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**Chairman's Report.....Mr. Cason VanDriel**

Dear Members of the Cornerstone Community,

It's hard to believe, but we're almost 2 months into the 2015/16 school year already! We praise God that he has again provided for us as a school society all that we need to continue operating! How thankful we can be for his abundant provision.

On virtually every front, much work is being done by many people, and we marvel at the Lord's blessing in this regard!

Again, we note that we have a full staff at CCS, that we have an excellent principal at the helm, that we have tremendous support from volunteers, that parental support for the school is strong, and of course, that we have wonderful students at our school! Additionally, we have a wonderful and well cared for facility, and we have been blessed with the financial resources to continue operation.

And of course, we also do well to reflect on the blessing we have in the opportunity for the Reformed Christian education of our children! What a rich blessing to have a school where our children are taught to fear the Lord, where what is taught exactly agrees with what we as parents teach at home, and what our children learn at church and later on in catechism classes. It is easy to take this for granted, especially when it requires sacrifice to keep it going. What a great thing we have been blessed with in Cornerstone Christian School!

Recently, I had the opportunity to attend one evening session of the Principal's Conference which was held at Cedar Springs near Sumas. It was attended by principals of Canadian and American Reformed Schools from Canada and the United States (well, one school from the United States..... our school!), as well as representatives from schools associated with our sister churches in Australia and Holland. It was a very enjoyable and encouraging evening. It was good to be reminded that many other communities like ours are fully engaged in the business of providing Reformed Christian education for their children, and that we are part of a much broader community. It was very neat to be able to attend.

We rejoice along with the Houweling family that their work visas were renewed, and they could resume life as usual for them here in Lynden. We do not know why there was a delay, but we thank the Lord that he provided for them. Also, a heartfelt thank you to all who filled in while Mr. Houweling was not able to be in the classroom. There was much "behind the scenes" orchestrating that took place, and we're glad to have it all behind us. For the students as well, this was not the easiest time, and we are glad with them for the anticipated stability and routine they'll now enjoy!

Also, we express our condolences to 2 of our staff members who recently lost loved ones. Mr. Marrissen's mother in law recently passed away, and Mrs. Kruyswijk's grandmother recently passed away. We pray that the Lord will comfort you and surround you with his love and mercy.

Our annual Membership meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, November 24 @ 8:00 in the church basement. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending this meeting. One of the meeting agenda items involves long term financial considerations that will affect each member of our society (more about this before the meeting). Since this will affect every family sending their children to Cornerstone, it is important that we have as much input and participation as possible. If a member (or family sending their children to CCS) is not able to attend the membership meeting on November 24, please contact a board member so we can arrange a meeting with you shortly after the membership meeting).

Also, the terms of two board members are coming to an end, and the society will be asked to elect two new board members. Eric Brown has served very capably as the clerk of the school board and John Doornbos has also served very capably as the treasurer for our school society. Each of these gentlemen will be missed on the board, and we hope they enjoy a well deserved break. They've done an excellent job during their time on the board, and they will leave big shoes to fill. They've served selflessly, and our society has benefitted from their expertise and effort.

Thankfully, there are capable and willing members in our society who will be able to serve on the board in their place! As a result of the request for nominations from the membership and subsequent discussion at the last board meeting, the following 4 society members have agreed without reservation to let their names stand on the ballot at the upcoming meeting:

Jeff Brown, Jon Dykstra, Steve Hofford, Jan Kottelenberg

We thank each of them for their unqualified willingness to serve - it is much appreciated!

In conclusion, we praise God for the great goodness he has shown to our school, and we pray that we may be good stewards of what he has given us.

## Short Report of the Board.....

### Short Report - September 8, 2015

The chairman C. VanDriel opened the meeting with a reading of Proverbs 21, and then led in prayer. The board minutes for the first half of the August 3, 2015 meeting were approved without changes, and the published agenda was adopted. The board received mail from a staff member regarding IT equipment, a receipt from the Lynden Tribune, and information from Edward Jones.

The Principal discussed his latest report with the board. The following items were discussed: Faith VanDriel managed to sell used books on eBay for a net profit of approximately \$400. This was met with great appreciation. The board briefly discussed the school cleaning schedule that the teachers participate in. Robert Vanderwoerd's interest in CCS was also discussed, and it was agreed to help get him exposure to the school by providing volunteer opportunities. A potential Spring Break schedule change was discussed, and it was decided to change the date to be in line with other schools in the area, provided nobody in the CCS community had a problem with it. The recently updated website work by Jolene Faber was also reviewed; the feedback was positive. The board chairman thanked the principal for his work in getting the school year off to a great start.

