

***In This Issue.....***

Chairman's Report.....1	CBM Report.....4
Short Reports.....2	Principal's Report.....5
Treasurer Report.....4	Ladies Aid Report.....6
Ed Comm.....4	Calendar & Staff.....7

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

The end of the school year is an exciting time for all of us in the Cornerstone Christian School Community!

On Friday June 5, we could witness the graduation of 5 eighth grade students into High School at Cornerstone - Congratulations grads, and the Lord's rich blessing to you this summer and in your High School years at CCS!

On Friday June 12, we could witness the graduation of 15 High School Seniors - Congratulations grads - we wish you God's grace as you embark on the next stage of your lives! These events each drew a crowd of enthusiastic supporters, friends and family members, and each was an enjoyable event to attend.

It really struck me at each of these graduations what a unique thing we have here at Cornerstone..... our students grow up in an environment where they are surrounded on all fronts by people who know, love and support them.... fellow students, teachers, parents, and an entire community of like-minded people who know most, if not all, of the students at the school, and who enthusiastically support the school and each of its students! Truly a blessing!

Also, prior to their graduation, each of the senior students presented their senior projects to the Education Committee, Mr. Chase, Mr. Kleyn, and a group of students, parents and interested people. The scope of these projects was truly impressive, ranging from construction projects to flying drones, or volunteering at the food bank or at a veterinary clinic, and plenty more. These projects gave seniors an opportunity to display their God-given talents. It was great to see each of these students in this light!

Speaking on behalf of the board, we are very thankful for the Lord's provision for us this past year with part time staff who were able to fill the void created when Mr. Nederveen's visa application did not succeed. Several of those part time teachers will be leaving us this year, and we would like to thank them here for their wonderful service: Stephanie Bareman, Karen Berends, Sarah Hicks, Debby Lodder, Bernice Vreugdenhil and Janita Willis. To each of you, a hearty "Thank you!" for your work this past year in helping us to cover the empty spaces in our teaching roster! It was much appreciated.

Also, we say farewell to two long term staff members: Antina Chase, who is retiring from teaching this year, and Marcia Faber, who passed the "bookkeeping baton" earlier this year to Karla Leyenhorst. Each of these ladies spent many years at CCS, and we thank you for your years of faithful service.

To all the departing staff members, we thank you for your work, and wish you the Lord's blessing in your future endeavors!

The board notes with gratitude that the membership approved the budget as proposed by the board at the spring membership meeting.

Speaking of the budget, the board has been working on something recently that might be worth explaining: The Pledge Drive..... in case you're wondering why this is being done, here's the background: It costs more to keep the school running than tuition payments cover. In order to keep tuition manageable, but still cover that difference, the board has 2 options, each of which is being pursued diligently:

- 1) to raise funds via a pledge drive (target: \$80,000)
- 2) to raise funds via other fundraising initiatives (target: \$87,000)

For our pledge drive, we have set the goal of \$80,000, which works out to approx. \$1500 per family in our society. We are thankful to report that there has been excellent support for the pledge drive so far..... I'm certain the treasurer will be reporting more in his column.

We express our thanks to the membership for their support and to the Lord for his great goodness to us in granting us the necessary resources to continue the operation of the school.

In conclusion, a hearty congratulations to the students and staff at our school for completing another year. We wish you the Lord's blessing over the summer as you enjoy a well deserved break! We look forward to seeing you here for the 2015/2016 school year!



## Short Reports of the Board.....

### Short Report, Cornerstone Christian School Board

May 4, 2015

In the absence of the chairman, the vice chairman opened the meeting by reading Proverbs 18, and leading in prayer. The board reviewed and approved the minutes from the first portion of the regular meeting of March 30, 2015. Also approved were the minutes from the Society meeting with the membership of April 21, 2015. The proposed meeting agenda was adopted as published.

Incoming mail was received, which included a letter from the CCRTC informing the board of their new Certificate of Reformed Education program.

The principal shared his report with the board, and discussed highlights which included planning for the graduation dinner and evening, the final contract with the Inspire Development Center, and the new library relocation and updating.

The latest Ed Comm report was shared and reviewed.

The board discussed matters from the IT Committee and CBM, including an upcoming IT meeting with extra participants to engage in discussion of larger-scope and farther-reaching IT matters, the possible creation of a ramp on the curb in front of the gym, a new church-school shared insurance policy, and a possibility of adding a seventh board member in the future to take charge of IT matters.

