!
 Amy H.
 Emily
 Thank You
 Jada
 Abby
 Tyler V.
 Reade P.

Thank-you, Mr. Pelleboer and Ladies Aid! Taren



Sydney V.D.
 Philip H.
 Thank you!
 Mya R.K.
 Emma Davis
 Kayleigh Davis
 Nicole K.
 Dylan Vandriee
 Alexton L.
 Avail.
 Cassie
 Aleah Brown
 Joanna J.
 Luke
 Kiersten
 Jude
 Mikenzie DeMooy
 Taleesha
 Jordan DeMooy
 Ryland
 Thank you
 Annemarie
 Thank you!
 Cody
 Chloe
 Jay B.
 Jaymie Ueldman
 Jessie Ueldman
 Hadley
 Shantel
 Lana
 Ally D.
 Ashtyn
 Noah
 Kai Kobes

From the Grade 7/8 Classroom

We can all write! But writing effectively is no easy chore! It's a complex task, one that's not easily learnt. When translating inner speech into meaningful symbols that effectively communicates a message, there is a multifarious spectrum of concepts to consider, ranging from using the correct symbol, to proficient use of semantics, graphaphonics and syntax. Couple this with the ability to captivate, control, manipulate and amuse your audience's minds, as well as evoke a response, writing is a complex task indeed!

Of late the 7/8th grade have been developing their skills at descriptive writing using similes and metaphors. Since it was Grandparents Day this past week, they had a go at some reflections! Enjoy their work.

Mr S Houweling
Gr 7/8 Teacher

Grandparents

They always give more than a half
And often make us laugh
Whenever we do something bad
They are never very mad
My grandparents are people I look up
to
I'm sure you do too
They surround us with love
And teach us to always look above
They always feed us goodies
Especially lots of cookies
They treat us very nicely
And talk to us politely
They buy us new things
As though it costs them nothing
They pay us for a small task
And usually give us what we ask

By: Lewis Hofford

Grandparents

When you ask your parents where you're going
And your mom says, "grandma and grandpa
Your heart and eyes start glowing
And you let out a quiet hurrah

Grandparents are special in many ways
They love to laugh and spend time with you
To give you treats and to play
They understand you all the way

Grandparents are flowers in the springtime
As sweet as one could possibly believe
They will love you anytime
If you are sad they bring you relief

Grandparents are an awesome gift from God
no one can take this gift away
We strongly love them and we are awed
We never want them to leave, but to stay

By: Jaclyn Brown

Grandparents

Grandparents are very amazing. They are always kind to you and are always willing to talk to you. When ever you go and visit them they are always welcoming. When they give you some advice they should know what they are talking about because they have lived to learn lots of things.

Grandparents always cheer you up. They always have a good story to tell you because they have been through lots. I love my grandparents because they are the nicest people because they are loving, caring, and are always willing to talk to you. You learn from your grandparents as you grow up. You see their example in living a life in the in the fear of the Lord and you follow that example.

By: Levi Sytsma

Grandparents

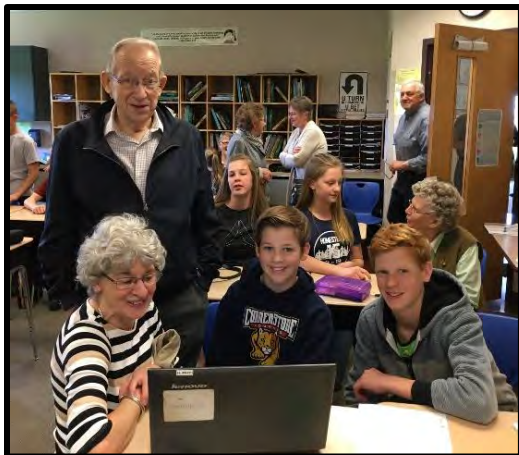
A grandparent's heart is sweet and kind, A love that is so hard to find
Joy like the summer days of July, many happy days gone by
Their hearts as warm as a cozy fire, when I feel down, they lift me higher
A grandparent's love is strong and deep, filled with memories to cherish and keep
A grandma's heart is a fountain of kindness, guiding me through my moments of blindness
Always making me feel at home, even in this life when I start to roam
Grandpa's life is strong and steady, He is always willing and ready,
Giving me a helping hand, just so that I am able to stand
Grandparents have ran the race of life, through all the trouble and the strife,
All the blessings from above, aAbounding in God's amazing love

By: Madelyn Brown

Grandparents

Grandparents are the older people
In your life
Who don't care if they have
Grey hairs
(Unlike your parents).
They give you candy
And cookies
And spoil you
In every way
Possible.
They invite you to lunch on Sundays
Even though they weren't going to anymore.
They either watch their old cassettes or
The news,
And they always remember your
Birthday,
Even if they give you the present
A week late.
'Grandparents are people with
Silver in their hair
And gold in their
Hearts.'