The board and principal then spent time discussing the current status of the visa situation for Stephen Houweling. At the time, there was no news regarding renewal, and the community continued to wait.

R. Faber reported on recent work done on the building and IT systems. There had been a large amount of work at the end of the summer to clean up after the departure of the Inspire Group. Also discussed was a possible implementation of US flag etiquette (e.g. two students putting it up in the morning and taking it down at the end of the day, etc). The board agreed that this would be a great item for the CBM to tackle, and at the very least, a new flag should be purchased, as the current one is quite old and worn. In IT, it was reported that five new computers had been installed in the school. The WiFi connectivity issue had seemingly been solved.

Past action items were reviewed and discussed, and the next regular board meeting was scheduled for Monday, October 5th at 7:30 in the school building. The upcoming Big Picture meeting was confirmed for September 22, 2015. The principal was thanked for his time and efforts and left the meeting.

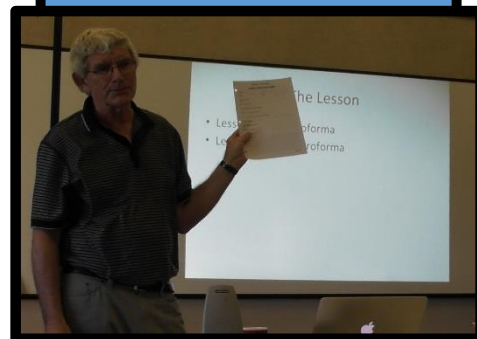
After a break, the board continued with the second half of the meeting, and approved the minutes from the second half of the board meeting of August 3rd, 2015. The published agenda was adopted after adding an item regarding the solicitation of names for school board positions.

J. Doornbos shared the latest treasurer's report, and the board discussed the following items: tuition & dues report, Finance Committee material (golf tournament, 15K race, and the soccer carnival), cash flow issues, and budget and cost savings.

The board briefly discussed two items regarding health care and staffing. Old action items were reviewed and concluded. R. Faber led in prayer to close the meeting.

### Big Picture Meeting - September 23, 2015

C. VanDriel welcomed all to the Big Picture meeting, read from Proverbs 22, and led in prayer. The board reviewed the published agenda and added an item for developing a five-year strategic plan for the school's future. The board reviewed





action items from last year's Big Picture Meeting. It was agreed that the potential new member list should be reviewed at the next regular board meeting.

The board discussed what it could do to attract good teachers to the school. Looking at the long-term future, what can we do to maintain a "live document" of potential candidates for teaching? Generated from the Long-Term Hiring Committee, the principal shared a list of the various ways by which talent could be recruited, including connections at Dordt College, advertising, home-grown talent, word of mouth & Canadian/Australian candidates.

The board discussed ways in which the school could implement a formal mechanism by which reviews could be conducted of the administration and/or board. The principal shared a document that contained evaluation metrics with several questions that could be asked of each group: board, principal, and subcommittees. After more discussion, it was suggested to formulate a temporary subcommittee of three people to come up

with a proposal for the formulation of a longer-standing and more robust committee tasked with the development of such a policy to conduct reviews of the school, board, and principal. J. Doornbos moved to form a three person committee of C. VanDriel, J. Doornbos, and D. Kleyn, to create a mandate to develop a review plan, and bring the mandate to the next regular board meeting of October 5, 2015. The motion was seconded by R. Faber, and was passed with unanimous approval.

The treasurer shared a presentation with the board regarding a detailed breakdown of revenue generation of the school in 2014. The presentation gave a good perspective of the cost of education vs. income breakdown per family. With current trends, the disparity of expenses vs. income will grow. The board discussed in detail possible solutions to this matter, and how to present this challenge to the membership. It was agreed to share the presentation at the next meeting with the Society, thus provoking a conversation with the membership regarding the budget, and long-term sustainability.

### Short Report - October 5, 2015

The chairman C. VanDriel opened the meeting with a reading of Proverbs 23, and then led in prayer. The board minutes for the first half of the September 8, 2015 meeting were approved without changes, and the minutes from the Big Picture Meeting of September 23, 2015 were approved after one change. The published agenda was adopted after adding three items. For mail, the board received a thank-you card.

