



In This Issue.....

Chairman's Report.....1	Principals Report.....6
Short Reports.....2	Athletic Report.....7
Treasurer Report.....4	Ladies Aid Report.....8
Ed Comm.....5	From the 15/6 Classroom...9
CBM5	Calendar & Staff.....12

From The Chairman.....Mr. Cason VanDriel

Cornerstone Christian School continues to be a beehive of activity..... A “fly-on-the-wall” anywhere in our school building - at any time of the day - would confirm how busy our school is at this time of the year! From the “action packed” playground to the “organized bustle” of the classrooms, from meetings in the staffroom to sporting events in the gym, CCS is a wonderful and busy place to be!

A lot of “behind the scenes” work goes on to keep this microcosm going! Teachers prepare lesson plans and diligently ready themselves to teach. Many students spend many hours on their homework each evening. Volunteers clean this facility each day. Lights go on when they're supposed to and toilets flush as expected. Schedules are prepared for activities that occur inside our walls, and for events away from the school. Budgets are carefully prepared and fundraising occurs... and the list goes on! A collective “Thank you” to all those who tend to the countless details involved in keeping the school “running along”. Your work isn't always acknowledged, but it certainly is appreciated!

How thankful we can be for what the Lord has given us in our Reformed Christian school..... a place where His name is proclaimed, and our covenant children can be educated with a Christian worldview, and where quality education is delivered each and every day. Our Heavenly Father has richly blessed us with the resources (people, facilities and finances) to allow Cornerstone to operate, and we pray for His continued guidance and blessing.

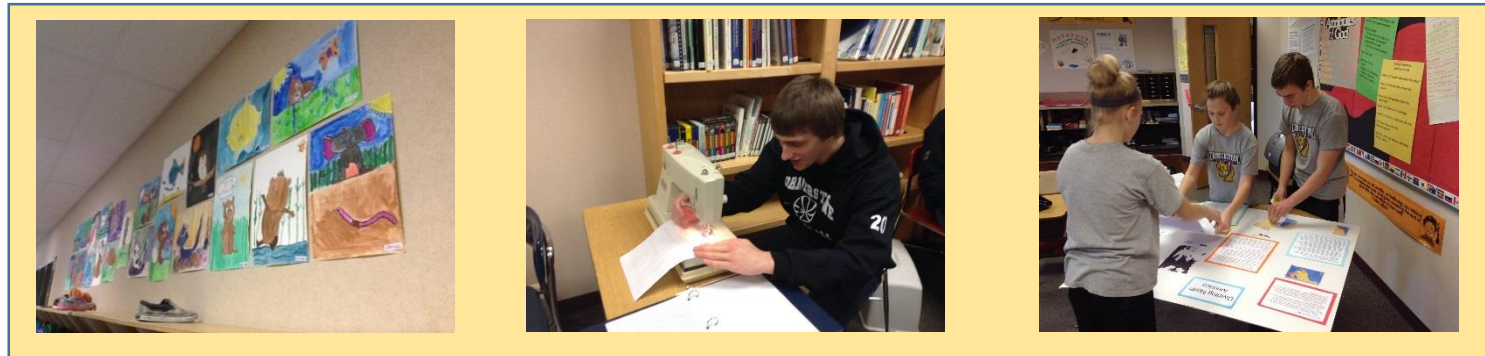
It's also good to reflect on the excellent value we as parents receive here at CCS. Christian Education isn't cheap, but it certainly is tremendous value! (and, if you compare what the members of other Christian school societies pay in tuition, we at Cornerstone are getting a real bargain!). Recently, there has been a flurry of fundraising activities (ie: Golf Tournament and Australian Auction Dinner). These events require lots of effort and community involvement, and occasionally the board hears of “fundraising fatigue”..... however, we encourage everyone to recognize the purpose behind these fundraisers: to help cover the costs of operating our school, and to keep tuition as reasonable as possible for everyone! Please support those efforts in any way you can, and recognize the motivation behind them – we all benefit!

The school board is busily engaged in planning for next school year as well. One of the first “orders of business” is staffing for next year. Two board members met with each of our staff members recently to discuss their plans for this fall. At that time, we learned that two of our teachers will not be joining us next year. Jenny Tiemeyer and Laetisia Kleyn will not be returning to CCS in the fall. While we were saddened to hear this news, we also wish each of these loved and valued teachers the Lord's blessing in their endeavors next year! We of course will bid them a timelier farewell at the end of the year too! For next year, we anticipate adding one HS teacher to our staff to alleviate some of the workload

currently being shared by our HS staff, and also filling the voids left by Mrs. Tiemeyer and Miss Kleyn. When we have names confirmed for those positions, you will most certainly hear about it!

One more important detail regarding the 2014/15 school year that will greatly help the school board with their strategic planning: If your child(ren) will not be returning to CCS next school year (unless, of course, they are graduating!), would you please inform either Mr. Kleyn or a board member by March 31st? It will help us a lot to know this in advance!

