

# The Lynden LINK

Vol. 14 - Nu. 6, June 19, 2016

Cornerstone Christian School  
~~ Lynden, WA ~~

## Chairman's Report

Dear Members of the Cornerstone Christian School Community:

This past few weeks has been a flurry of activity at CCS.....sports days, class trips, report cards, and more! An exciting time, to be sure.... especially for students who have eagerly anticipated the end of the school year.

On June 3, we could witness the graduation of this year's 8th grade students.... congratulations Grads! On June 10, we also saw the graduation of this year's seniors from high school - congratulations to you as well, Grads! Each of these events was very well attended - both by our own community, and also by lots of guests and visitors.....always a good sign! Also, a good time for reflection on the blessings we have received from our Heavenly Father.

We're glad that the staff and students can now enjoy a time of relaxation and recharging over the summer holiday, and we wish them the Lord's blessing in their time away from school! To our principal and teachers, we express our thanks for all of your work and dedication this past year - we hope you have a memorable summer!

On May 3, we had our spring membership meeting, which was also well attended. We heard a powerful presentation by Neil Dykstra - "No Neutral Ground", which was hosted by the Education Committee, and we had the opportunity to discuss budgetary considerations for our school society. On behalf of the board, thank you for coming, and showing your interest in what goes on "behind the scenes" at CCS!

Also, recently, our membership was queried in the form of a survey, in order for the board to get a sense of how our community perceives the school, and where there may be room for us to improve what we do. There was an excellent level of

participation by the CCS Community - thank you for your help in this matter! The responses were very positive, and were indicative of a great level of support and satisfaction by the community with how things go at CCS. There were also some helpful suggestions for improvement that the Strategic Planning Committee will use in their work to prepare a long term plan for our school to the board.

Speaking of membership..... it is a privilege to welcome Dustin and Sarah Wielenga as the newest members of our society! Dustin and Sarah, we're glad to have you as members of Cornerstone Christian School Society, and we thank you for your support!

To all of the volunteers who worked so hard over the school year (there are many of you in many committees / boards / work parties / etc), a hearty "Thank You" for all of your work and dedication! Enjoy the summer!

In conclusion, we look back with thankfulness at the Lord's great faithfulness which he has shown us again this past school year. We praise him for his goodness, and we pray for his continued blessing on us all during the summer!

On behalf of the school board,  
Cason VanDriel  
Chairman



# Short Reports of the Board

## **Short Report, Cornerstone Christian School Board May 2, 2016**

The chairman, C. Vandriel, opened with a reading of Proverbs 30 and prayer. The minutes from Part I of the previous meeting were approved with no changes. The agenda was adopted as proposed.

Several items of incoming mail were received and dealt with appropriately.

The principal, D. Kleyn, shared his latest report with the board. Items of focus included the upcoming visit of Christine Van Halen and its associated presentations and meetings; the upcoming Senior graduation dinner on June 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:15pm.

K. Veldman reported on behalf of the SMA that a teacher's H1-B visa renewal is underway. He also reported that Cornerstone's immigration lawyer recommended we seek a permanent work status for this same teacher. The Board agreed this would be a good idea and will pursue prior to the next required H1-B renewal.

R. Faber reported on behalf of the CBM. His points of highlight included the likelihood that Inspire will not be renting our facilities beyond the 2016 summer. This will have a significant impact on our budget. He further reported that the school network is performing much better after some upgrades.

The Education Committee (H. Klos) presented the Board with a proposed annual planning calendar for use by the committee itself, as well as a proposed revision to the classroom visit schedule. Both items received Board approval.

A brief update was received on the Education Scholarship Fund.

The Evaluation Committee submitted two evaluations for Board approval: the CCS Annual Self Evaluation and the CCS 3 Year Principal Evaluation. These will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Under General Matters, the Board reviewed its annual calendar and noted that things are on track. Preparations for the annual Membership Meeting were discussed.