The board reviewed some general items with the principal, such as important upcoming dates, and a staff member request regarding IT equipment.

The board and principal reviewed past and current action items, and set the next regular board meeting for Monday, June 8 2015 in the school building. Vice Chairman Klos shared the board's appreciation for the principal's work, and gave encouragement to him for the remainder of the school year.



After reassembling from a 5-minute break without the principal, the board approved the minutes from the second half of the board meeting of March 30, 2015. The agenda was adopted, and two pieces of mail were received: a letter from the Lynden Department of Public Works informing the board of a storm water fee that will be assessed monthly, and a notice of CD renewal from People's Bank.

J. Doornbos shared his latest treasurer's report with the board. Outstanding tuition was reviewed, and strategies discussed for reducing the collective amount due. For past pledges, some open accounts were reviewed. The board discussed and approved a call list for the operating budget pledge drive for 2015/16.

The board spent time discussing the potential home building project, its status, and shared ideas regarding the nature of the endeavor. Past action items were reviewed, and K. Veldman led in prayer to close the meeting.

## **Short Report, Cornerstone Christian School Board June 8, 2015**

Chairman C. VanDriel opened the meeting with a reading of Proverbs 19, and prayer. The board minutes for the first half of the May 4, 2015 meeting were approved without changes, and the published agenda was adopted. Incoming mail was received and filed or dealt with appropriately.

The principal shared his latest report with the board, and shared in discussion of matters including teaching arrangements for some staff members, an upcoming education conference, gifts for departing staff members, and the scheduling of the next Big Picture Meeting. The meeting was scheduled for September 22, 2015. Suggested topics included five year strategic planning, and establishing school and principal evaluations.

The board chairman expressed appreciation for all the work the principal put into the past school year. The principal noted the harmony between himself and the board, and expressed thankfulness for a great relationship between board and staff.

Regarding subcommittees, the Ed Comm chairman shared that there was nothing new to report, and the next meeting was scheduled in September 2015. The board read and noted a few items from the CBM and IT reports.

The master calendar was reviewed, and the annual board & staff social was scheduled for Friday, Sept 25, 2015. The board discussed the retirement of Pieter Torenvliet from John Calvin School, and Don Kok, LCS superintendent. Letters were to be drawn up for both of them.

Action items were reviewed, and the next regular board meeting was scheduled for Monday, August 3, 2015 at 7:30 in the school building.

The Chairman thanked the principal for his attendance and contribution to the meeting, and again shared appreciation for his work during the entire 2014/15 school year.

After resuming from a break, the board approved the minutes from the second half of the board meeting of May 4, 2015. The published agenda was adopted without additions. The board received one piece of mail regarding increased utility rates from Puget Sound Energy.

J. Doornbos shared his latest treasurer's report with the board, and discussed financial matters with the board including outstanding tuition, the status of pledges, the current results of the 2015/16 pledge drive, approving the final property payment (the board approved to pay), and Finance Committee matters.

The SMA shared some developments regarding staff visas and updates from the immigration attorney.  
E. Brown led in prayer to close the meeting.



**In The Classroom**

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

Summer break is here and summer itself is officially here. Staff, students, volunteers, committee members and even the board will have a reprieve of sorts while the school is shut down for the next ten weeks. It is well deserved for sure and we have much to be thankful for as we reflect back on the school year, especially financially.

One of the items in the budget that was approved for the 2015/16 year was an Operating Pledge goal of \$80,000. Since the spring membership meeting the board has been diligently contacting each member to solicit a contribution to the pledge drive. Thankfully we can state that this task, although not the highlight of our board roles, generally receives a positive reception and results in good participation. This year again we can report that although this task is not complete it looks like we will achieve the goal approved by the membership.

Regarding the Operating Pledges, a notable point was made at our last board meeting regarding what the average per family pledge obligation would theoretically need to be in order for us to get the \$80,000 budgeted. That sum ends up being around \$1500 per family. This is a good number to think about... in some way it represents a tuition 'discount' of about \$125 per month for each family with children in school.

Finally, this month, the final payment will be made on the property purchase! As a board we are very thankful for how smoothly this has gone. Although we have a small amount of outstanding pledges we are confident that everything that was pledged about three years ago will come in.

Enjoy the summer!