By Jessica Postmus



Grandparents Reflection

My grandparents are who love
All the way to the moon above.
They spoil me a lot
And they taught me many things that are very
valuable.
Nothing that I do with them is dull,
And sometimes they take me to McDonalds.
I treasure them like glorious emeralds.
If I get hurt,
It is they who give me comfort.

They make fantastic meals,
And Opa never reveals
His amazing, magic tricks.
And he never kicks
Even if I am very bad.
They are both tremendously glad
To add a nice compliment.
Their hilarious jokes never get blunt
And Opa does not usually hunt.
They sometimes give me pop.

He chops lots of wood.
He would, If he still could.
But I am so sad to say
That those days are over.
Because in a blur
He was at the hospital,
Because he was not able
To breathe.

There was quite a lot of grief.
But after he took his revolting meds,
And had a lot of rest in his bed,
Which was enough to make him recover.
And soon it was all over.
So in all,
They are the awesome people,
who I love most.

By Seth Kleyn

GRANDPARENTS:

Grandparents are amazing; they sprinkle kindness in every kid's heart. They are full of love and laughter, and they love their spoiled rotten grandkids like an overflowing flood.

Grandparents may be out of sight, but they are never out of mind. They will hold your hand through the thorns in your life, and they will love you 100 times as much as a cup of coffee.

Grandparents are like diamonds; they may lose their shine, but they will never lose their value. They love you to the moon and back, and although they may get old, their love will never get old. They are like hugs, they give someone the love they need. Grandparents are understanding when you are hurting, and are loving when you need a hug. They give you cupboards full of candy, and they feed you until you're fat.

ODE TO GRANDPARENTS:

They always have a hug to share,
if you're sad they always care,
even though you may be hurting,
Grandparents love you'll be earning.

By Katelyn Veldman

Grandparents are a joy to us and to our lives. Grandparents are like sugar because they are super sweet and always like to spoil their grandchildren. They are very generous and would do almost anything for their grandchildren. Grandparents are also rainbows. They are always shining and always positive and never really down. Grandparents also have a river of love that never runs dry. When parents forget some of their patience or love, the grandparents are there to pick up the slack. Grandparents are sweet, sugary, and syrupy. Grandparents are like libraries. They are always full of information you need and they seem like they are ageless and go on forever. Grandparents also can kill two birds with one stone when they are trying to prove a point.

They are also like bank accounts that store up a lot of riches for their grandchildren, especially wisdom. They are very kind and are like a home, bringing up the grandchildren in love. Grandparents are also like mothers watching over their grandchildren making sure they stay on the right path. They always hit the nail on the head in every situation, which means that they always know what is right at every moment. Grandparents also give the benefit of the doubt which means they will believe what a grandchild says without proof. Grandparents are also like tanks, they just keep on going no matter what has happened to them, They just let the bullets bounce off them. So all in all, grandparents are wonderful people and we should always treasure them.

By Kierijan Kottelenberg

Grandparents:

I love my grandparents because they make me feel special. They are always there for me, in the good times and bad. Grandparents are loving, kind, caring, and compassionate. If I do something wrong, they love me anyway. Grandparents are the start of a new generation. A grandparent is someone with silver in their hair and gold in their heart. I love my grandparents because single moments with them can become priceless memories. Grandparents are very special people, and their love will never grow old. My grandparents always make me smile. I love my grandparents.

By Rachel Veldman

Grandparents

Grandparents are always there to offer their support,
They cherish many memories of days gone by,
And share them with us so they won't die,
They show us compassion, love, and kindness in the
fullest measure,
And in our hearts abide forever, they are to us like
treasure

Grandparents hearts are full of gold,
I strive to show and pass on that love they show, so I like
them may sew,
The seeds of love they too kindled so long ago, And I will
tell my children their tales of old, Showing thankfulness
to our Lord,
For the greatest grandparents in the world

By: Alayna Leyenhorst

Grandparents

They are scrolls with many a wrinkle
But come so valuable without a crinkle
They declare many thousands of memories
And send out tales of treasures
They are the books all tattered and worn
But out of the pages, stories are born
Like Redwood trees, they carry years of
wonder which every child yearns to ponder
Although their silver hair may grow faint
Their hearts will be ever-so-coated with
golden paint Whether side by side or far
apart,
Grandparents will always be surrounding our
heart Grandparents around the world are
everywhere
But none like mine can I compare