In conclusion, we give all praise and thanks to God for His great goodness to us, and we pray for His continued blessing on Cornerstone Christian School.



Short Reports of the Board.....

Short Report from Jan. 13, 2014

The chairman opened the board meeting by reading from Proverbs 2 and leading in prayer. The minutes from December 2, 2013 with the principal were approved without changes.

Matters from the minutes were reviewed, including scheduling a SWOT review, staff meetings, the matter of the use of the new property, staff visa statuses, and the possibility of implementing a policy handbook. Incoming mail included letters of thanks for Christmas gifts, a letter informing the board about a donation, and a request for time off from a staff member. The agenda was adopted.

The board discussed items with the principal from his monthly report. On the subject of the 8th grade graduation, the board agreed that the staff's preferred date of June 12 made sense. Also discussed was reinstating the practice of visiting young families who have children attending the school in the future, policies regarding alcohol on the premises during events, and the forthcoming policy regarding college recruiters at the school, which is yet to be written.

The board discussed the reports from subcommittees. Of note for the Ed Comm was the departure of Corrie Klos, and replacement names were shared. The CBM and IT chairman reviewed items pertaining to the building and technology, and a discussion was had regarding the possible installation of a new gym sound system in the future. This was targeted as an item for next year's budget, and it was decided that sound needs for upcoming events in the short-term would be met by renting equipment.

The principal shared some data with the board detailing the work breakdown of the current staff, as compared to a hypothetical situation with an additional high school teacher. The board studied the amount of work the current high school teachers bear, and what possible solutions could look like in the future. Discussed options included a new part time or full time staff member, online courses, and/or exploring a partnership with Credo.

The chairman spoke about a recent meeting of principals and board chairmen that he attended recently with the principal, and noted that a relationship with this group could prove to be fruitful.

For scheduling matters, the board set aside the week of January 27th, 2014 for annual teacher visits, and the next regular board meeting was set for Monday, February 17th, 2014 at 7:30 PM in the school building.

The board reviewed past follow-up items including a teacher visit, the latest bimonthly school visit, and a possible income source from Head Start using the Cornerstone facilities during the summer.

The principal was thanked for his time and left the meeting at approximately 10:30 PM.

The minutes from the meeting of the board without the principal from December 18th, 2013 were approved after making one change, and older matters from the minutes were reviewed. The meeting's agenda was adopted after adding a financial item.

In the realm of finance, the treasurer reviewed the types of financial documents that are important to view prior to the meeting. The board briefly reviewed members who are behind in paying tuition. Also discussed was

the endowment fund, and the board decided that a fund committee will be elected at the next Spring Membership meeting. The board reviewed a first draft of a budget for 2014-15. A new member was suggested for the Finance Committee, and the board discussed fundraising.

E. Brown led in prayer and the meeting was closed.

Short Report from Feb., 2014

Chairman C. VanDriel called the meeting to order, read from Proverbs 3, and then lead in prayer. The minutes from the board's January 13, 2014 meeting with the principal were approved without changes. As incoming mail, it was noted that a request from Washington State for property tax exception status was received. The agenda was adopted.

The principal reviewed his monthly report. Items for discussion included staff professional development, and revised athletic and music credit policies. The board decided to approve both. From the report, the board also discussed the large 3/4 class next year as it relates to math instruction, and strategic planning for the future of the school.

B. Lodder briefed the board on the latest Education Committee report. Highlights included feedback on the improved report cards, future parent information evening strategies, and their investigation into online courses

T. Faber updated the board on recent building matters from the CBM, including video surveillance cameras, an item related to the property fence, a gym sound system rental, and the need for a new CBM member.

The board discussed matters related to the staff. B. Lodder reported on recent visits with staff members, noting that the meetings have gone very well. The board also discussed a potential high school position, as well as the immigration status of a current teacher.

Two board members updated the rest of the board about the status of Head Start's request to rent the facilities for the summer. Cornerstone has counter offered, and no response has been received yet.

B. Lodder presented a proposal for a new policy of keeping a record of important board decisions. After discussion, the board agreed to adopt such a practice. The board will collectively approve of what goes into this "decision book" at each meeting, and the Secretary will be tasked with its maintenance.

The board discussed a proposed new policy regarding post-secondary recruiters visiting Cornerstone. After a minor change, the board adopted the policy.

The principal solicited the input of the board on the idea of putting a notice in the LINK regarding an annual deadline for parents alerting the school about student enrollment. The board agreed that a published notice would be a good idea to inform parents that they should let the school know by March 31 if their children are not to be enrolled.

The board reviewed outstanding action items, made note of important decisions thus far in the meeting, and set the date for the next meeting at March 10, 2014 at 7:30 PM in the school building. The principal was then thanked for his time and efforts, and left the meeting.