Action items were reviewed and the next regular meeting was set for June 6 at 7:30pm.

After a short break, the meeting continued with the approval of Part II of the minutes from the April meeting. There were no changes. The agenda was also adopted with no changes.

There was no incoming mail.

The treasurer, S. Hofford, shared his report. Items of focus included the submission of an official 2016/17 Pledge Form for Board approval; a discussion of how to best adjust the budget due to the recent Inspire news; a request for a thank you letter to be sent after receiving a special donation.

Action items were reviewed.

K. Veldman closed the meeting with prayer.

## **Short Report, Cornerstone Christian School Board June 6, 2016**

The chairman, C. Vandriel, opened with a reading of Proverbs 31 and prayer. The minutes from Part I of the previous meeting were approved with no changes. The minutes of the Spring Membership Meeting were approved with minor changes.

The agenda was adopted with minor changes.

Several items of incoming mail were received and dealt with appropriately.

Darryn Kleyn shared his latest Principal's Report with the board. Items of focus included recognition of the work of a volunteer; the upcoming high school graduation; the possibility of opening enrollment in the Technic Training Center courses to 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade. The board gave approval for pursuit of this possibility.

R. Faber reported on behalf of the CBM that the school only carries \$200k in content replacement insurance coverage. Should there be a catastrophic event, \$200k would likely be insufficient to replace the full contents of the building. The Board agreed to pursue adding additional coverage.

The Education Committee liaison, H. Klos, presented the Board with an update on the work of the Science Curriculum Review Committee as well as a book recommendation by Christine Van Halen, Virtuous Minds.

A brief update was received on the Education Scholarship Fund. Further details will be reported once the scholarship is awarded.

Cason VanDriel reported on behalf of the Strategic Planning Committee. The results of the recent survey are in but have not yet been compiled and reviewed. The committee plans to be active through the spring of 2017.

The Evaluation Committee submitted two evaluations for Board approval: the CCS Annual Self Evaluation and the CCS 3 Year Principal Evaluation. The Annual Self Evaluation will continue to be reviewed. The Three Year Principal Evaluation was approved.

Under General Matters, the Board reviewed its annual calendar and noted that things are on track. The Spring Membership Meeting was reviewed, including feedback from the society. The society's meeting with Christine Van Halen was also reviewed.

Action items were reviewed and the next regular meeting was set for July 25th at 7:30pm. The annual "big-picture" meeting was set for July 26th at 7:30pm.

After a short break, the meeting continued with the approval of Part II of the minutes from the April meeting. There were no changes. The agenda was also adopted with minor changes.

Incoming mail was reviewed and dealt with appropriately.

A special meeting to discuss future financial and budget planning was scheduled for June 27th at 7:30pm.

The treasurer, S. Hofford, shared his report. Items of focus included discussion regarding membership donations to the CCRTC. These questions will be investigated by the Treasurer.

Action items were reviewed.

J. Brown closed the meeting with prayer.



**Onward & Upwards!**

**Congratulations 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduates!**



---

## Treasurer Report

It's probably safe to say that many in our community are breathing a collective sigh of relief about now. The end of another academic year signifies the completion of a lot of hard work. But much was accomplished, so congratulations to staff and students on a job well done!

We are thankful for God's blessing on the educational work of the past year, and we are also thankful for His financial provision. Providing a good education without outside funding is expensive, so we need God's blessing on the daily work of the parents just as much as we need his blessing on the work done at the school. Without steady employment among the membership, we would be unable to maintain our financial basis. So thank you to parents and members who work so diligently all year long to provide the financial backing for this educational enterprise.

The academic year is finished, but our fiscal year ends on July 31. You should have received a statement of your remaining obligations for 2015/16,

so please make a point of verifying that our bookkeeping and yours are in agreement. If not, please contact me or Karla as soon as possible.