By Kyleigh DeMooy

Grandparents

We all know what Grandparents do...love, spoil, care, repeat. Although we might not show it outwardly, we sure are thankful for everything they do for us. They are a flowing fountain of all love and riches and ageless in their wisdom and knowledge. They are like libraries; they store up everything over the years, and their grandchildren can "check out" their "books." Grandparents care for us, more caring than a nurse, and tending wounds deeper than pits in our hearts. To put it a different way, they are "parents" that are grand, but young in spirit. Although they are grey on the outside, they have a heart of gold on the inside. Grandparents do so much for us. We sometimes say that they will bite off more than they can chew. As like a fence and gate is a grandparents' wisdom. There is a gate and if you take the gate, it will lead to wisdom, but there is no shortcut over that fence. They are also soldiers of Christ, who fight the good fight against the devil and protect weak children from his grip. They are as faithful as a German Shepherd and as graceful as an eagle. Just as rubies and emeralds shine in the sun, so do they shine in the Word of God.

By: Samuel Kleyn



Grandma Poem

Sometimes they ask me if I want to come along
With a hop, skip, and a jump to grandmom's
We pray for you every day
Encouraging you day by day
And never forgetting you
You ask me if I need anything
Because you care
If I need a ride
You get me there
We love you anywhere
You will help us anywhere
And will never get mad
While anyone is bad.

Grandpa Poem

Grandpa is helpful
He will help me when I need it
Like a nice fellow
When he says it he means it
He wants to help
If I yelp
He will not hesitate
To even try to make me levitate
He is always on the road
Traveling anywhere
Even if something will erode
Been almost everywhere

By: Lincoln VanDiest

Grandparents

Grandparents are a fire burning with wisdom
and faith stars shining
Bright in the darkest night blazing warmth
When everything is cold,
A path
When confusion strikes,
A tender laugh
When nothing else is worth it, A memory
When the past is difficult, Comfort
When nothing makes sense

By: Courtney Kuiper

Grandparents

Grandparents are very special to me
They contribute their wisdom and pride
Every time I see them they give me glee
And they are always there to help guide.

Our grandparents should be the people we
want to be
And that is easy to see.
So many smiles you to us gave,
Even when we did not behave.

They show their respect to you
While still try to help enlighten you along the
way
Even though you may make a mistake
yesterday
They will still love you today

By:Desi Veldman

Grandparents-

Just think of all the times grandparents did something for you? I can remember once my cousin and I were stuck. We did not know anything about what to write so we went to my grandma and she helped us, and taught us, how to write and get information on the speech. Grandparents are amazing in so many ways. They are there for you when you feel like all is lost. They are like a mother lion carrying for their cubs; they care for you and don't want to let you get hurt. They are compassionate in ways you don't even realize. They may be helping you and we could not even be aware; but, we should remember to thank them for everything. In the Bible it talks about them sustaining you and caring for you; they will be there to rescue you. Just think about that they did all this, and what they still do! We need our grandparents. But as they grow old, they gain more wisdom that they are most likely willing to share with you, just ask. They are here to tell the next generation about the gospel. They carry on what has been told throughout the generations. So, grandparents, thank you for everything that you have done.

By Joel Hofford

Grandparents:

Their tender hearts are always glowing
Without you ever even knowing.
There is absolutely nothing above
a grandparent's deep love.
Grandparents are amazing people that you
can look up to,
No matter what horrible things you can go
through.

Whenever you are in trouble
They'll be there on the double.
Grandparents are as bright as stars
They even drive really old cars.

We share in our undoubted belief
Which is a gigantic relief.
They won't ever get mad
Whenever I do something bad.
He gathers lots of valuable stamps
And I sometimes call him gramps.
She sometimes has bad hearing
But she always has nice earrings.
So in the end, they will always love me
And they will always enjoy filling me with
glee.

By: Zander Veldman

GRANDPARENTS

Grandparents are a delightful blend of laughter, caring deeds, wonderful stories and love. My grandparents are full of great love and wonderful joy. They always lend a helping hand when I need it most. They are like stars: you may not always see them, but they are always there. They are always around, even though you may not see them. When they die, we will not see them, but that does not mean that they are not there. They will go to heaven and when we die, we will be in heaven with them, glorifying God. In Ecclesiastes 12: 9 it says: "In addition to being a wise man, the preacher also taught the people knowledge; and he pondered, searched out and arranged many proverbs." My grandparents are very wise.

