

The Lynden Link

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

There are many exciting things that have occurred at CCS in the 2 months since we've last "visited" via this column.

First and foremost, the Lord has richly blessed our search for new staff members to fill the openings at our school for next year. As you have already heard, we have hired Mr. Edmund Nederveen to fill the opening at the high school level, and we have hired Mrs. Debbie Johnson to fill the opening at the Grades 3/4 level. There are still some details to be worked out regarding final staffing responsibilities, but when they have been determined, that information will be distributed via the Schoolwires network. We thank God for His great goodness in this regard, and we pray that He will bless the immigration proceedings that have been undertaken to usher Mr. Nederveen this side of the border.

Some other exciting items from the school over the past while:

It almost seems like old news by now, but the Australian fundraising dinner and Auction was a resounding success at the very end of February..... It appears that a good time was had by all, and as a result of all the effort, a healthy amount of money was raised for our school! A big thank you to all who made this event possible!

The Science Fair was a magnificent display of what neat things our students are learning and exploring here at Cornerstone..... from rocket launching pop bottles, moldy sandwiches and CO2 powered cars to picnic tables, hair dye and swinging pendulums..... what a great display of talent, knowledge and learning at CCS! Congratulations to the students and staff for such an inspiring display that evening!

School Spirit week was also a hit!..... looking through the halls of our school, and being momentarily transported to the Wild West, one couldn't help but be impressed. We have some great creativity in our midst, and it really showed that week. Highest compliments to all involved in this event!

Last week Thursday was grandparents day at CCS. I heard such overwhelmingly positive comments about that event from grandparents, parents and even grandchildren..... What a privilege to have several generations together at the same time in a setting like this..... What a great event to have at our school.... What a blessing to see God's faithfulness from generation to generation!!

Finally, the ever-exciting Senior Projects are in their final stages of completion, and the Seniors themselves are no doubt eagerly anticipating having this chapter of their senior year behind them! There will be 2 evenings in which senior students will unveil their projects to an eager panel of observers from the education committee. We praise God for the gifts and talents he has given these students, and we pray that the students may have what they need to demonstrate their projects well!

This coming Tuesday, April 29, we will have the annual spring membership meeting at 8:00 in the church building. At this meeting, we will be reviewing and voting to approve the

budget for the coming school year. We are reminded that the Lord has faithfully provided for us again this past year with the financial resources to keep the school operating smoothly! The board (and especially the treasurer, Mr. John Doornbos) has spent much time poring over and fine tuning the details of our budget for the coming year.

One noteworthy detail of the budget involves an increase in tuition that will go into effect next year. For several years, the board has avoided tuition increases, but after careful and prayerful consideration, has included a tuition increase in this coming year's budget.

When considering the operating budget of our school, it is good to be reminded of the purpose of our school, and to reflect on why we send our children to this Christian place of learning. It is indeed a rich privilege to have a school that will assist us as parents *"in educating the children of the covenant as a part of their preparation for a life of Christ-centered service and stewardship in the kingdom and Church of God"* (from our Mission Statement). As we have noted before, Christian Education isn't cheap, but there is no price tag that can be placed on the value of the education our children receive here. The Lord has provided greatly for us in what He has given us in Cornerstone Christian School, and we praise Him for His faithfulness to us! We also pray for His continued blessing this coming year.

We look forward to seeing you at this meeting on the 29th!



Short Reports of the Board.....

Short Report from March 10, 2014

The chairman opened the meeting with reading and prayer. The Scripture passage read was from Proverbs 4. The minutes from the meeting of February 17, 2014 with the principal were approved without changes. As incoming mail, a letter from the ARC Kindergarten board was received. The agenda for the first part of the meeting was adopted as published.

D. Kleyn presented his latest principal's report. He noted that the school has enjoyed smooth operation of late, and good harmony among students and teachers is present. The principal highlighted an item from his report regarding professional development, and an update was given for the Inspire group's (Head Start) desire for using the building for this summer.

B. Lodder reviewed the minutes from the Education Committee's latest meeting. Investigation into online courses was reported on, noting that some feasible possibilities do exist in this area. Progress into securing a speaker for a presentation evening was shared. Discussion regarding attracting local teachers was had.

T. Faber reviewed the latest information from the CBM and IT Committee. Highlights included a new CBM member, cameras for the gym, a furnace repair, the latest on a potential sound system for the gym, and items regarding the gravel drive exit to Badger Rd.

T. Faber shared some information on the recent school visit he made with Jon Dykstra from the Ed Comm. The representatives were impressed with all the teachers and activities that they witnessed at Cornerstone that day.