The principal shared his report with the board. The following items were discussed: appreciation for the work done regarding the recent visa situation, highlights from the recent principal's conference held at Cedar Springs, and the volunteer work done at the school by R. Vanderwoerd. The board further discussed options for utilizing his services. The principal then presented an update on the school lockdown procedure.

For staff and membership, the board discussed matters related to the recent situation with the delayed visa renewal, and what, if anything, could be done better in the future with any other renewal processes.

The board discussed various items including the next steps with regard to forming the board for the administration of the Education Scholarship Fund, the nomination of new board members, and the possibility of implementing a weapons policy at the school.

Action items were reviewed and the next regular board meeting was scheduled for Monday, November 2nd at 7:30 PM in the school building. The membership meeting with the Society was scheduled for November 24, 2015 at 8:00 PM in the church building.

In light of upcoming projected budget deficits, the treasurer asked for input regarding what measures the school could take (from the principal's point of view) to reduce some operational costs. The board discussed.

Action items were reviewed, and the principal was thanked for his time and efforts and left the meeting. After a break, the board continued with the second half of the meeting, and approved the minutes from the second half of the board meeting of September 8th, 2015 without changes. The published agenda was adopted as published.

The treasurer shared the latest report, and the board discussed the following items: the tuition and dues report (overall, the amount of outstanding dues had improved significantly from the previous month), other financial reports (Profit & Loss statement, Finance Committee minutes, and the year-end financial statement). The board spent time on several figures from the 2014-15 year end statement. The treasurer noted that he and the bookkeeper would close the books soon after the numbers were cleaned up a bit further. J. Doornbos shared that K. Leyenhorst has taken on the role of bookkeeper for the Ladies' Aid.

The treasurer reported that the Endowment Fund Board was set to meet October 6, 2015, and would make a presentation of their finances at the meeting with the membership on November 24, 2015.

Nominations for board director were finalized, action items reviewed, and H. Klos led in prayer to close the meeting.





## Treasurer Report.....Mr. John Doornbos

The school year is off to an excellent start and we can again reflect upon our many blessings. More details will be given at next month's membership meeting but, in sum, we can say that our financial situation, although perhaps a little more tenuous than in the past, continues to be healthy. Generally speaking, tuition is being paid on time, pledges are being honored, and expenses are being managed in a stewardly manner.

I have the privilege to report on a few income highlights of the last month. First, the annual golf tournament had another noteworthy year generating about \$37,000 in profit! Great weather brought out about 100 golfers to enjoy this well-organized event. Second, earlier that day, the Homestead 15 had an excellent turnout at their inaugural event and, in combination with the Fun & Fitness Carnival, generated about \$6000 of profit. Based on the favorable outcome of the Homestead 15, we expect to do this event again next year. These successful fundraisers required a lot of planning and work and we're very thankful for all of the effort many school supporters put in!

Additionally, later in the month we received a donation of \$9500 from the Ladies Aid. Thank you Ladies! We really appreciate all that you do for the school from supporting the cost for field trips, hot lunches, classroom supplies, various special requests from the staff etc., through to generous donations to the school's general fund.

The final income highlight this fall was generated through a new venture. We call it the 'Cow Auction' and the basic concept is that local farmers are approached about donating one or more cows to the auction with the proceeds going to the school. Under the stewardship of Dave Hofford and one of our farmer members who asked to remain nameless, they carefully approached a number of farmers in the area and a good number of them participated resulting



in more than \$7000 in revenue! Wow!

All of this revenue comes at a good time and contributes to the 'other' revenue line in our budget. As in past years we hope that all \$75,000 (or more) of the budgeted 'other' revenue comes in so that we can meet our budget goals. In sum, these income highlights do not translate to surplus income but rather help us get closer to our budgeted goals.

We are especially thankful for this 'other' revenue as we are experiencing some challenges on the expense side of our budget. Those include higher immigration fees than we had expected, as well as the need to pay substitute teachers to cover Mr. Houweling's class while we awaited word on his visa. We are thankful that situation came to a very happy ending and that so many capable people were able to pitch in when the need arose. We're also happy to see those extra expenses be done with!