The most precious jewels around your neck are your grandparents arms. They are always willing to give you a hug when you need it most and are always there when you are in your highs and in your lows. Grandparents may be old but their love will never go old. They will always keep their grandchildren in their hearts and will never forget them. Their love is like concrete, it will never go old. When they enter the room, discipline flies out the window and won't come back until they leave. They spoil their grandchildren like a flood and in return, grandchildren give them joy and laughter.

Grandmas will hold your hand for a while but they will never let go of your heart. They create memories that the heart will always hold. A grandfather is someone who has silver in his hair and gold in his heart. People say that they have never met a hero, but I say that they have never met my grandpa. They love you ten times as much as they love a cup of coffee. (that is a lot) :) My grandparents are awesome!

Grandparents

Grandparents are touching to our hearts
Never letting go
Forever and ever
They are my heroes

Either side by side or miles apart
A grandparent is always close to the heart
They hold our hands for a little while
But our hearts forever

Grandpa has a little silver in his hair
And some gold in his heart
Grandma can see what looks invisible to the eye
Because she looks in the heart
They're a treasure in the family
A gift of greatest price
There's no one quite as special
Or no one quite as nice.

By Christina Johnson



Grandparents

In my grandparents house there is a sign, "Some of our greatest blessings call us Grandpa and Grandma." The same is for us, it is a great blessing to call people our grandparents.

Grandparents help us with so much, they are a big part of our lives and set an example to all those around. Grandparents fill the world with love and knowledge. Our grandparents give us advice and teach us in the way we should go. They are a blessing to everyone. Grandparents help strengthen us in our faith and teach us how to glorify God with all our actions.

Grandparents aren't perfect and neither are we, but they always forgive us when we make mistakes and will always love us.

Grandparents give us anything we need and more. They are very giving of their time, and are always willing to help us. They spoil us not only with candy but also their love. I love spending time with them, and learning more from them. Grandparents help us as we go through life with all of their experience and advice. Grandparents are very patient with us and when they teach us they always do it in a loving way. Our Grandparents are a gift from God and I am very thankful for them. Whenever we get the chance it is important for us to spend time with them and learn from them. We should never take them for granted and be thankful for the times we have with them. I love my grandparents.

By: Reagan Berends

Poem

Grandparents are like pieces of a puzzle
Without them, our families aren't complete.
If you are scared,
They won't hesitate to give you a snuggle.
They don't get mad
When someone is bad.
Grandmas are moms with lots of frosting
While grandpas have silver hair
And a heart of gold never stopping
Grandparents' smile is like sunshine,
And their love lasts all time and is never torn.
They hold us when we are born,
But they hold our hearts forever.

By Blake DeMooy



Grandparents

Grandparents never die, they will be forever embedded in your memory,
There are many names: oma, opa, grandpa, grandma, nanny...

The same water (grandparent) that softens the potato: (your heart,)
also boils the egg; (giving us wisdom and memories) changing it forever,
Making you strong enough to fight the devil in his attack

Once you are boiled you can't go back,

As Ecclesiastes 12 verse 11b says,

"Masters of these collections are like well-driven nails; they are given by one Shepherd."

We know that the words put in their mouth are there by God

That should keep our hearts from being soft and unfrozen.

They are our parents, only a generation older, a generation wiser.

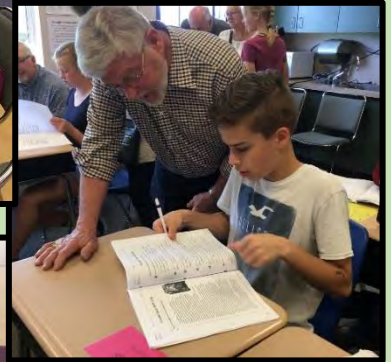
Ten things that we learn from our grandparents are:

History, new skills, wisdom, family history, humor, listening, games,

Emotional support, the list could go on and on.

What we learn goes on us thereupon. We love our grandparents with all our heart, and listening to their wise words is smart.

By: Brent DeMooy



Grandparents Day!



2018/2019 School Calendar

Aug. 28 – First Day of School
 Sept. 3 – Labor Day
 Oct. 4 – In-Service Day
 Oct. 5 – Fall Break
 Oct. 8 – Columbus Day
 Oct. 17 – PSAT Test Date
 Oct. 26 – HS 1st Qtr Reports
 Oct. 29 & 31 – HS P/T Conferences
 Nov. 12 – Veteran's Day Observed
 Nov. 21 – Elem Term 1 Report Cards
 Nov. 22 – Thanksgiving Day
 Nov. 23 – Thanksgiving Break
 Nov. 26 – Early Release (11:55am)
 Nov. 26, & 28 – Elem P/T Conferences
 Dec. 14 – Christmas Concert
 Dec. 22 – Jan 4 – Christmas Break
 Jan. 7 – First Day of School 2018
 Jan. 18 – HS 2nd Qtr Reports