The board and principal discussed general matters, including options for staffing for the high school, hypothetical workloads for different scenarios for staffing the higher grades, a letter from the ARC Kindergarten board, requesting room for next year, and the possibility of incorporating Kindergarten into Cornerstone. As for the latter, it was agreed that the subject will be discussed in the coming months.

The board reviewed past action items, recorded important decisions, and set the next meeting date for Monday, April 14, 2014. The spring membership meeting was tentatively set for Tuesday, April 29, 2014 at 8:00 PM in the ARC building.

The principal was thanked for his time and left the meeting.

As the meeting continued without the principal, the minutes from the second half of the February 17, 2014 meeting were approved. The agenda was adopted after adding discussion of a letter from a member as incoming mail.

The board discussed the treasurer's latest report. The treasurer touched on the status of pledge income, and shared key highlights from the balance sheet and profit & loss documents, as well as items from the last Finance Committee meeting. The latest version of the proposed 2014-15 budget was examined. Other items discussed included a new Finance Committee member, the Capital Projects Fund, a sound system purchase, and consideration for a tuition increase.

Some staff and membership items were discussed, including signed contracts, membership dues, and a report from a visit with Covenant Christian School.

Action items were reviewed, and then T. Faber led in prayer and the meeting was closed.



Short Report from April 14, 2014

Chairman C. VanDriel opened the meeting by reading from Proverbs 5, and leading in prayer. The minutes from the meeting of March 10, 2014 with the principal were approved without changes. A receipt of a work visa withdrawn for a past staff member was received as incoming mail. The agenda for the first part of the meeting was adopted.

The principal detailed his latest report. He touched on the success of the recent Spirit Week, and the amount of hard work the students put into it. The principal reviewed a proposal he drafted for a lockdown procedure of the school in the case of an emergency. The board approved the procedure after a minor change. Staffing/courses for 2014-15 were presented. The principal outlined a mock-up course schedule for next year, and shared it with the board. D. Kleyn presented a tentative calendar for the 2014-15 school year, and there was no objection; it was thus adopted. The date for the next Big Picture Meeting was tentatively set for June 23, 2014, at 7:30 PM in the school building.

As T. Faber was not present, the board reviewed his report for CBM/IT, and discussed a few items including a water agreement with the church, and a proposed sound system for the gym.

The board and principal discussed general matters, including staffing for next year, and preparations for the spring meeting with the membership. Preparations were made for the meeting. Action items were reviewed, decisions recorded, and the next regular board meeting was set for Monday, May 12, 2014 at 7:30 in the school building.

The principal was thanked for his time at the meeting, and for his continued efforts as the school administrator, and left the meeting.

As the meeting resumed, the board approved the minutes of the last regular meeting without the principal from March 10, 2014. The agenda for the second half of the meeting was adopted.

The board discussed items from the Treasurer's latest report, including an opening in the Finance Committee, and the latest proposed budget for 2014/15, materials needed for the spring membership meeting, and the starting of this year's operating pledge drive.

The board discussed a membership issue, action items were reviewed, and then B. Lodder led in prayer to close the meeting.

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

By now you'll likely have had the opportunity to review the proposed budget for the next school year, as well as the results to-date for the current year. Tuesday's membership meeting will afford us ample opportunity to review all of the data in detail as the budget will be the centerpiece of the meeting however, in preparation for this, a few items would be worth reviewing in advance.

Most notably, you should notice the very positive results that are being achieved for the current school year. Although all the numbers are not in yet (the financial year ends on July 31st) we do have enough visibility in how things should play out, that we can give a fairly accurate projection. The most exciting part of this is that,

although the board prepared a deficit budget of about \$20,000, we are now projecting a surplus of over \$30,000, and that does not include \$25,000 that we were able to move into the Capital Projects Fund (also unbudgeted)! How did this happen you may ask? First of all, wisely, the board tends to budget conservatively. Secondly, our school administrator and others involved in using the financial resources the school sets aside, operated the school with great stewardship for the limited funds we have, all the while not compromising the quality of education we all expect. Finally, additional revenues came in beyond what was budgeted, most notably in the fundraising area.