The board reviewed the second half of January's meeting minutes, and they were approved. The second half of the meeting's agenda was adopted after adding two financial items.

The board discussed several financial matters including the official recommendation by the Compensation Committee, a preliminary 2014/2015 budget, and the recent work done by the financial review subcommittee. In regard to the Compensation Committee's proposal, the board looked over a series of nine recommendations, and reviewed the salary grid, a road map for adoption, and their official report. The board agreed to adopt the committee's proposal. The board then reviewed matters related to the budget; how the financial figures are shaping up, and how to possibly attack challenges. The treasurer then presented the work done by the financial review committee, and highlighted its recommendations for the ongoing governing of how CCS finances are managed. The board adopted the recommendations. A potential new Finance Committee member was approved by the board.

Action items and decisions were reviewed, and J. Doornbos closed the meeting with prayer.



From The Treasurer.....Mr. John Doornbos

Things continue to move along nicely as we reach the six month mark of the current school year. It is always very encouraging to see how, despite the challenges that always arise, God always provides and the school continues to operate with hardly a hiccup. So far this year the financial challenges have been minimal. However, that could change as we start planning for next year.

Not that there are huge challenges on the horizons but, the reality is that some tough decisions need to be made. You might remember that this year we're budgeting to operate with a small deficit. Simply stated; expenses exceed income. In our planning we anticipate that this problem could continue to grow next year. With our high school staff somewhat stretched since Mr. Bouwman's departure, the board is looking at the option to hire a high school teacher to relieve some of that stress --- we cannot ask Mr. Chase and Mr. Marrisen to continue to operate with the same work load. I'm sure that more on the topic of a new high school teacher will be shared with the membership in due time but, for now, simple math will tell you that adding a teacher, when we're already running a deficit, means we need to look for ways to increase revenues.

How might that be accomplished? There are, generally speaking, three sources of income for the school, namely; Tuition/Dues, Operating Pledges, and Fundraising. Covering the added costs will likely mean that we will have to look at increases in all three revenue sources. Over the last few years, the school community has done an excellent job of raising additional funds from the community. In fact over the last several years this income source could be as high as 4-5 times what it was just a few years ago! Over the years, the operating pledges have become a very meaningful way for the school community to bridge revenue gaps and we'll continue to need that next year. Regarding our main revenue source, Tuition/Dues, after more than ten years of existence, a modest tuition and dues increase is likely. In sum, although no one really enjoys the effort required with generating the revenue associated with having an excellent school, the reality is that the two go hand in hand. Please remember the school board's deliberations on these matters in your prayers.

Speaking of fundraising events, by the time this edition of the Link reaches you, we'll be reflecting back on the excellent Aussie Themed Dinner/Auction that was put on this past Friday night. Being on the Finance Committee allowed me the opportunity to get a sneak peek into all that went into putting this on and, rest assured, it was a lot of work - as are all the fundraisers! We've become very good at producing meaningful and profitable events... the talent in this school community continues to amaze! Thank you to everyone who in some way or another has contributed... we really could not do it without you. That being said, we're also aware of the fact that we run the risk of creating 'fundraising fatigue'. Where to draw the line of 'enough is enough' is front and center on the Finance Committee and School Board's mind. Just know that we don't take the request to support these events for granted. We're also not saying 'yes' to everything. Rather, we're trying to balance the need for a quality education while limiting the tuition burden on the school community... and that is quite a balancing act. So please be willing to have sincere, up building, and encouraging conversations with those who are trying to decide where that line needs to be drawn. It's too easy to be a naysayer... we'd rather you invested that energy in genuinely helping us make the tough decisions.

Changing gears, at its last meeting the board finalized and approved two key initiatives. One was the work done by the Compensation Committee. They submitted a report with nine key recommendations and the board has approved this. You received a verbal report on this at the last membership meeting and now the finishing touches to this project have been made. We're thankful to the committee who spent considerable hours researching this, formulating a grid, and completing their work with a well thought out implementation plan. Having this in hand should give the staff, board and membership the tools we need to attract and retain high quality staff! The second item that the board approved was a report with recommendations from the Financial Review Sub-Committee. This committee's mandate was *"to review all current financial practices, including income and expense recording practices, account oversight, year-end financial review practices, bookkeeper functions, and report reconciliation. Additionally, that where necessary, the committee should propose improvements."* As a result of this committee's work they presented the board with a CCS Financial Procedures Manual, a Financial Calendar, and a recommendation to move the third party accounting services over to a new firm that more closely matched our needs. The intent of the manual is to create an agreed upon best practices book that identifies all of the ways the school will do its financial business moving forward. The Financial Calendar was put in place to assist the Treasurer and Book Keeper in making sure that all important tasks, during the year, are completed on time. Often Treasurers end up taking over a task with little to no idea on how things are done so these two tools should allow for more consistent and improved practice over time.