In an effort to minimize the consequence to our budget, the board has imposed some austerity measures to help us manage costs for the remainder of the year. With the assistance of the Principal we're investigating areas in the budget that can be cut back on without impacting the quality of education. Not that we are normally spending frivolously but, if we can find a few thousand dollars of expenses that can be cut for one year, we would appreciate seeing that happen as long as it doesn't negatively impact the regular education program.

You might have noticed a more tepid enthusiasm about our financial situation in my last few Link reports. There is a reason for this and the board plans to present on this at our membership meeting in November. In no way is this intended to cause unnecessary angst amongst the membership. Rather it is more of an effort to properly educate the membership on what it will take in order to keep the good thing we have going and going! At the board (particularly treasurer level) we get to see the bigger picture and perhaps haven't done a good job of making sure the membership knows what we know; we aim to change that. For the membership meeting we're expecting members at ALL membership levels to attend and be part of learning more about how our school is funded and what that means for you moving forward. Please plan on being at this meeting; those unable to attend can expect a visit from the board to ensure that all members are on the same page.

There is nothing much to report on the Finance Committee's activities as they are somewhat limited at this point. We have a few things on our radar but currently little is actively brewing.

Thank you once again to all of those that are part of various committees or volunteering to support different activities in and around the school. We are richly blessed to have such an enthusiastic group of willing members who give of their time in a myriad of ways to benefit the covenant community here at Cornerstone. We pray that God will continue to bless us all and the work we do so that it may continue uninterrupted and that His name may be glorified!

Finally, with my term coming to an end in November and this being my last Link article, I'm taking the opportunity to say 'thank you' to you all! I will admit that I am happy to know that I'll get some of my personal time back, but I would also like to say that I did enjoy being able to serve in this important role. I'm also very thankful for the support I received from all of the board members, staff and membership at large over the three years. Thank you!

## **Ed Comm Report.....Mrs. Ranelle Faber**

I have loved the experience of serving on the Ed Comm these past 3 years. Although my term isn't over till January, this is the last time I get to contribute to the Link in this capacity. Thanks for the opportunity!

Being a part of the Ed Comm has been very rewarding. Not only do we get to hang out at meetings every month, we get a little 'in' into the workings of the school. And the thing with Cornerstone is that the more you know about it, the more you love about it! What a great school we get to be a part of.

The Ed Comm has been pretty busy with all kinds of things lately. There's been textbook reviewing, website reviewing (have you checked out its great new look?), and all kinds of discussions about transcripts, curriculum development plans, and career and college planning. We've even been privileged to already take part of a 2016 Senior Project presentation! Way to go Aaron!

And how about those Parent Information Evenings? We are so thankful for the great speakers that have been able to present for us over the past year. There's been Hans Van Dooren presenting on *The Foundations of Reformed Education*, Allard Gunnink on *Learning Styles*, Martin VanWoudenberg on *Digital Parenting*, and, more recently, Antoon Breen on *Our School as a Confessional School*. We praise God for giving speakers who are able to help us focus on, explain, and discuss the vision and goals of our Christian school. It's so important for us to not only know why we're doing what we're doing with Christian education, but also how it plays out in our children's classrooms and hallways. Parent Information Evenings are a great place to refocus on what's important, and to get together to encourage one another in our joint goal of "telling the coming generations." See you at the next info evening!



## **Principal Report.....Mr. Darryn Kleyn**

Dear Parents and Supportive Members,

The Cornerstone community has endured a rocky road in the last month or so, particularly in relation to Mr. Houweling's visa renewal. We owe all our thanks to our Heavenly Father who directed the renewal process in his perfect timing. Thank-you for upholding this situation before the throne of Grace and for supporting the Houweling family during this difficult time. With thankfulness, I can report that school life has settled down into a 'gentle rhythm' again. Mr. Houweling is back doing what he loves and the students are content to have this unsettled time behind them.

### **Recent Events**

The beginning of the school year has been a hive of activity. It seemed that the whole CCS community was involved some way or another in the recent fundraisers. A tremendous amount of work went on behind the scenes in the lead up to the golf tournament, the inaugural Homestead run and the Fun & Fitness carnival. Since then the apple pie fundraiser has also come and gone. Thank-you to all those that helped out in various ways to pull these terrific fundraising events together.



In the school, we've enjoyed our biennial sleep over event, some engaging assemblies, a dress-up day, a hot lunch – all this made possible with the able support of volunteers.