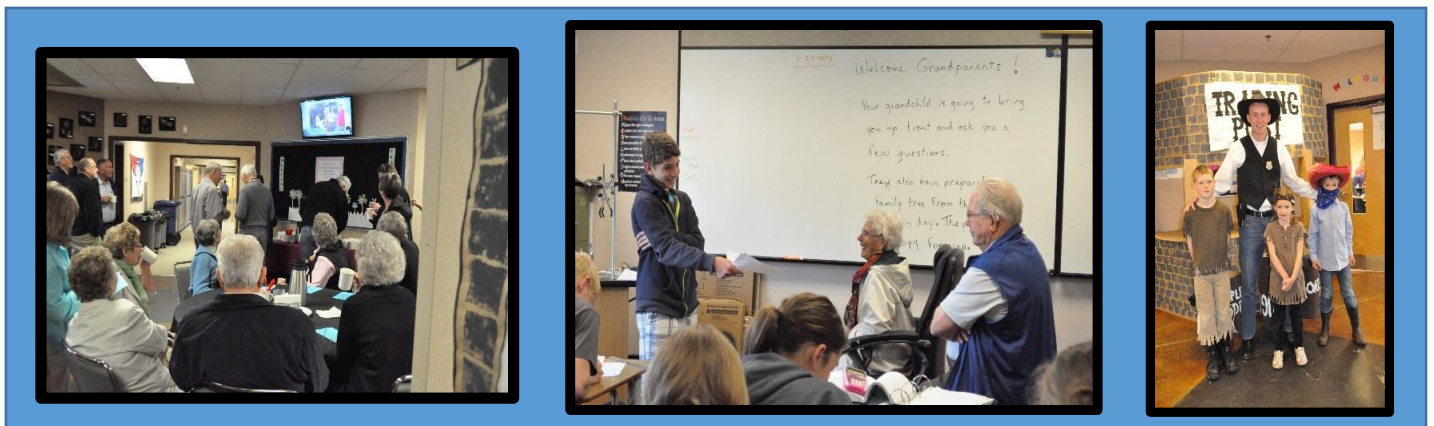
Much of the new revenue came from the Auction but there were also other activities that helped. The annual Golf Tournament, the first annual Cornerstone Basketball Tournament, the Soccer Carnival, and other activities combined to impact the bottom line. Ultimately, the memberships' growing awareness that, in order for us to sustain the school in its current form while keeping tuition affordable, will require us to intentionally generate revenue in other ways.

How that is accomplished from year to year will likely change. Some events, like the golf tournament, are best done every year whereas others, like the auction, cannot be. Some activities will be tested for a year or two and then shelved if the return doesn't justify the effort put into it. Ultimately though, we'll continue to research and develop ideas with the hope that with the wisdom and input of many, along with planning and sweat equity, we can find a good number of effective and worthwhile revenue generating activities. Recognizing that, while we can all agree that we want a quality education at a tuition rate that is manageable, we might not all agree on precisely how we make up the extra funds. That will likely be a constant debate... after all, if it was easy to come up with, and execute on, good revenue generating activities wouldn't everyone be doing them?

In the meantime, while we will continue to wrestle with this from year to year we can be very thankful for all of the excellent result that this past year's efforts generated! A big thank you needs to go to all those who were involved in some way or another with these events. There were many people committing many hours and as a result we put on some first rate events that we can be proud of!

A keen eye will notice that the proposed 2014/15 budget also includes a deficit of about \$20,000. Again, we budget conservatively and we plan on erasing this by the year's end but, even if we are not able to, we have the cash flow to sustain the occasional deficit budget. That same keen eye will also notice that the board is proposing a tuition increase for next year. This increase averages about 7.7%. After many years of keeping rates down, the board feels that it is time to pass on a little more of the operating burden to the membership in the form of a modest tuition and membership rate increase. Of course this will be discussed in greater detail at the membership meeting and the board values your input on this point.

In sum, we are continually amazed at how well we're provided for. It seems like we say this every time we do budget planning or reflect on our finances! We say it so often it can almost seem like we're the orchestrators of these blessings but our faith quickly bring us to humbly realize that all of this is received from our Heavenly Father who knows our needs, equips us, and blesses our efforts! Let us continue to praise Him from whom all blessings flow!



From the Ed Comm.....Mr. Jon Dykstra

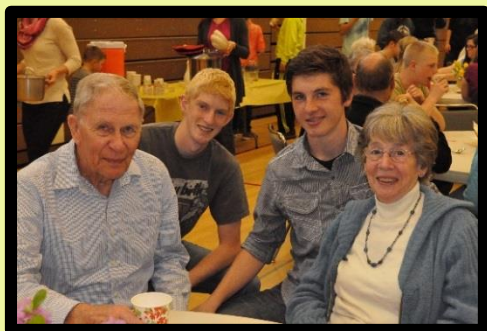
The Education Committee has been tasked with some pretty interesting assignments the last few months.

One of the biggest was a review of the writing program – this started last year, when the question was: "Should we look for a new Language Arts curriculum?" After lots of study and comparison of what we had with what else was available and what our Christian "sister schools" were using the conclusion was, no, we did not need a new program. But that wasn't to say that what we had couldn't be improved. So this year work has been done in finding materials to fill in the gaps or weak areas of our current program. Input was solicited from teachers near

and far, with the end result being recommendations of some supplemental material to help instruction in areas like writing, handwriting and grammar.