We also want to start the new fiscal year on a good foundation. To that end, note that the tuition and dues rates starting August 1 are as follows:

- Tuition with oldest child in grades 1-4 - \$567
- Tuition with oldest child in grades 5-8 - \$773
- Tuition with oldest child in grades 9-12 - \$927
- Membership dues - \$150
- Membership dues (with oldest child within two years of entry) - \$227

Based on this, please make sure that you have made it clear to Karla how and when you will be paying your tuition, dues, and operating pledge (if applicable).

Thank you, and have a great summer!  
Steve Hofford



**Sports Day**



## Ed Comm Report

During the 2015-2016 school year, the Education Committee continued to consider curriculum review, parent information presentations, senior projects, and more, always looking to our mission and vision statements as a guide to where our school should be. An example: we as a school society have agreed that our school should teach students discernment between good and evil in every aspect of education. The Education Committee has spent significant effort in making sure our curriculum meets this standard. A thorough review of the Science program has been taking place for a while, and will continue to happen over the summer and into the 2016-2017 school year. In many subjects, but especially in Science, finding materials

that are easily accessible to students and useful for teachers is one thing, but to find these materials developed with a clear understanding of Scripture proves to be more difficult. We remain thankful to our knowledgeable and wise teachers, who are able to work with the textbooks they are given. When the textbook does not do justice to God's Word or to the awe due to God for what He has created and continues to sustain, we trust these teachers can provide ample opportunities to discuss with their students this antithesis that we find so important. Ed Comm members have found the time to meet with the Science teachers to review the current Science texts and to make plans for how Science will be

taught going forward. The summer is upon us, but the work continues.

The Ed Comm also has been busy with parent information presentations. We trust you enjoyed and found value in both the presentation about parental responsibility in education from Neil Dykstra during our membership meeting and the evening presentation about character formation from Christine van Halen-Faber. The Ed Comm was also pleased to join the Board to hear a dinner presentation from Mrs. van Halen-Faber about how a school like ours can re-vision and re-articulate its mission and vision statements from generation to generation. We were impressed by the wisdom and enthusiasm of both Mrs. van Halen-Faber and Mr. Dykstra, and appreciated their willingness to take the time to speak to us – what an honor it was!

You may think that the students are aching for summer holidays by now, but think again: we have already received a senior project proposal for 2016-2017! Alec, we look forward to hearing more from you about your exciting project, and for the other incoming 12<sup>th</sup> graders, we eagerly await your meaningful and ambitious proposals at the end of the summer.

As school society members, we expect our school to be characterized as one full of students who seek excellence. In your summer plans, continue to seek excellent learning opportunities – in a less formal setting than the schoolroom – from and for your children. Encourage your child's curiosity, creativity, and wonder. Make opportunities to connect real life experiences during the summer to what your child has learned in school, whether it's a visit to a zoo that connects to a Science unit on animals, or a summer trip that stops through a historic site that your child might have heard about in History, or a backyard project that requires the use of some of the math principles your child learned this year. Challenge your child with addition or multiplication facts while you're driving together to the grocery store or washing the dishes. Above all, encourage your child to develop and use those incredible God-given talents he or she has been given for the glory of God and for the benefit of others.

For Ed Comm,  
Stephen Chase

---

## Principal Report

The curtain has fallen on the 14<sup>th</sup> school year at Cornerstone Christian School. What a blessing to be able to send our children to a Reformed school where scripture and confessions are held in high esteem in the various classrooms. It's a humbling thought to consider the role we as parents and teachers play in the instruction of the covenant youth. Sometimes we can feel so inadequate because of our sin and weakness; how can we possibly live up to the standard of our Savior as we seek to be role models for our children?! Thankfully, the Holy Spirit is working through the Word; in our hearts and in the hearts of our children. May we continue to receive the strength to be good examples for our children and to point them to Christ as the only source of their comfort, joy and future!