## **Ed Comm Report.....Mr. Jon Dykstra**

On May 6th the Ed Comm were happy to have Martin Van Woudenberg come across the border to spend two hours presenting the topic "digital parenting." He spent the first harrowing hour outlining the many and varied dangers that are out there on the Internet. Some in the audience – made up of 60 or so parents – were quite tech-savvy, comfortable not just with smartphones and tablets, but on Facebook and Instagram, and maybe even working in the tech industry. However, it seems safe to say that even the most knowledgeable among us learned a terrifying thing or two about what's out on the Internet and what's available among various apps that are trying to tempt and trap our children.

It would have been an unsettling evening if that was all Martin Van Woudenberg shared. But he spent his second hour presenting the many different ways that parents can use technology to counter and minimize some of the dangers that technology is bringing into our homes. Some of that information is available on his website: [www.BehindtheScreen.ca](http://www.BehindtheScreen.ca).

It is important, however, to think of this as more than merely a technological problem. That the Internet makes it possible to have the contents of a porn store readily accessible via our teenage son's tablet certainly is a technological problem, so a technological solution like monitoring and filtering software can help in a big way.

But if our child wants to figure out how to access that content, and wants to figure out how to get around whatever guardrails we put in place, that is a heart issue. Technology won't solve a heart problem – that needs to be addressed on a heart level. That means that not only do we need to install this sort of software on our tablets, smartphones and computers, we need to teach our children to appreciate it. We need them to understand that this monitoring is nothing like spying on them, even though it will involve us looking over their shoulder to see where they go on the Internet. Rather it is all about coming alongside of them to offer help and support when they most need it. God has placed us in a communion of saints, and together we can help one another resist and fight temptation. To address the heart issue we need to teach our children that resisting temptation isn't a solo activity. As we read in Ecclesiastes 4:

"Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls when there is not another to lift him up....And if one can overpower him who is alone, two can resist him. A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart."

If you missed the meeting but would like a copy of the notes, the principal has a few extra copies.

## **CBM Report.....Mr. Ron Faber**

As the 2014 -2015 school year comes to a close we can once again be thankful for all the amazing blessings that we have received this past school year. Our Heavenly Father has richly blessed us with an incredible team of teachers and volunteers. Thank you for your enthusiasm, hard work and commitment to bring Reformed Education to our children. It is truly a blessing to also have such a beautiful facility that is Cornerstone Christian School.

Thank you to all who had a big part in the maintenance of our school building. There are far too many to mention by name. The ongoing cleaning, maintenance and future planning is an incredible amount of work and is very much appreciated. Our school is a blessing to the community we live in, with so many people using our facility for events and sports throughout the year; they too can see our commitment to our Lord and Savior through our actions and sportsmanship.

If you have seen big smiles on our library staff lately it is because the location of our library is back where it was and should be. We are thankful it could be used for classroom space for several years. With smaller class sizes this year we are able to utilize the other classrooms. So the library is back to the center of the school. Thanks to all (especially students) that helped in the move.

This summer we once again have leased out our building to INSPIRE. It went so well for them last year they wanted much more space. Many volunteers were busy doing electrical and safety changes that they require before moving in. Thank you to those involved and also in moving and clearing out so many classrooms.

May the Lord grant the staff and students rest and relaxation, and that we all have a great summer!



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

*Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits...*

These words from Psalm 103 are a fitting response, as we wrap up another school year in the year of our Lord, 2015. We have truly been blessed and "His benefits" were abundant and evident in our homes, in our classrooms, and in our church communities. Praise the Lord for providing us with good health, ample resources and the freedom to teach our covenant children His ways.

### Blessings

It's been a joy to be involved at Cornerstone Christian School this year. As staff, we felt your parental support in a myriad of ways. In fact, at our last staff meeting for the year, we spent some time reflecting on the blessings we could experience at CCS this past year. Here is our 'top' 4:

1. Excellent community support through board and committees; everyone 'rowing' in the same direction.
2. Fantastic volunteer support both in and outside the classroom – directly impacting student learning.
3. Wonderful staff relations and team-spirit/comradery
4. A beautiful building fitted with ample (technological) resources

Of course, there is so much more that we could list. However, it's particularly the first two that are such an encouragement for the staff. We know and experience that the first part of our Mission Statement, "To assist parents...." is very much a reality because Cornerstone parents are so involved. Parents: thank-you for your involvement, your encouragement, your constructive feedback and your service. Please know that we really appreciate and value it!

Now, as we wind down for the summer break, feel free to reach out to me if there is something you'd like to share as yet. In our staff meetings we regularly discussed ways in which we can be "continuously improving". We certainly haven't arrived and would value your feedback in preparation for the next school year.