Another assignment was to improve Report Cards, to make them more useful for both parents and teachers. One change made involved adding another "effort" grading option to bring it from three to four. So now we have: Very Good, Good, Fair, and Needs Improvement. This is a helpful addition, but it does prompt an question: while Fair is one notch better than Needs Improvement, how should Fair really rate among Christian parents? To answer that, consider how a man's wife would feel if, after she asked how supper was, he responded: "It was fair." That would hardly be viewed as an acceptable grade! Our sons and daughters can't be satisfied with just getting by – they are being trained to be royalty, sons and daughters of the King – so there is a very real sense in which Fair means our children need to improve. For us satisfactory should not be satisfactory, okay is not okay, and fine isn't fine – as parents we should require more of our children.

The third task involved investigating online options. More and more courses are becoming available online, and while most of these are taught from a secular, and sometimes pretty anti-Christian perspectives, there are some intriguing Christian options popping up. And some of these are even specifically Reformed. There is a lot of variability in what is offered: some courses are taught at only certain set times, with a real instructor teaching live over the Internet, while others use recorded lectures that can be accessed anytime. These recorded classes sometimes have a real instructor doing the marking and available to help students, while in other courses the tests are all computer marked, and there is no instructor at all. We've scratched the surface enough to know there will only be more and better options to look forward to in the future. While this won't be a good option for all students – it requires quite a lot of self-discipline, particularly in the courses that don't have a live instructor to interact with – it is going to be an important way we will be able to give more options to our high school students.



From The IT Comm.....Mr. Tim Faber

The IT committee continues to look after the technology needs of the school. We have completed installation of a new security camera system for the library, and gym areas. This will allow the principal to keep an eye on these areas during limited staff supervision.

I would like to take a moment to thank those on the IT Committee for their work. Also here there are many tasks that happen behind the scenes. Special mention goes to John Bisschop whose term has ended. John, thanks for your years of service on the committee, much appreciated! At the same time we may welcome Ray Buitenbos back to the IT committee to take John's place. Welcome aboard, Ray!

For the rest, we are very thankful that so far this year things in the technology department have been running very smoothly. We have been blessed with many tools to aid in the learning environment here at Cornerstone School!

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

By the time you read this, weather permitting, we would have had our annual spring cleaning this past Saturday! We thank all those involved with this event as well as those who supplied the refreshments and lunch. Very much appreciated. It is always nice to see the level of commitment to keeping our facilities looking at its best, both inside and out!

The season has changed and the grass is growing again. Thank you to Mr. Henry Veldman for taking such good care of the lawn already and in the months to come. Your dedication is much appreciated! One quick note to all students, and I'm sure our dedicated staff will keep reminding you as well, but we ask that you please clean-up all equipment and trash from the lawns. We would appreciate everyone taking extra care to keep our grounds clean and free of dangerous obstacles that could damage our lawn mower.

The CBM continues to be busy with routine maintenance items. I would like to thank all of the CBM committee members for the work they do! Much is done behind the scenes. We may also welcome Dave Burger as new committee member to the CBM. Welcome aboard Dave!

There were a few tasks recently that required some help from others in the community. You may have noticed that the gravel driveway was recently re-stored, potholes filled etc... Thank you very much to those who worked on that! The CBM will be installing a sign on this driveway, that will read "**Do Not Enter - Driveway for Emergency Use Only**". To save on yearly maintenance cost and efforts to maintain the driveway, we are asking everyone to **please** use the dedicated asphalt access thru the church parking lot. Technically the driveway, according to our easement and school permit, is to be used for emergency use only. So technically... this driveway may only be used if the church parking lot is not accessible. Using the dedicated intersection at Northwood Road will be much safer. (especially at night) Thank you for your cooperation!

We are thankful for the daily custodial work. A quick thank you to the Ladies Aid for purchasing a new (used) backpack vacuum. The comments that I have heard about this vacuum so far are positive! I'm sure it will get much use! Thanks to all for your efforts in keeping the school in tip top shape!

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

Dear Parents, Grandparents and Cornerstone supporters,

It's good to have the opportunity, also from this place, to reflect on the many blessings we've received from our Father's hand over the past few months. School life continues to flow along at a fast pace with lots of solid learning taking place in the midst of a positive culture.