### Graduations

We have two groups of newly crowned graduates. One group, our eighth graders, will move on into high school next year at CCS. The other group, our seniors, transfer into a new and exciting phase of their life either in the work force or to college for further study. Senior Grads: thank-you for your contribution to a positive school culture at CCS. Continue to develop a *virtuous* character deeply rooted in the Word of God and may the school theme this year cause you to *offer your heart promptly and sincerely* in the Lord's service.

The last few weeks have been a time filled with joy and thankfulness for the students arriving at these milestones. A hearty thank-you to all those who offered their time and talents to making sure all the 'moving parts' of these events were handled well. I appreciate all the parents who band together to organize the dinner, decorations, coffee & cake, the clean-up etc. It's a real community effort!

### New Electives!

Back in February I was able to report on two new hands-on electives on offer for next year's juniors and seniors. The first elective is an Engineering course to be taught by Greg Faber and a cast of community teachers. The second is the Technic Training Center (TTC) – a cabinetry/wood working 'shop' class opportunity through Lynden Door. After receiving the course selections back from the students in April - it became clear that the majority of students (boys) were eager to take the Engineering course. There were not enough students to make the TTC a viable option for next year. However, after further discussions with the TTC director, the TTC board agreed to allow this elective to be offered to our 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders. There has been an excited response to this offer so that 10 students will be enrolled in the TTC elective for next year. The course will be offered after school for 2 sessions per week, to fit the TTC and CCS schedules. In the

coming months, a curriculum will be drawn up and a community volunteer teacher (with cabinetry/wood working experience) will be sought to help out with the class. If you have an interest in helping with this class, please let me know.

These are exciting opportunities for our students and I'm very thankful for the support of Greg Faber (Faber Construction), Dave Bren (Washington Engineering Institute) and John Slagle (TTC Director) for their willingness to bring these options to fruition for our students. Maybe sometime next year we can have a Parent Information Evening to share these electives 'in action'.

### Calendar

Elsewhere in the *Link*, you'll see the schedule for the 2016/17 school year. We try and include as many of the regular events on the calendar as possible so that you're able to bend your (children's) schedule around the school schedule. We hope this helps you plan your vacations and such – so that the students have maximum opportunity for class contact and success throughout the school year.

### Administration

There has been a lot of committee work this year! We can be thankful for so many diligent society members who are willing to serve in a variety of capacities in an effort to improve our education program. There has been considerable work in the area of curriculum review, school evaluation and strategic planning. This work will continue well into next year. I'm invigorated by the desire to evaluate where we're at and to look at ways to improve and build on the strong foundation that has been laid over the past 14 years. As we receive feedback and as we discuss the future we must confess that "unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it." (Ps. 127)

It's been a pleasure serving alongside our board members this year. Our chairman does a great job leading the team and being available for discussion and/or decision making. The board collectively work well together juggling their individual responsibilities. Thank-you, members of the board, for your service and support!

Finally, what a pleasant reality that there is no need to farewell or welcome any staff members this year! As administration we appreciate the opportunity for good continuity from one year to the next.

### Prayers

We continue to remember Ruben Bosscher in prayer before the throne of Grace. It's looking very likely that his treatments will extend into the new school year. From here too, we wish Ruben much strength during this trial. The treatments don't get any easier as the body becomes weaker. May the Lord continue to be your rock and strength and may you continue to experience His supporting hand in the coming months.

### Summer Time

Summer is a time to refresh our batteries from the regular work that goes on in the school. Of course, our minds don't go on 'sleep' mode; we continue to receive opportunities to learn every day. Enjoy your travelling, other work, and family leisure time as great opportunities for many learning experiences. Keep reading, keep observing and continue thinking....and at the same time receive the rest you need to begin the next school year.

With that, I wish you all a wonderful summer vacation. May the Lord bring us back together again on the first day of the new year: August 30.

Darryn Kleyn



Grade 1 Day!





---

## IT & CBM Reports

The 2015-2016 year is now complete. We thank our Heavenly Father for the many blessings we have received this past year.

Both committee's had a lot to do, and we had all the volunteers and resources to do the things that were planned.