In sum, a lot of work continues to go on behind the scenes to make sure that the school operates smoothly. We are thankful for the blessings we have received so far this year, and as a result, our financial affairs continue to be in good shape. And we trust that blessings will continue to abound as we make plans for the next

year! What next year will all look like still needs to be resolved but we operate with the confidence that things will work out. Please keep the school's needs in your prayers.

From the Ed Comm.....Mr. Bob Lodder

Greetings from the Education Committee,

First of all, thanks to Corrie Klos for her work on the committee these past three years, and welcome to Ellen Davis as our new member! It is great to have your experience at the table.

Here is a snapshot of some of the matters the Ed Com is busy with:

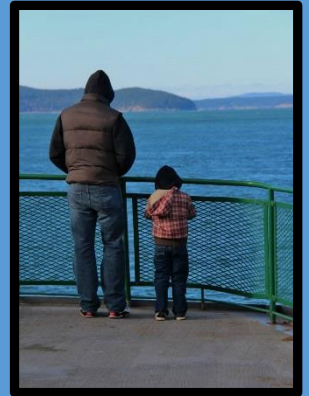
- Reviewing staffing needs and teacher applications
- Recommending (as part of Hiring Committee) teachers to hire
- Reviewed and recommended to Board 1/2 credit Music guidelines
- Reviewed and recommended to Board updated Athletic Policy
- Review on-line Curriculum options and possible Credo H.S. cooperation
- Reviewed and recommended way forward with Open Court reading program
- Parent Information Evening review and planning for next one
- Classroom visits

We are blessed to be busy with this work. It is a huge task to continue to provide solid Christ-centric schooling for our children. We cannot do this in our own strength... when we call on the Lord's name and do this work in obedience to Him we are assured of his blessing!

Psalm 103

¹⁷ But the lovingkindness of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who ¹⁹fear Him,
And His ¹⁹righteousness to children's children,

¹⁸ To those who keep His covenant
And remember His precepts to do them.



From The CBM.....Mr. Tim Faber

Greetings all from the CBM. Last weekend, there was a power outage at the school, which caused all the fire and security alarms to go off. We are thankful for responding neighbors to take care of such things. Thanks to those who responded in a time of need! Much appreciated. In conjunction with this outage, the first school day back the high school students came to school to cold classrooms. This furnace appears to have been damaged during the power outage. The furnace was repaired in quick order, and so far is working well again.

At the request of staff we have begun the installation of cameras in the library and gymnasium area. There is a desire to be able to leave the library open all day, so that students have continuous access to the library. The cameras will allow for distant observation while library staff is absent.

Some of you may notice that once again the pot holes have come back on the gravel driveway. This has our attention and we hope to get these filled in soon. The CBM would also like to remind everyone, that this driveway is really meant as an emergency access only. Please keep in mind that we would much rather you use the paved driveways through the church parking lot so you can use the controlled intersection at Northwood Road to get on the Badger Road. Entering the state highway from an uncontrolled gravel driveway is not the safest way; especially at night. We would ask the parents to please remind your driving students of this as well. Shaving a few seconds off your commute is not worth an accident!

We continue to be grateful for the fantastic support of the community in the care of the building. From helping maintain things to cleaning, well done all. Keep up the good work!



From Our Principal.....Mr. Darryn Kleyn

A look back at the calendar over the past few months, since the last issue of the Link, reveals a packed line-up of activity at the school. Time has passed quickly; as the first and second graders noted recently - we're already past the 100 day mark of the school year. The Lord continues to bless by giving us the strength and energy to provide for our children through covenantal education. It's a wonderful privilege to be instruments in our Father's hands to "tell the coming generations" about his mighty works.

Our Vision

Within the vision section of our Parent Handbook, the *basis* for our school is clear; it's rooted "in Holy Scripture as confessed in the Three Forms of Unity". The *basis* is further explained as follows: "As parents, we are called by divine ordinance to instruct our covenant children about the mighty works of the LORD. God's work of creation and recreation form the foundation for all the subjects of learning. God the Father, our Creator, has put all things in man's domain, and in Jesus Christ, we and our children have been restored to that calling after the Fall. Therefore, the pursuit of knowledge and the development of talents, with a view to being faithful stewards over creation, is a necessary and worthy endeavor."

Another section included in our school's vision highlights the *purpose* of our school and a list of our school's *aims*. One of these important aims seeks to ensure that the school provides "education that recognizes the position of our children as members of the covenant." The explanation under this aim is a timely reminder: "A key motivator for establishing a school arises from the covenant God has established with us and our children. Parents have a responsibility to ensure that the education their children receive fully embraces the doctrinal instruction they are called to provide for their children. Our children are set apart by God to be His own possession in the world He created and upholds. The education our children receive should reflect this reality – and should provide the necessary skills for students to serve God in all areas of their lives."