Orderly and Secure Atmosphere

A positive culture is something that we all desire and it's something that we require for our children to flourish. In the Vision section of our Parent Handbook, it explicitly outlines what our school should be striving for: *To provide an orderly and secure atmosphere conducive to the attainment of good education.*

This goal is explained as follows:

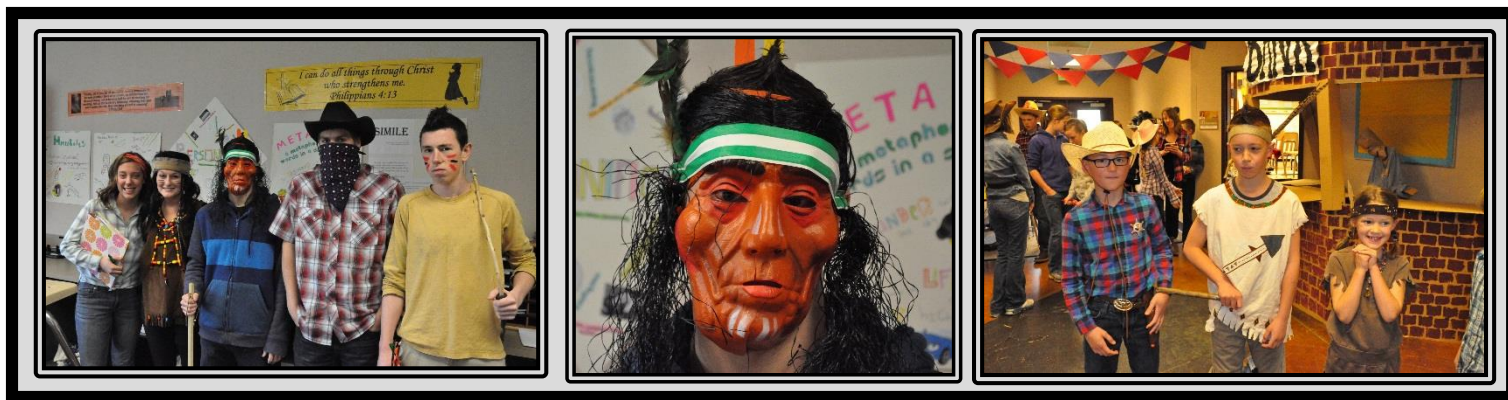
By God's design and in His perfect wisdom it is the sincere desire of parents, and by extension, of teachers, to provide children during their delicate years of growing up with a protective and nurturing environment. Our school functions within this protective network. We strive to provide an atmosphere that is safe, comfortable, and conducive to learning. It is our desire that parents, teachers, and children live together in a relationship of trust and harmony, and that students are supported on the path towards maturity and independence.

The standards for conduct and discipline in the school will reflect the standards the God of the covenant places on His people. Our children have dignity by virtue of creation and covenant standing, and teachers and students must always remember this. Conduct that undermines either the dignity and/or position of the student himself (e.g. laziness) or of other students (e.g. teasing) is not acceptable. Similarly, all discipline should be administered with a view to restoring the student to a right relationship in the covenant.....

A positive school culture in which parents, students and teachers can work in a spirit of "trust and harmony" takes a big measure of humility. We all row in the same direction when we acknowledge the spirit's work in our lives and are willing to be led and instructed in the wisdom of the Word. At home we strive to provide an orderly environment by establishing routines around our devotions, bedtimes, homework, recreation etc. At school, teachers, taking their example from the creating work of our Lord Jesus Christ, 'build' classrooms that are neat, organized and beautiful. We strive to ensure students feel safe, so that they are comfortable to make mistakes and willing to share their ideas. We hold students accountable for their behavior so that we continue to have a culture which seeks to honor God. Our school, as an extension of the home, should have a rich flavor that one can 'taste' when stepping through the front doors. Parents: feel free to speak up if you notice a trend in the school that goes against what our goal states. A godly culture doesn't just happen. It takes diligence at home as we raise godly children. It equally takes vigilance on the part of the staff to ensure that the positive culture that we see and experience today, continues to be promoted and protected.

Spirit Week

There are certain events during the school year which are an excellent shot in the arm when it comes to school culture. Some very motivated high school students spent many hours during their Spring break, turning the school hallways into a scene from the "Wild West". They did a phenomenal job! At the end of the week of festivities we decided to leave their handiwork up on the walls so we could enjoy it for a little while longer. Its efforts like this that warms the heart; students being self-motivated and sacrificing their own time for the benefit of the student body. Well done, students! You are commended for your willingness to add positivity to the school culture in this way.



Grandparents Day

Another highlight on the school calendar is Grandparents Day. We are so thankful for our grandparents interest in the school and for taking up the invitation to come visit for the morning. We are sure that your interest and support for the school goes much deeper than a yearly visit. Your prayers and financial support are also much appreciated. Further, your role as imparters of wisdom to the next generation shouldn't be underestimated either. We for our part would do well to listen and learn, as we reflected on during our devotions at the luncheon.