### Farewell

On the last day of school, we said farewell to a much-respected staff member in the person of Mrs. Antina Chase. She served the school community for 6 years and as staff, we appreciated the varied contributions she made along the way. She certainly brought plenty of experience to the table and put in above and beyond what her part-time position entailed. Antina: we wish you the Lord's blessings in your future endeavors. May your impending knee operation bring the desired effect in due time.

We also bid 'farewell' to the other PT staff who took on roles in the elementary and high school grades. Thank-you, Debby Lodder (HS Math), Janita Willis (HS English), Stephanie Bareman (4<sup>th</sup> grade math), Bernice Vreugdenhil (4<sup>th</sup> grade math), Karen Berends (1/2 PE) and Sarah Hicks (1/2 PE) for your contribution to CCS this year. Your contribution in our 'hour of need' is very much appreciated and we're grateful that things went so smoothly due to your professionalism.

### Welcome

Miss Shari Faber, soon to be Mrs. Kruyswijk, has arrived in Lynden and even squeezed in a visit to the grade 1/2 classroom in the last week of school. Welcome, Shari! We hope and pray that your transition to our (school) community is a smooth one. We wish you and Dave a wonderful wedding day on July 11 and God's indispensable blessing on your marriage. We're also looking forward to you putting your experience to work in the grade 1/2 classroom next year.

In the wings, we welcome Mr. Edmund Nederveen to our school community (for the second time ☺). He is waiting patiently for his visa. In the meantime, he has finished his year-long course of studies, including his final practicum. He can now add a Bachelor of Education to his bow! Congratulations, Edmund! We look forward to your arrival in due time.



## Graduations

From here too, we congratulate the 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade graduating classes of 2015. May you all continue to experience the Lord's hand in your life as you continue to serve your Creator. Strive to be ambitious in the Lord's kingdom – as you seek to follow His lead in all areas of your life.

Thank-you to everyone who contributed to both celebrations. From setup, to decorating, to food preparation, to sound production, to speaking, to photography, to clean-up, you name it – it certainly took a team effort! I never cease to be amazed at how smoothly it all comes together with everyone chipping in.

## Summer Break

During the summer break, our school will be occupied by the Inspire Development Center. They provide childcare services to migrant workers in the area. In addition to the high school classrooms which they used last year, they have also taken over the elementary wing. To make this happen, the staff had to completely empty their classroom and cupboard space. I tip my hat to our staff who were willing to put in extra time and effort to make it all happen during the already, extra-busyness that comes with the end of the school year. Terrific effort all round!

Finally, an encouragement to keep your children engaged, at minimum, in regular reading habits during the summer break. The town libraries have a motivating summer reading program which is worth looking into. There are also some excellent (free!) online programs that are motivating for students to chip away at. I may send a link or two through on email.

I wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer break. May the time away from school be refreshing and rejuvenating so that our task at school, with the students, may begin again on August 25, DV.

## Ladies Aid Report.....Mrs. Shona Doornbos

School is out and summer is here - while our volunteer activities definitely slow down over the summer we still have one more excellent fundraiser to plan for. Once again we have been offered the opportunity to work in the NWWF Dairy Women's booths during fair week. At this time our greatest need is to fill the two empty positions on the planning committee for this event. We know that we have many very capable women in our midst; please consider giving of your time and abilities for this cause.

In May we were blessed with beautiful weather on the consecutive weekends of our annual Plant Sale and Garage Sale. The Plant Sale (including VanWingerden Coupon sales) profited us \$4500, while the Garage sale added \$1,750 to our account. Thank you to all the women (and men) who contributed to the success of these two events!

Our Fundraising Sign-up blitz went well. We are thankful that some of the committee positions have been filled. If you would like to help out and didn't get the chance to sign up, we still have positions available on the Veggie Pack, Christmas Wreath, Plant Sale and Sport's Day committees. Please contact a board member to volunteer for any of those committees.

Last, but certainly not least; while it is still a ways off, we'd like to encourage you all to start thinking about next year's board. Every fall we need to fill 2 positions – are you willing to serve on the board?

Thank you for your continued support. We wish you a safe and enjoyable summer!

## Grandparents Day!



## 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  
 Mar 28 - Apr 1 Spring Break  
 April 29 - Professional Development Day  
 May 5 - Ascension Day  
 May 6 - Public Speaking Contest  
 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	Shona Doornbos
Kaylene Hofford	Louise Willis

### 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