I think it's worth reflecting on this particular aim. At the baptism of their children, parents promise "to instruct this child...and to have him instructed....to the utmost...." of their ability. It's to parents, that God assigns primary responsibility for the nurture of His children. Nurturing suggests, using the analogy of last time, "a careful and balanced attention to a young, growing plant in a greenhouse". Do we take the time to do this? Life can be so busy running here and there. Devotions and discussions around the dinner table can easily be rushed or dropped altogether. Family time can be quickly gobbled up with this and that commitment outside the home. Do we spend time explaining the truths of scripture to our children? Do they understand the significance of their baptism, for example, and can they articulate it? Do we pray with and for our children before they/we go to bed? (It's true: you do learn something about their spiritual barometer when you do this!). The purpose and basis for our school is well articulated, and while the school can play a vital role in the instruction of covenant children – let's remember and remind each other that it's first and foremost the home that sets the direction and spiritual nourishment for the seed of the covenant.

School Life

The school continues to be alive with activities; there are geography and spelling bees, staff meetings, a parent information evening, parent/teacher conferences, mission month, school assemblies, staff professional development, IOWA Tests of Basic Skills, school assemblies, a writing contest, basketball/volleyball practices and games, Dad's Day, an auction, an upcoming Science fair, and the list goes on. There is never a dull moment at CCS and we are thankful that everything, for the most part, runs along super smoothly. That is in no small part

because of our hardworking teachers and diligent volunteers. Thank-you all, for your continued support and willingness to work as a team.

One of the spin-offs from the auction preparation is the beautiful art work that adorns the walls in the hallways. If you didn't get to see it on Friday evening, you really ought to come in and have a look. Our art teachers have done a fantastic job, not only inspiring our students to do good work, but also spending many hours prepping and showcasing the work! Thank-you, ladies!

The staff and education committee have continued the discussion about our current report cards. A sub-committee has been formed to analyze how we report student progress and if there are ways to do a better, more efficient job with this. Stay tuned and if you have any thoughts – feel free to pass them along.

Next Year

I know I speak on behalf of the staff (and our entire school community) when I say that it was a sad day when we heard that our beloved colleagues in Jenny Tiemeyer and Laetisia Kleyn will not be returning next year. We will certainly miss their cheerful presence and their excellent teaching contributions in the school next year. However, we don't for a minute begrudge their decision; the Lord is leading them down a different path and we wish them the Lord's blessings as they carry on with their teaching duties for the rest of this school year. (Jenny is not moving away and she said would like to continue as a volunteer in some capacity next year).

In the meantime, we move forward with the expectation that God will provide us with new teachers in his good time. As the Latin saying goes: Ora et labora. Let's Pray and Work!



Athletic Report.....Mr. Darryn Kleyn

Our busy winter sports season is winding down. It's certainly been a busy season! We've once again been blessed with opportunities to participate in wholesome competition, to build character in our athletes and to enable them to learn skills which will hopefully provide them with motivation to participate in life-long physical activity.

High School and Middle School Basketball

What an exciting basketball finale this past Thursday evening! Thank-you to all those that came out to cheer on our teams. The high school girls won their championship game by a solitary point and the varsity boys lost their game by two. Congratulations to all our coaches and players who have worked hard to play well and to represent the school with distinction. We readily admit that there is always room for improvement. Students' behavior on and off the court isn't always perfect. Teachers and coaches don't always set the best example. However, we endeavor to learn from our mistakes and we keep striving to improve. I'm very thankful that this is done with a spirit of cooperation.

A BIG thank-you is in order to our high school coaches in Janice Dykstra, Bernice Vreugdenhil, Trina Visser (HS girls), Kyle Lodder (JV boys) and Marty Vreugdenhil (Varsity boys). An equal BIG thanks to our middle school coaches: Kristina Faber, Kim Sytsma (grade 6-8 girls) and Ken and Kyle Bosscher (grade 7/8 boys). As parents and staff, we are very appreciative of the time you have given to lead our student athletes throughout the season. You continue to give our students a very positive experience in learning skills and Christian attitudes as they relate to basketball and sport in general.

I would also like to thank the many volunteers who helped out during the season as referees, scorers, timers, and cleaners. Many students and community members stepped forward to fill these roles. A special mention of our secretary, Kari VanDiest, who was a fantastic help behind the scenes with the admin work that needed to be done to keep the league running. Much appreciated!

Volleyball Season

The volleyball season is just around the corner. Kolin Veldman (HS boys), Alyssa Brown and Lisa Pelleboer (HS girls) are looking forward to coaching our teams this year. The Cornerstone-managed Northwest Youth Volleyball League begins on March 6. The teams are coming in and it seems that as time passes, more and more members in the community are aware of our athletic offerings. If you would like to help out as a referee, scorer or timer – please let me know. If you wish to catch a game or follow the progress of our teams check out the league website: www.nwyouthvolleyball.com.