The IT committee just recently upgraded our internet. We now have a much faster speed and are able to have many more people logged on at the same time without having computers drop off. The staff is very pleased as that was a big problem.

The CBM continues to see the ageing of our school. More and more of the budget goes to replacement parts rather than new and exciting things around the

school. Many door closers, door handles, faucets and valves are being replaced. The tree's in front of the gym were replaced. We lost one due to high winds this winter and the two remaining would have had to be supported by cables and anchors to keep them upright. Due to safety concerns with cables it was decided to replace them.

Thank you to the volunteers that continue to help maintain our beautiful facility. Special recognition to the cleaners, who do such a great job in the daily cleaning of the classrooms. Your effort and hard work is much appreciated.

Wishing All a Blessed summer. Ron Faber

---

## Ladies Aid Report

And just like that, the school year is over!

What a great time to look back in thankfulness for all the Lord has blessed us with as a school community- for dedicated teachers and principal, for hardworking students, for abundant volunteers, and for a positive, Godly school environment. It is definitely not something to take for granted! So to all who are involved in making the school run smoothly- THANK YOU!

The spring was busy with lots of fundraisers. The volleyball tournament was a big success, and the Sports Day lunch was yummy and ran smoothly. The plant sale brought in \$3500, and the VanWingerden certificates \$943, for a total of \$4443- wow! The garage sale was also a success, bringing in \$1450. To all who worked on committees, volunteered their time, or financially supported these fundraisers- a big thank you!

The Volunteer Blitz poster went up in May and we are happy to report that all the committees have been filled up except the Volleyball Tournament committee (which needs just one more member).

We were also surprised to see there were no nominations for the Ladies Aid Board ;) So please consider if you can help out in either of these ways!

Even though summer break is here, there are still fundraisers ongoing. You can bring in your cell phones and ink cartridges, collect your Boxtops, order dishbrushes or cookbooks, or pick up some apple pies or pie bottoms and tops (reduced to just \$5 each)!

Finally, we are excited about a new fundraising opportunity for this summer- operating a food booth at the Northwest Washington Fair! These booths do not often come available, so we are jumping at the chance to get our foot in the door. This is of course a huge undertaking, and we are thankful to Lydia, Irene, Stephanie and Kelli for spearheading this opportunity. It will take a big community effort, but it has the potential to be a great fundraiser, so we look forward to your willingness to help out and make this a success!

For the Ladies Aid, Rianne Kruyswijk

---

## A New Opportunity at the Northwest Washington Fair

These are exciting times! The CCS Ladies Aid will be officially running a food booth at the Northwest Washington Fair! Mark your calendars – August 15th – 20th – because we hope we can count on your help.

Lydia Faber and Irene Hicks will be taking charge of planning the menu and will be dividing the work hours between them, so that one of them will always be present in the booth during the week of the Fair. Later this summer Stephanie Bareman will be approaching you to consider whether you can take a shift (or two or three...) so that we can make our first

foray into booth rental a success! Kelli Kobes will be our treasurer, dedicated to counting the money late into the night, keeping careful track of the expenses and revenue and Rianne Kruyswijk will be the CCS Ladies Aid liaison.

As you can imagine, running the booth will take many, many volunteers. For now, we would love to recruit a number of volunteers who would be willing to dedicate most of one day to operating the booth. If you think you could clear a day during Fair week to help us out, please let Stephanie Bareman know and we'll see where we can schedule you in.

Let the Fair fun begin! NWWF Committee

## Education Scholarship Fund Update

Our newly formed committee's mandate is to promote careers in the teaching profession among Cornerstone's grads and alumni, with the goal of helping to ensure teaching staff for our school in the future. The scholarship is funded by donations from members of our community on a year to year basis.

We are pleased to announce that Hannah Klos is the recipient of Cornerstone's inaugural Education Scholarship in the amount of \$1300. Congratulations, Hannah! We wish you the Lord's blessing in your further studies at Dordt College in the fall.