### Upcoming Events

During November we'll be launching into Reading Month. Reading-minute totals will be collected, totaled and displayed in the hallway throughout each week. Allow me to encourage you to take this opportunity to promote reading in your homes. There are so many obvious benefits to reading good books – but certainly one that stands out in my mind is the effect good reading habits has on a student's ability to keep up with their course work. Reading skills are required in virtually every area of the curriculum and what better way to help your child(ren) in their learning then to encourage and monitor their reading minutes. Of course, of all people, we should be people of the Word! At the opening school assembly attention was drawn to our family devotions. If you don't do this already – maybe Reading Month is a good time to give everyone a Bible during dinner devotion times – and have the children take turns in reading the scriptures out loud.

Christmas program preparations are in full swing. The elementary students have begun learning the songs and I suspect that every household with elementary children have Mrs. Davis' beautiful voice reverberating off the walls of their homes. Who said teachers can't teach 70 children at a time!? ☺ Parents: your support in having the children learn these songs at home really helps us keep the practice time in the church to a manageable level. Mark your calendars for this special event: December 17.

### Curriculum Focus

You may remember that last year the staff paid special attention to our writing program by focusing on the use of frameworks as a tool to instruct the students in the different types of writing. The students are using more structured templates to plan their writing drafts and this will continue to be our standard way of teaching writing across the grades. This year we've committed to developing a writing scope and sequence – which is basically an outline of what should be taught in the writing area - in each grade. We've begun this task already at our recent PD day – and will continue to develop it in the next few months.

In science, Mr. Marissen has spent time researching (and recommending) a new science resource to the Education Committee for the 9/10 science program. Our focus is to make the science concepts 'come alive' with the use of regular experiments. The students have already testified to the fact that their science program is a lot more hands-on this year. Thank-you, Mr. Marissen, for your work in this area! There are plans to continue this review in some of the other science courses as well.

Another area that we spent some time on at our recent PD day – was the use of IT tools in the classroom. Mr. Houweling capably led us through the use of some iPad applications. As teachers, we realize that our students can often learn a whole lot quicker than we can –especially when it comes to the use of educational apps. However, our aim as teachers is to increase our awareness and understanding of the tools we've been provided with so that in turn we have the wherewithal to use these tools to enhance the learning experiences for our students.



I offer my heart to Thee O Lord, promptly and sincerely.

### Calendar Update

Turning to the back page – you'll notice that we've updated the school calendar. Our spring break has been changed from our original calendar publication to align with the local schools. We're glad we could bring that change into effect for some of our families who have children in two schools.

## Gradelink

We're hoping that you're enjoying the frequent communication from the teachers via our Gradelink email database. Of course, you also have the opportunity to login to see your children's homework calendar, grades, report cards and transcripts. You may also be interested in setting up some email alerts for high or low grades. It's truly amazing how the advance of technology has brought much more opportunity for parents to be 'plugged' into their child(ren)'s education – right in the comfort of the living room. If you have questions or need some information to log into your account – feel free to contact our school secretary.

## Board Members

By the time the next issue of the Link comes out – two of our hardworking board members will have retired from their current positions. It's been an absolute pleasure working alongside John D. and Eric B. Both have brought their own unique talents, skill sets and ideas to the board table. John has done a tremendous amount of work refining the financial operations of the school, sharing his expertise on some new fundraising ventures and serving on a number of board sub-committees. Eric has diligently and expertly kept accurate minutes of meetings, shared short reports with the membership, crafted letters on behalf of the board, and also served on a number of sub-committees of the board. These gentlemen will be missed and I thank them heartedly for their tireless efforts and support.

I think that's about enough for this issue! May we all continue to find joy in serving our Maker wherever He calls us to live and work.



## Athletic Report.....Mr. Darryn Kleyn

"I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace..... From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work." (Ephesians 4:1-3; 16)

At our recent basketball coaches meeting, we took some time to reflect on how, as coaches, we have many opportunities to impart biblical principles through the game we are teaching. The text above gives a good starting point. We want to see our players play with passion, to understand and practice humility, maintain the unity of team, maintain an attitude of thanksgiving and have the mentality of a servant. The coaches are committed to helping our players see that there is much more to the game than learning and applying skills.