Reflections on our Blessings

As the basketball season comes to a close, we can reflect on a fantastic season. We have been blessed in so many ways: diligent coaches, quality competition and the opportunity for our students to develop their God-given talents to His glory. Allow me to finish with another quote from John Wooden as an opportunity for reflection: "Material possessions, winning scores, and great reputations are meaningless in the eyes of the Lord, because He knows what we really are and that is all that matters."



From the Ladies Aid.....Mrs. Shona Doornbos

Last month we had the pleasure of seeing a number of you at our annual general membership meeting. Thank you for taking the time to attend the meeting and for supporting our fundraising efforts!

Next month we hope to put on the Family Volleyball Tournament, the first of our spring fundraisers. This will be followed, in April, by the VanWingerden Gardens Coupon sales, in combination with our annual Plant Sale. To date, no one has stepped forward to fill this committee. Please consider volunteering your time in this area – we will not be able to move forward with this excellent fundraiser if we do not have your participation! Knowledge of plants is not required, so please don't let that intimidate you.

In the first week of May, we will be hosting our annual Garage Sale. We ask that you hold off on your donations to the thrift store and save them for our sale! Contact Erika P. if you need any help in storing your items.

While it technically isn't a spring fundraiser, we did want to make you aware that we are continuing to pursue a fundraising opportunity at the NWWF. We are hopeful that we will have some good news to share with you on this front but will not know anything for some time yet.

In the last LINK issue we mentioned that Ladies Aid recently took ownership of the concession stand. Concession is run during basketball and volleyball season, is much appreciated by the visiting teams and is proving to be a steady source of income. All funds raised during the basketball season are earmarked for Mission donation (local and abroad), while the volleyball earnings will go towards further improving/adding to our food offerings. We are grateful to Lydia F., Erika P. and Louise W. for so ably managing the concession stand this year.

Last but not least, don't forget to talk to us if you are in need of a new dish brush!

We thank God for the opportunity to raise money for our school and seek His blessing on a successful spring fundraising season. May He be glorified in all we do!



Medieval Times

From Mrs. Van Hofwegen's 5th and 6th Grade Class

This past term, 5th and 6th grade students studied a history unit on Medieval Times. They learned about castles, cathedrals, armory, heraldry, and other interesting things about that time period. One of their projects was to make something from that time period. They could make a weapon, coat of arms, castle or choose another project.

Students demonstrated their God given talents in the way they executed their projects. They worked hard, showed creativity and produced unique and interesting representations of the Middle Ages. Along with their projects, they wrote about how they created it, why they chose it and what they learned. We hope you enjoy viewing their projects and learning more about what was involved in each student's work.

Metal Sword



By Craig Vreugdenhil

I made a sword. This is how I made it. First, I took metal, an inch on each side and I cut it to the right sizes. Then, my brother and I welded the three pieces it on the together. Then we made the sharp edge by grinding it on the side until it became sharp. Then we shined the sword with the sand paper.

The reason I chose this project is at first I was going to make a wood sword because my brother works at a cabinet shop but I forgot about the project. So then we used my dad's tools to make it out of metal. Some of the things I learned is that swords were heavy during Medieval Times and very dangerous.

How I Made My Shield



By: Alexa Veldman

My project was a shield. When I started making it at the shop my Auntie Jo helped me find a shape of a shield on the computer, and then we blew it up so it could fit on two pages. We printed it out and traced it on a piece of wood. My dad cut it out for me. Then I drilled two holes in it and screwed a handle on the back of it.

I took it home, taped the sides and spray painted it black. After it dried, I took the tape off and painted the sides gray. Then I printed an image of a lion off the internet and colored it with red marker. Then I mod podged it to the middle of the shield. Lastly, I spray painted bumpers black and used them as little studs on the gray edge, and it was done.

I chose this project because it looked pretty fun to do, and it was! I learned that shields are hard to make, well not mine really; but if you lived in the middle ages all your weapons had to be accurate and you had to be good with them, if you weren't you would have less of a chance of saving yourself in a battle!

Coat of Arms



By Shanna Leyenhorst

My project was a coat of arms. I made it with paper and glue. First, I cut out a shield, ring, two stars, a heart, and an arrow. I glued the heart in the middle of the shield and glued the ring around it. Next, I glued the stars on two corners of

the shield. To top it off I made the arrow look like it was going through the heart. I chose this project because I thought it would interesting to design my own coat of arms. Through this process I learned many of the symbols that are on a coat of arms and why they're used.

Castle Cake



By Serena Buitenbos

My history project was to make a castle cake. I made my castle cake by first making the batter. After I made the batter I put it in the oven, next I froze it for one hour, took the cakes out, then I iced them. Then I made the towers by sticking them on the icing, after that, I put Hershey bars all around the cakes. Then I put cookie crumbs over the top. I chose it because I love making cakes and I thought it would be interesting for a history project. I learned about parts of the castle and where they are found.