Upcoming

The Education Committee and high school staff members look forward to the senior project presentations starting next week. For many, it is a hands-on project and a wonderful opportunity to engage in an interest outside the walls of the school. It's also a challenge to expand ones horizons in initiative, organization and real-life experiences.

Our current sophomores and juniors are making subject selections for next year. In addition to the senior project (for our seniors) students have 'hands-on' opportunities in electives such as work placements, coaching, home economics, autoCAD, student tutoring and private music lessons. We are particularly grateful to the mentors that avail themselves for our students to get real-life work experiences through the work placements. Students that have taken this route during this school year have really thrived and are commended for their excellent work.

Staffing

We give thanks to the Lord for supplying us with teachers for next year. We are excited that Mr. Nederveen and Mrs. Johnson could see their way clear to join the teaching team for next year. We pray that the Lord would open the way for Mr. Nederveen to receive his visa in due time.

While on the topic of staffing, we continue to appreciate the parents/volunteers who stand by our side in the trenches and help out in so many ways. For example, our math work books get a lot of attention. More importantly, our students receive daily feedback on their progress. This is invaluable! Our recent scores on the IOWA tests once again highlight how well, in general, our students are doing in their math learning. In addition to quality teaching and high expectations, I attribute this progress to the regular feedback our math markers are able to give, in the often laborious task, of checking the work. Dear math markers: your task is certainly not a glamorous one – but we would like you to know that your efforts are not only appreciated but so worthwhile to the development of our students' math skills. Keep up the great work! If there is anything we can do to make your job more streamlined – feel free to share with the teachers you help out.

Two Items

There are two things I'd like to draw your attention to on pages 13 and 14 of this issue of the *LINK*. Firstly, the board-approved calendar for the 2014-2015 school year is published for the first time for your information. Secondly, the Education Committee has invited Mr. Allard Gunnink, lecturer at the Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College, to speak to us at our Parent Information Evening. I would like to encourage everyone to attend, including parents who don't have children at the school as yet.

Finishing Strong

The end of the year is barreling towards us at a rate of knots. For the juniors and seniors – just the month of May left to complete before they head off to the east coast for their DC trip. All in all, our children need our encouragement to finish the year strong. Let's all be a living example of "running the race with endurance". May the Lord bless our efforts!

Athletic Report.....Mr. Darryn Kleyn

Volleyball

The high school students are currently enjoying their volleyball season. This year there is just the one CCS boys team and two girls teams. While the number of Cornerstone boys joining in this year has dropped from previous years – there is a ‘hungry’ team of 8th grade boys who can’t wait to be involved next year. This year the high school boys continue to build upon the skills they have learnt in the past few years and they make good progress under the tutelage of Mr. Kolin and Mr. Kam Veldman.

The girls are coached by Mrs. Lisa Pelleboer and Mrs. Alyssa Brown. It’s encouraging to see them learning and developing skills and enjoying a game that they can continue to play beyond their years at school.

Thank-you coaches for your dedication and commitment to the sports program and for your willingness to teach our students life lessons through your example.

This week the Northwest Youth Volleyball League play-offs begin. Check out www.nwyouthvolleyball.com to find out the times that our teams play and feel free to come out and cheer them on.

Track and Field

Track and Field training is back on the PE (lesson) agenda. We’re looking forward to sunny spring days to prepare the students for our track and field day scheduled for May 30. If you have some volunteer hours to give we’d love to hear from you so that we can plan on your help across the different events. Just an hour or two in the morning is a big help.

Thankful

Finally, a word of appreciation to all those that help out in different ways: refereeing, scoring, timing, running the concession stand, mowing the grass, fixing things to keep the gym in tip-top shape and so on. There are plenty of opportunities to serve and no shortage of those willing to take on these roles. We are thankful for the enthusiasm surrounding the sports program. Let’s continue to give thanks and praise to our Father in Heaven who makes all these opportunities possible.



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

Since our last report the various committees and supporting community have been actively involved in making a few of our regular fundraisers a success.

In March many of you participated in the annual volleyball tournament. Word on the street is that the event was fantastic, with some great competitive volleyball and an excellent concession. To top it off, the tournament raised just over \$400 for Ladies Aid. Well done!

April saw a number of us going from door to door selling VanWingerden Garden Center gift certificates. This easy fundraiser is an excellent way to raise some outside cash, and we are pleased with the results. While we didn’t reach our easily attainable goal of 10 certificates sold/school family, we are thankful for efforts resulting in 370 certificates sold. This earned us a tidy profit of \$1,850! Thank you again to all our enthusiastic participators and congratulations to Braden Kuik and his family on selling 45 certificates and securing the grand prize win!