On behalf of the ESF Committee, Melanie Kottelenberg

---



## Congratulations Class of 2016!

Austin, Cody, Aaron, Nicholas, Ethan, Shawn

Amanda, Marina, Rachel, Mikayla, Natalie



# 2016 – 2017 School Calendar

Aug. 30 – First Day of School  
 Sept. 5 – Labor Day  
 Oct. 6 – In-Service Day  
 Oct. 7 – Fall Break  
 Oct. 10 – Columbus Day  
 Feb. 15 - President's Day  
 Oct. 13 – PSAT Test Date  
 Oct. 28 – HS First Qtr Reports  
 Oct.31/Nov. 1– HS P/T Conferences  
 Nov. 11- Veteran's Day  
 Nov. 23 – Elem First Term Reports  
 Nov. 24 – Thanksgiving Day  
 Nov. 25 – Thanksgiving Break  
 Nov. 28 – Early Release 11:55am  
 Nov. 28,30 – Elem P/T Conferences  
 Dec 16- Last Day of School 2016  
 Dec 19 – Jan 2 - Christmas Break  
 Jan 3 - Return to School 2017  
 Jan 16 - Martin Luther King Day

Jan 20- HS Second Quarter Reports  
 Jan 23,24 - HS P/T Conferences  
 Feb 3 – PD Day  
 Feb 16,17 - Mid-Winter Break  
 Feb 20 – President's Day  
 Mar 3 - Elementary Report Cards - Term 2  
 Mar 6 – Early Release – 11:55am  
 Mar 6,8 - Elementary P/T Conferences  
 Mar 24 - High School Third Quarter Reports  
 Apr 3-7- Spring Break  
 Apr 13 – Easter Concert  
 April 14 – Good Friday  
 May 5 – Public Speaking Contest  
 May 25 – Ascension Day  
 May 29 - Memorial Day  
 June 2 – Sports Day  
 June 5 - Quad School Track Meet  
 June 9 – Eighth Grade Graduation  
 June 16 - Last Day of School / Senior Graduation

## Board:

Chairman:	Cason VanDriel
Vice-Chairman:	Henry Klos
Building Liaison:	Ron Faber
Secretary:	Jeff Brown
Treasurer:	Steve Hofford
Staff & Membership Admin	Kolin Veldman

## Building/Maintenance Committee

Dave Burger	Ron Faber
Jon Kruyswijk	Kam Veldman

## Education Committee

Stephen Chase	Jon Dykstra
Darryn Kleyn	Ellen Davis
Henry Klos	Rianne Kruyswijk

## IT Committee

Ray Buitenbos	Ron Faber
Steve Hofford	Jack Marissen

## Finance Committee

Janice DeMooy	Rick Faber
Brian Hendricks	Dave Hofford
Steve Hofford	Kim Sytsma

## Library Committee

Ellen Davis	Shona Doornbos
Debbie Johnson	Karla Leyenhorst

## Ladies Aid Committee

Janet Brown	Kaylene Hofford
Rianne Kruyswijk	Kim Sytsma

## Administration Staff

Darryn Kleyn	Principal
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, LA3, Science
Ellen Davis	L.A 4, Music, History
Darryn Kleyn	PE

### Grade 5/6:

Lynette Van Hofwegen	
Ellen Davis	Music
Edmund Nederveen	PE, Math 6
Stephen Houweling	Writing 5,6

### Grade 7/8:

Stephen Houweling	
Edmund Nederveen	History, PE
Debbie Faber	Art
Jack Marissen	Science

### High School:

Wayne Chase	Bible/History/English/Math
Debbie Faber	Art
Stephen Houweling	Behind The Scenes
Darryn Kleyn	PE, Personal Finance
Edmund Nederveen	English, History
Jack Marissen	Science, Math
Darlene VanStaalduinen	Spanish
Irene Hicks	Life Skills - Cooking
Karen DeMooy	Life Skills - Sewing