Castle Cake



By Julia Van Driel

For my medieval times project I chose to make a castle out of cake. I put cake mix into some old soup cans and put them in the oven. Then when they were cooled off I iced them. Then I made cones out of paper to put on the top of turrets. Next, I decorated the cake with candy and sprinkles. I chose to make a cake because I thought it would be a fun and challenging project and from this I learned that it is hard and time consuming to make a detailed cake but it definitely is a lot of fun!

Shield



By Emily Faber

For my history project I made a card board shield. First, I got card board and cut it in a shape of a shield. Next, I spray painted it black. Then I went online and printed out a picture of a cross with four smaller crosses inside of the big cross. Then, I painted the big cross red and the little crosses gold. I put card board and tape on the back of the shield so you can hold it. I also painted to gold circles on the side.

From making this project I learned that it was pretty hard to make a shield. I chose this because I had all the materials for it. I also thought it would be a cool thing to make. It's a good block from swords and it can save a person's life in the medieval times.

Coat of Arms



By Joel Van Driel

I decided to do a coat of arms. First went to the store and bought a poster board. Next, I drew out the shield, banner, and the crown. Then I traced it with a sharpie. After that, I colored everything. Then I wrote at the sides what everything meant. I chose the coat of arms because it is the easiest and takes the least amount of time. And we have a book on it.

I learned what the four columns meant. I also learned some more things about heraldry because I was scouting through the book.

Shield



By Adam Sysstma

First, I found a piece of wood and I cut it out to the right shape. Next, I put a strap on it. After that I put tin foil on it and I taped it down. Last, I printed a logo out and I glued it on. I chose it because it was easy. I learned that it was easier than I thought.

Coat of Arms



By William Davis

I made my project by taking a big piece of paper. Then I drew a shape of a shield with a sharpie. Then I drew a big X on the shield and I colored in the X. Then on the top I put a Griffin. On the bottom I put a star. On the left I put a serpent. And on the right I put wings and the bottom I put a star. I chose this project because my mom and I thought about to do and my mom said, "Why don't we do a coat of arms." So that's why I chose this project. One of the things I learned from this project was what a coat of arms means and what the symbols mean. The Griffin means bravery, alertness and endurance. The star meant the third son. The serpent means wisdom, knowledge, and defiance and the wings mean swiftness and protection.

Foam Sword



By Michael Baremen

First, I traced three swords onto foam board and cut them out with an exacto knife. Then, I sprayed glue them together. Next I spray painted it and wrapped duct tape on the handle. Finally, I took it to school. I chose this because I like medieval age. I especially like swords so I chose a sword. I learned that they have to be accurate. They also are hard to make. Most of all they are fun to make.

Shield



By Brooke Vreugdenhil

My project was a shield and this is how I made it; was out of a card board box, gray spray paint and duck tap for the handle. We did two layers of the shape of a shield. Then I cut out a small shape of a sword. Next, I cut out my initials. I hot glued all the pieces on. The last thing was spray painting I did two coats of it. And that is how I made my history project. I chose this project because it was the easiest. I also learned that it probably took a lot of work to make one shield it took me about an hour to make a cardboard shield.

Cookie Castle



By Katie Berends

For my project I made a giant sugar cookie in the shape of a shield. I first made the dough, and then I rolled it out and cut it in the shape of a shield. I put it in the oven and let it cool overnight. Then in the morning I iced it. I chose this project because I thought it was unusual and afterwards I could eat it. I learned more about the coat of arms because before this I did not know so much. I also learned how to make sugar cookies.

Lego Castle



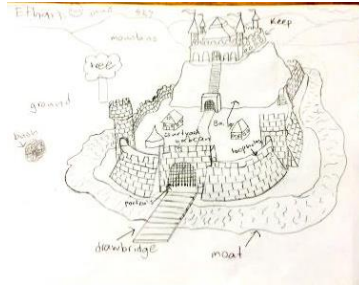
By Cameron Kuiper

My project I made for history was a Lego castle made out of Legos. These are the things I put in my castle: a well, shed, and a stable for the person's horse to stay in. On the castle there were two arch ways. There were fences around the two gardens by the door when you walk in. I used my horse Robin and my girl Emma.

I chose it because it was an easy project to make because I like to build with Legos and we have a lot of Legos at home. I learned that the castle has different parts around and on the

castle. I learned that they lived in castles in the middle ages.

Castle Drawing



By Ethan Brown

I drew a castle for my project. First I got a pencil and paper, then I printed off a picture of a castle and copied it, after that I labeled it. I did this project because it was fast and I enjoy drawing. The things I learned were the parts of a castle. Here are some parts of the castle barbican, moat, loopholes, keep, portcullis, baily, curtain, parapet.