Basketball practices will begin in the next week or so. We'll have the same number of teams as last year. The grade 7/8 boys' team will be led by John Vreugdenhil, the 7/8 girls by Janice deMooy and Kelsey Faber, the grade 9/10 boys by Kyle Lodder and Jon Bouwman, the grade 11/12 boys by Derek Willis and Marty Vreugdenhil and the high school girls' team by Janice Berends, Bernice Vreugdenhil and Trina Visser. That's quite the line-up; one that we're very thankful to have.

The Northwest Youth Basketball League will be in full swing again this year to give our high school teams an outlet to play. We are currently taking registrations for teams. As always you can follow their progress at [www.nwyouthbb.com](http://www.nwyouthbb.com). Our middle school teams will have a full schedule playing against Ebenezer, Bellingham, and Skagit Adventist. You'll notice that Oak Harbor Christian School is not part of this list. Their enrollment has dwindled to the point where they only have grades 1-5. Nevertheless, we have enough teams in the league for a full schedule of games and we look forward to an enjoyable season! If you have some time up your sleeve and would like to help out in some capacity during the busy basketball season we'd love to hear from you.

We look forward to you supporting our teams during the upcoming season!



## **From Scrip.....Mrs. Helena VanDriel**

The scrip fundraising program continues to grow each year and we would like to thank all those who continue to participate. It is a great way to raise funds for our school, support our community by shopping locally, and lower our tuition payments. We hope to do a scrip payout at the end of November.

The scrip committee would like to host an information evening at the school on Tuesday, November 10, at 7:30pm. We will have scrip on hand and available for purchase. Anyone who would like to learn about the program or get tips on how they can lower their tuition payments are encouraged to attend!

Thank you,

Scrip Committee (Lydia Faber, Helena VanDriel)



## **Ladies Aid Report.....Mrs. Rianne Kruyswijk**

Once again, we are into the school year with a few fundraisers already successfully under our belt. What a blessing it is to see the community come together to support our school; in volunteering your time, your talents, your financial support, you have made these fundraisers successful!

Our first fundraiser was the Dairy Women's Booth which brought in a total of \$2000, followed by Veggie Packs, with a total of \$542, and we recently completed the Apple Pie fundraiser which brought in a profit of over \$2600. There are still apple pies, pie tops and shells available for purchase in the school freezer. Please make checks out to Ladies Aid and clearly mark what it is for; place checks in the Ladies Aid box in the school foyer. There are also still cookbooks (\$5) and dishbrushes (\$10) available-contact Rianne to purchase!

Our September membership meeting had a great turn-out. A big thank-you goes out to our outgoing board members, Louise and Shona, for their dedication, diligence and hard work! Rianne Kruyswijk and Kim Sytsma were voted in as new board members. At the meeting, it was decided to finance the staff wishlist, as well as donate \$9500 to the General Fund.

Our upcoming fundraisers include wreaths, a new coupon book fundraiser, and the volleyball tournament, so keep your ears open for opportunities to help out. Thank you for your support!



## From the Grade 3/4 Classroom.....

### Clerihew poems from Grade 3

The rules for these poems are they have to be about a named creature or person, be four lines that have an AABB pattern. Here are some examples

Miss Mary Poppins  
Made some adoptions  
Now she has ten kids  
And for the yearbook they made some candid  
- Nikki Kuiper

The black marshmellow  
Fell into the shadow  
The dog came and stepped on it  
And now it is, of course, unfit  
- Mikenzie DeMooy

I have a cat named Chip  
She can run and flip  
She likes to eat bread  
Then she falls asleep in my bed  
- Mikayla Kleyn



### Limericks from Grade 4:

There once was a very loud boom  
That blew up my very big tomb.  
I started to fall  
When I found a ball  
Which exploded and led to my doom.  
—Reade Postmus

The lion, the monkey, and I  
Wanted to grab this guy.  
He was playing the drum  
And he didn't come,  
So he told us to say good-bye.  
—Ava Veldman

There once was a really fat man  
Who liked a girl named Ann.  
He went to play pool,  
And he played it so cool,  
He made his way home in a van.  
—Jada Sytsma

There once was a mouse and a rat.  
The mouse was a nasty brat.  
He got a big rash  
And he dug in the trash  
Where he found a ball and a bat.  
—Luke Hofford



There once was a little fat man  
Who tried to fit in a can.  
He went to the store  
And bought the floor,  
And then face planted into a van.  
—Joey Brown