On May 2 and 3, our next fundraiser, the Plant Sale, will hopefully be in full bloom. If you haven’t already signed up for a shift, see Malorie B or Bernice V and they’d be happy to slot you in. We had a good turnout at our planting day back in March and with those perennials and the addition of some annuals, will offer a good variety of inexpensive plants for the local community to purchase.

Following quickly on the heels of the plant sale is our annual Garage Sale, which will be held on May 5 & 6. Look for further information regarding this event in church and school communications. Again, your support and your donations are needed and greatly appreciated.

Spring also means that it is time for us to meet again and begin to plan toward our summer and fall fundraising activities. Our next meeting is scheduled for the evening of Wednesday, May 14th. In addition to the above mentioned, we will apprise you of some of the things the board has been working on in the last few months, as well as discussing/deciding how to disperse the money we have raised over the last 2 years. If you'd like to have input in this discussion/decision, please plan to attend. Your attendance and input are valued and we hope to see many of you at the meeting!

Again, we are very grateful for the support of the school community in our endeavors and praise God for His blessing on all our activities!



Scrip Update.....

A big thank you goes out to all those participating in the Scrip program!

In the six month period of July 2013 to January 2014, over \$83,000 in grocery cards, Lynden Cash Back Dollars, and Special Order Checks was sold! This fundraiser raised over \$3,200 which could be applied towards participants' tuition, and \$1000 for the Scrip fund.

We continue to sell gift cards for Safeway (which can also be used to purchase gas), as well as gift cards for The Fair Markets grocery stores. Lynden Cash back Booklets and Special Order checks for many businesses in Lynden are also still available. We look forward to answering any questions that you may have in how you can get involved in participating in this fantastic program! If you have any questions or would like to place an order, please contact Lydia Faber or Helena Van Driel or email us at ccssscrip@gmail.com.

Don't miss out on this great opportunity to lower your tuition payments and raise money for the school at the same time!

From the 7/8 Classroom.....

This past term the 7/8th graders have been **very** busy preparing themselves for the annual speech contest, which will be held on **Friday May 2nd at 7:30pm**. It's been very pleasing to witness the students' progress in becoming more confident public (or perhaps classroom) speakers.

Recently we were privileged in welcoming and enjoying our grandparents at our school. Each student was tasked with preparing a speech or poem about how much we adore and appreciate our grandparents. Two students were selected to present theirs during lunchtime. In order to provide another context and audience, we've included the 7th grade work in this link for your interest and enjoyment.

Grandparents

Grandparents are very special to us they are loving and caring; they teach us all about Jesus. They want to make the best of everything, they may think we have grown up so fast and may realize that we are not little kids anymore and how our day has been interests them greatly.

We want them to know how much they mean to us. They give us cookies and candies to snack on, and in summer we sit on their deck or on their lawn. Grandparents are always ready to share the stories of their life; they enjoy our company as we do theirs.

We may not think so, but they really do care about everything we say or do, guiding us in the way of the Lord; in our minds these things we will record. We are so thankful that God has given us such wonderful people who treat us as all equal, and love and care for us extremely as little children we sat on their lap or knee.

Grandparents, you don't know how much you mean to us!

Written by Jenna Faber 7th Grade



Grandpas and Grandmas, are the best. Their love for God they share. Even though they all get sometimes stressed, they still show their loving care.

Through our grandparents wisdom we learn; because of this our faith in God always gets stronger, even through the hard times that give us concern. We have to trust in God and put on His full armor.

Our Grandparents spoil us with treats like chocolate and ice cream, also many other sweets. They send us back home, so we can blow off our steam.

We are all very thankful for Grandparents indeed, and for all the wonderful things they do. They are certainly helpful for our needs.

So thank you Grandparents, Thank you

Written by Shayna Kuik 7th Grade

Grandparents are very nice.
 They have the best advice.
 My grandma likes to serve with love,
 Motivated by the Lord above.
 My grandpa works hard,
 sometimes in the yard.

They give us lots of hugs,
 and give us juice in cool mugs.
 We find them very handy,
 because they give us candy.
 We have lunch with them on Sunday
 because we never see them on Monday.
 While we sit we laugh and joke,
 sometimes so hard we even choke.

Grandparents like to have fun.
 They like to play with us in the sun.
 When we laugh and play,
 then we sit in the grass and lay.

They have lots of games
 where you have to guess the names.
 We would sit there for hours
 and build towers.

We often sleep over there,
 and sometimes we scare!
 We get cookies and icecream,
 and when we go to sleep we have nice dreams.

So next time you see them
 give them a big hug,
 and thank them for what
 they have done for you!