Coat of Arms



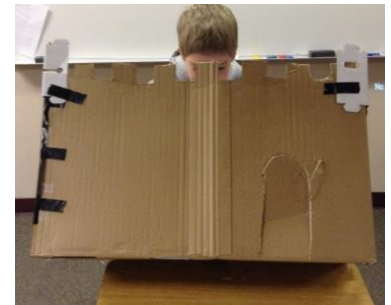
By Carter Van Diest

I made a coat of arms for my project. First, I got some cardboard from my dad's store. Then I cut it out into the shape of a shield. After that I printed some pictures off the internet. Finally, I glued them on and was finished.

I did this project because I had all the materials, and it looked fun. I learned that making a shield isn't as fun as it looks. I also learned what an arrow

head on a shield meant, and what a lion means too.

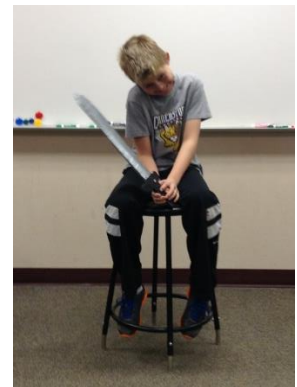
Cardboard Castle



By Blake Veldman

First I got duct tape then I got cardboard and a knife and then I taped the cardboard and made the crenels. I did this because it is a nice thing to do and I learned that you need to make it the right size so it will fit in your car!

Sword



By Ben Doornbos

To make a cardboard sword you will need cardboard, stick or pole, duct tape, and hockey tape. First you draw the sword on the cardboard and cut it out then tape on the stick/pole, then draw another sword and cut it out. Then tape the swords together and use hockey tape for the handle. You may add your own decorations!

I made this because it looked easy to make! I learned how to use a sword and what it looks like. I also learned how big they are.

School Calendar 2013-2014

Aug. 27 – First Day of School
 Sept 2 – Labor Day
 Oct 10– In Service Day
 Oct 11 – Fall Break
 Oct 14 – Columbus Day
 Nov 1 -High School 1st Qtr reports
 Nov 4 & 5 – High School P/T Conferences
 Nov 11 – Veteran's Day
 Nov 27 – Elem Report Cards
 Nov 28 – Thanksgiving Day
 Nov 29 – Thanksgiving Break
 Dec 2, 4 – Elem P/T Conferences
 Dec. 20 – Christmas Program
 Dec 23 – Jan 3 – Christmas Break
 Jan 6 – First day of school 2013
 Jan 20 – Martin Luther King Day
 Jan 24 – High School 2nd Qtr reports
 Jan 27 & 28– HS P/T Conferences
 Jan 31 – Prof. Dev. Day
 Feb 13 & 14 – Mid-winter Break
 Feb 17 – President's Day
 Mar 7 – Elem Report Cards
 Mar 10 & 12 – Elem P/T Conferences
 Mar 28 – High School 3rd Qtr Reports
 Mar 31- Apr 4 – Spring Break
 Apr 18 – Good Friday
 May 2 – Public Speaking Contest
 May 26 – Memorial Day
 June 2 - Quad School Track Meet
 June 12 – Eighth Grade Graduation
 June 13 – Last Day of School /
 Senior Graduation

Board:

Chairman:	Cason VanDriel
Vice-Chairman:	Bob Lodder
Building Liaison:	Tim Faber
Secretary:	Eric Brown
Treasurer:	John Doornbos
Staff & Membership Admin:	Kolin Veldman

Building/Maintenance Committee

Andrew DeMooy	Tim Faber
Dave Kruyswijk	Terry VanDiest

Education Committee

Jon Dykstra	Ranelle Faber
Darryn Kleyn	Ellen Davis
Karla Leyenhorst	Bob Lodder

IT Committee

John Bisschop	Tim Faber
Jan Hensen	Steve Hofford

Jack Marissen

Finance Committee

John Doornbos	Janice deMooy
Rick Faber	Brad Kuik
Ryan VanDelft	

Library Committee

Corrie Klos	Jenny Tiemeyer
Bernice Vreugdenhil	

Ladies Aid Committee

Janice DeMooy	Shona Doornbos
Erika Postmus	Louise Willis

Office Staff

Marcia Faber	Kari VanDiest
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Teaching Staff

Principal:	Darryn Kleyn
Gr 1/2 Bible, Math, Science	Antina Chase
Gr 1/2	
(History, P.E., Art, Gr. 3 LA)	Jenny Tiemeyer
Gr 1/2 LA, Music	Janet Faber
Grade 3-4:	Laetisia Kleyn
Grade 5-6:	Lynette Van Hofwegen
Grade 7-8:	Stephen Houweling
Grade 9-12:	Darryn Kleyn
	Wayne Chase
	Jack Marissen
Spanish 11/12	Darlene VanStaalduinen
Art 7-10	Debbie Faber