Jan. 21 – Martin Luther King Day
 Jan. 22, 23 – HS P/T Conferences
 Jan. 25 – Prof. Development Day
 Feb. 14, 15 – Mid-Winter Break
 Feb. 18 – President's Day
 Mar. 1 – Elem Term 2 Report Cards
 Mar. 4 – Early Release (11:55am)
 Mar. 4&6 – Elem P/T Conferences
 Mar. 22 – HS 3rd Qtr Reports
 Apr. 1-5 – Spring Break
 Apr. 19 – Good Friday
 May 3 – Public Speaking Contest
 May 24 – Sports Day
 May 27 – Memorial Day
 May 30 – Ascension Day
 June 3 – Quad School Track Meet
 June 7 – Eighth Grade Graduation
 June 15 – Last Day of School/Sr. Graduation

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Vice-Chairman:	Jeff Brown
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Ed Comm Liaison:	Jon Dykstra
Secretary:	Jeff Brown
Treasurer:	Steve Hofford
Staff & Membership Admin	Rick DeMooy

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Leanne Veldman	Sharon Veldman

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Karla Leyenhorst	Bookkeeper
Kari VanDiest	Secretary

Teaching Staff

Grade 1/2:

Shari Kruyswijk	Bible, Math, History, Art
Janet Faber	LA, Music, Science
Darryn Kleyn	PE

Grade 3/4:

Debbie Johnson	Bible, Math 3, LA3, Science
Ellen Davis	L.A 4, Music, History
Stephen Houweling	Math 4
Darryn Kleyn	PE
Karen DeMooy	Art

Grade 5/6:

Lynette Van Hofwegen	
Ellen Davis	Music
Janita Willis	PE

Grade 7/8:

Stephen Houweling	
Janita Willis	History, PE
Debbie Faber	Art
Jack Marissen	Science

High School:

Wayne Chase	Bible/History/Math
Debbie Faber	Art
Darryn Kleyn	PE, Web Design, Bus. Math
Janita Willis	English, Yearbook
Jack Marissen	Science, Math
Darlene VanStaalduinen	Spanish



It was a stormy night on Wednesday, February 28... However, a small gathering of interested parents, teachers, educational assistants, etc. joined the reps of Connect at the Aldergrove Canadian Reformed Church to learn more about dyslexia. Cathy McMillan, a founding member of Dyslexia BC, was introduced to us by Deborah Huttema. She would be the presenter for the evening. Cathy, herself, is dyslexic and was very open about her struggles. Two of her children are also dyslexic so she not only has personal experience of being a dyslexic but also that of a parent trying to help her child(ren). Two awesome, helpful perspectives.

The bulk of the evening was spent watching the movie "The Big Picture: Rethinking Dyslexia". This was a very eye-opening movie. Because of the stormy night, though, the movie was cut short – the power went out and didn't come back on. Not too worry, we had a wonderful question and answer session over coffee in the foyer! Some of the big take-a-ways for me were:



- The importance of early diagnosis and intense intervention!
- Dyslexia is a life long condition and therefore a life long journey.
- Each dyslexic student presents dyslexia differently – they have varying degrees of fine motor difficulties, varying spelling abilities, varying degrees of reading fluency or comprehension, varying writing abilities, etc.
- Part of the brain is affected in a dyslexic person – the part that helps with doing things automatically (like seeing the letter 'b' and knowing it's a 'b' automatically!). Dyslexics need to do this 'manually'. This takes time - which affects the child's processing speeds, their visual memory and working memory. This makes it very hard for dyslexics to read and remember what they have read. It even makes it hard to remember their locker combination!
- Children with dyslexia may have performance anxiety showing up as nausea, stomach aches, headaches, nervous habits, avoidance rituals, etc. already early on in their schooling careers.
- Children with dyslexia are creative, bright, talented and out-of-the-box thinkers. They should be encouraged to use their strengths alongside the various supports that should be available to them at school and at home (use of technology, highlighters, repetition, drawing diagrams/pictures, etc).
- Work with and around the strengths and weakness – don't just focus on the deficits but also the strengths of a person with dyslexia.
- Children with dyslexia are often strong visual learners even though their working memory and visual memory may not be on par with their peers.

If you'd like to learn more, please contact the Connect group or check out the Connect Facebook page which hopes to post some of the resources Cathy McMillan mentioned during the presentation and the question and answer session.

All in all, this evening was very beneficial! Thanks to the Connect Group for making this available to us!
Mary-Ann Vandergugten, Kindergarten teacher @ JCS

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