There once was a Grandpa of York  
Who liked a certain stork.  
The stork was so fat  
He got eaten by a cat.  
That unfortunate Grandpa of York.  
—Taren Kottlenberg

There once was a mouse from France  
Who always had ants in his pants.  
He wiggled like crazy,  
But was really lazy,  
So the ants ran away with his pants.  
—Sean De Boer

There once was a boy with a beard  
Who tried to make it look weird.  
He went on a trip  
And cut his lip,  
Which was what he had always feared.  
—Levi Buitenbos

# 2015 – 2016 School Calendar

Aug. 25 – First Day of School  
 Sept. 7 – Labor Day  
 Oct. 8 – In-Service Day  
 Oct. 9 – Fall Break  
 Oct. 12 – Columbus Day  
 Oct. 14 – PSAT Test Date  
 Oct. 30 – HS First Qtr Reports  
 Nov. 2,3 – HS P/T Conferences  
 Nov. 11- Veteran's Day  
 Nov. 25 – Elem First Term Reports  
 Nov. 26 – Thanksgiving Day  
 Nov. 27 – Thanksgiving Break  
 Nov. 30 – Elem P/T Conferences  
 Dec. 2 – Elem P/T Conferences  
 Dec 17- Christmas Concert  
 Dec 18- Last Day of School 2015  
 Dec 21 – Jan 1 - Christmas Break  
 Jan 4 - Return to School 2016

Jan 18 - Martin Luther King Day  
 Jan 22- HS Second Quarter Reports  
 Jan 25,26- HS P/T Conferences  
 Feb 11,12 - Mid-Winter Break  
 Feb. 15 - President's Day  
 Mar 4 - Elementary Report Cards - Term 2  
 Mar 7,9 - Elementary P/T Conferences  
 Mar 24 - High School Third Quarter Reports  
 Mar 25 - Good Friday  
 Apr 4 - 8 Spring Break  
 April 29 - Professional Development Day  
 April 29 – Public Speaking Contest  
 May 5 - Ascension Day  
 May 27 - Sports Day  
 May 30 - Memorial Day  
 June 3 - Eighth Grade Graduation  
 June 6 – Quad School Track Meet  
 June 10 - Last Day of School/ Senior Graduation

## Board:

Chairman: Cason VanDriel  
 Vice-Chairman: Henry Klos  
 Building Liaison: Ron Faber  
 Secretary: Eric Brown  
 Treasurer: John Doornbos  
 Staff & Membership Admin Kolin Veldman

## Building/Maintenance Committee

Dave Burger Andrew DeMooy  
 Ron Faber Jon Kruyswijk  
 Terry VanDiest

## Education Committee

Jon Dykstra Ranelle Faber  
 Darryn Kleyn Ellen Davis  
 Karla Leyenhorst Henry Klos

## IT Committee

Ray Buitenbos Ron Faber  
 Steve Hofford Jack Marissen

## Finance Committee

John Doornbos Janice DeMooy  
 Rick Faber Brian Hendricks  
 Dave Hofford Louise Willis

## Library Committee

Ellen Davis Shona Doornbos  
 Debbie Johnson Karla Leyenhorst

## Ladies Aid Committee

Janet Brown Kaylene Hofford  
 Rianne Kruyswijk Kim Sytsma

## Office Staff

Darryn Kleyn Principal  
 Karla Leyenhorst Bookkeeper  
 Kari VanDiest Secretary

## Teaching Staff

### Grade 1/2:

Shari Faber  
 Janet Faber LA, Music, Art, Science  
 Darryn Kleyn PE

### Grade 3/4:

Debbie Johnson  
 Stephen Houweling Math 4  
 Ellen Davis L.A 4, Music  
 Edmund Nederveen History  
 Darryn Kleyn PE

### Grade 5/6:

Lynette Van Hofwegen  
 Ellen Davis Music  
 Edmund Nederveen PE

### Grade 7/8:

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

### High School:

Wayne Chase Ref Stu./History/English/Math  
 Debbie Faber Art  
 Stephen Houweling Behind The Scenes  
 Darryn Kleyn PE, Comp.Studies, Bus.Math  
 Edmund Nederveen Geography, English  
 Jack Marissen Science, Math  
 Darlene VanStaalduinen Spanish  
 Irene Hicks Life Skills - Cooking  
 Karen DeMooy Life Skills - Sewing