Written by Paige Veldman
7th Grade



Imagine, having your dad taken away by the Germans in World War II. Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, today I will talk to you about my grandparents. My mom's dad was living during World War II, and he saw his dad being taken away by the Germans, imagine that! Or imagine seeing people get killed in your own town. Later my grandpa grew up and immigrated to Canada where he met my grandma. My grandma had already been in Canada for several years before they met. I wish I could ask them more questions about their childhood, but I can't because they have passed away.

My dad's dad was born in Washington D.C during 1942, the same year as my grandmom. My granddad had a paper route to save up money for a vacation. My grandmom was born in Washington D.C. One thing she told me about her childhood, was that she had to iron a lot. She even had to iron her P.E. clothes. They currently live in Sumas and they like to go swimming at Homestead, and they like to play word games on their iPad.

Written by Wesley Hofferd 7th Grade



Grandparents are full of warm love. They spread it wherever they go. It's obvious God sent them from above. Oh, how I love my grandparents so.

They kiss and hug us oh so much, I wish I could see them more, It seems like there's love in their touch; it makes me warm deep in my core.

Grandparents tell tales of long, long, ago. These tales make us laugh and cry; although, many of them we already know; these are tales you cannot buy.

When they have gone and we are old, they will always be in our hearts; their tales we will have told; and we will remember their smarts.

For grandparents we praise God because they are full of love. They'll give us sweets with just a nod. It's obvious they were sent from above.

Written by Isabel VanHofwegen 7th Grade



Upcoming Events.....

April

29 – School Spring Meeting
29 – School Speech Contest
- 12:45pm in the ARC building

May

2- Quad School Public Speaking Contest
- American Reformed Church – Lynden @ 7:30pm
5 – Assembly: Karl Vanderlinde 8:15am
13 – Allard Gunnink speech – 8pm
26 - *Memorial Day (No School)*
29 – Ascension Day
30 - Sports Day

June

12 - Eighth Grade Graduation
13- Last day of School – 11:30
13 - Senior Graduation

The Mystery of Learning: Modelling, Memory, and Motivation Presentation by Allard Gunnink May 13, 2014 @ 8pm in the school building

At the college I teach the course *Learning Theories* and in part the course description reads as follows:

This introductory course critically examines behaviourist, cognitive, and constructivist theories of learning and their application to the classroom.

It is not my intention to give you a rundown of the course, but will indicate the two different theories about learning, namely the behaviourist and cognitive approaches to learning. We will not dwell too long in the theory, but will move to some practical applications and in doing so we will marvel at the complexity of learning and stand in awe the way God has created man.

In this interactive presentation, the focus will be on four questions:

1. What is learning?

Is it possible to capture the essence of learning in a sentence or two? Is there a definition that includes Christian principles? Ask yourself the question: When have I learned something?

2. What is the mystery part in learning? Do we fully understand what takes place in the mind of individuals? The words of 1 Corinthians 13:12 often play through my mind when teaching this course: "Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known."

3. What are some Biblical principles of learning? Does the Bible say anything about modelling, memory, and motivation?

4. What is the importance of the 3-M's in learning? I have selected three topics that play a large role in learning whether it takes place at home or in school.

There are many other aspects to the topic of learning and you are invited to ask questions you have about learning; there will be ample opportunity for discussion.

Hosted by: CCS Education Committee

School Calendar 2014-2015

Aug. 26 – First Day of School
Sept 1 – Labor Day
Oct 9– In Service Day
Oct 10 – Fall Break
Oct 13– Columbus Day
 Oct. 31 -High School 1st Qtr reports
 Nov 3&4 – High School P/T Conferences
Nov 11 – Veteran’s Day
 Nov 26 – Elem Report Cards
Nov 27 – Thanksgiving Day
Nov 28 – Thanksgiving Break
 Dec 1,3 – Elem P/T Conferences
Dec 22 – Jan 2 – Christmas Break
 Jan 5 – First day of school 2013
Jan 19 – Martin Luther King Day
 Jan 23 – High School 2nd Qtr reports
 Jan 26 & 27– HS P/T Conferences
Feb.6 – Prof. Dev. Day
Feb 12 & 13 – Mid-winter Break
Feb 16 – President’s Day
 Mar 6 – Elem Report Cards (Term 2)
 Mar 9 &11 – Elem P/T Conferences
 Apr. 2 – High School 3rd Qtr Reports
Apr 3 – Good Friday
Apr 6 - Apr.10 – Spring Break
 May 1 – Public Speaking Contest
May 25 – Memorial Day
June 1 - Quad School Track Meet
 June 5 – Eighth Grade Graduation
 June 12 – 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

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Tim Faber	Dave Kruyswijk
Terry VanDiest	

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Darryn Kleyn	Ellen Davis
Karla Leyenhorst	Bob Lodder

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Jan Hensen	Steve Hofford
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Rick Faber	Brian Hendricks
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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