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From The Chairman.....Mr. James Bareman

Welcome to another edition of the Lynden *LINK*! We are now approximately one fifth of the way through another school year, and it can be noted with thanks that things are generally going quite well at school. The year has gotten off to an excellent start, thanks to the Lord's blessing, the diligent work of our principal, teachers, and volunteers, and a cooperative and willing spirit on the part of our students. Kudos to all involved! Please pray for the Lord's continued blessing and provision for students and teachers as the year goes forward.

Over the past couple of months, a number of significant volunteer events were successfully completed. Our CBM organized a painting day on September 14, and thanks to stellar organization and a strong turnout, the school was completely repainted before the day was out!

The following Saturday, our Golf Tournament committee very successfully hosted the third annual Building Legacies Golf Classic. In God's providence, the weather for both of these events could not have been better! Finally, in the second week of October, our Ladies Aid managed to make more (pre-ordered!) apple pies than they ever have before, and in very good time. Congratulations to all who participated in making these events a success, and a special thanks to the organizers!

The week this version of the *LINK* comes out will mark another Reformation Day anniversary. We remember with gratitude God's work in delivering his church from the grip of darkness, superstition, and error, to walk again by the light of the Word. The great reformer Jean Calvin had as motto "*My heart I offer to you, O Lord, promptly and sincerely.*" The motto reflects the whole hearted devotion and service that our great God requires: "*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart...*". It is the "other half" of that famous response of our Lord Jesus to the trap of the Pharisees regarding paying the Roman head tax (Mark 12), "*(render) to God the things that are God's*". Rev. W. Bredenhof writes, in a sermon about this text, "*... What does God have a right to? The answer to that could be a sermon in itself! We could think of our worship. We could think of our trust. We could think of our love. God has a right to all these things. But here we should think especially in terms of image-bearing. The coin bears the image of Caesar, therefore it belongs to him. ... here in this passage, the focus is on image-bearing. What bears God's*

image? God created people in his image. We are that which belongs to God. We are what should be offered back to God. He has a right to us and to our love and obedience.” (www.theseed.info) How much more is this true for the children God has entrusted to us! When it comes down to it, the “option” of sending our children to the government schools, where the education fails to recognize God or acknowledge his works, is not much of an option at all. Render to God what is God’s! What a privilege it is that we can be involved in this work of providing education for the covenant youth in a manner that is consistent with the Word and the confessions to which we hold that are rooted in the Great Reformation!

Looking ahead to November, please make note of the fall meeting Cornerstone Christian School Society will be held, D.V., on Tuesday, November 19, at 8:00 in the basement of the American Reformed Church building. Please mark the date on your calendar and plan to attend. The main purpose of the meeting will be to review finances for the prior year, and to elect two new board members (one for a new position). As has been published elsewhere, your input on potential nominees for the board is welcome, and can be passed on via one of the current board members. The meeting will also provide an opportunity to update the membership on some of the work being done by the board and committees, and for the board to take questions from the society. A proper agenda and other materials as needed will be provided at a time a bit closer to the meeting date. We look forward to seeing you all there!



Short Reports of the Board.....

Short Report from September 9, 2013

J. Bareman called the meeting to order, read from Psalm 17, and led in prayer. The minutes from the meeting of August 15, 2013 with the principal were approved after making two corrections. Matters from the previous meeting's minutes were looked over by the board, and action items were either marked as completed or forthcoming. A signed contract was noted as incoming mail, and the agenda was adopted after adding two items.

The principal shared highlights from his latest report, and noted that the beginning of the school year has been going smoothly. The new staff members are integrating well and adjusting.

D. Kleyn brought up an idea originating from the Ed Comm of having a parent information evening added on to the Society membership meeting. After some discussion, the board decided to reassess this idea as the meeting date approaches.

The board briefly touched on the upcoming school sleepover event for grades 1 - 8.

The board discussed the possibility of creating a facebook page for the school. Some concerns were shared that our website efforts could be diluted with a facebook account, and the importance of maintenance if it were implemented. The principal agreed to review the possibility further with the administrative staff.

In B. Lodder's absence, D. Kleyn touched on Ed Comm developments. J. Bareman inquired about the results of the Saxon Math report from last year, and D. Kleyn reported that he has met with all math teachers and shared his methods on how best to work with the program, and that more meetings are forthcoming.

T. Faber updated the board on items related to the building, including painting projects, the emergency contacts, a possible agreement with the church regarding the water tank and hydrant, and possible names to fill the CBM vacancy.

T. Faber talked about IT developments, which included the installation of five new computers, and the replacement of a faulty iPad.

The board discussed the challenge of sustainable high school staffing, noting that only two teachers are currently bearing the load. This has been identified as an important challenge for the next school year. With the issue on everyone's minds, it was agreed to discuss it at the next Big Picture meeting scheduled for September 30, 2013.

The board discussed the possibility of expanding the size of the board, noting new responsibilities with HR matters, a concentration of committee duties, a growing society, and a larger staff than years prior. The board decided to expand its size by one, requiring the election of two people: one new member and a replacement for J. Bareman. The board encourages input from the membership on this matter. We welcome the suggestion of names of those suitable to serve the school in this capacity.

The board discussed the results of the URC information evening. As an outcome of the Finance Committee, several items were identified as ideas to attract more URC members. One such item, the possibility of adding Kindergarten as an official offering of Cornerstone, was briefly discussed. Further discussion was tabled for a future Big Picture Meeting.

The Big Picture Meeting was set for September 30, 2013 at 7:30 PM in the school building, and the next regular meeting was set for October 14, 2013 at 7:30 PM in the school building.

D. Kleyn was thanked for his time and left the meeting.

The minutes from the second half of the August 15, 2013 meeting were approved as written. All action items from the previous minutes were reviewed and noted as completed, and the agenda for the second half of the meeting was adopted as published.

The board reviewed several financial matters, including last year's final figures, the current tuition and dues report, and the status of the current land purchase payment. It was noted that the next payment is due in December, and that we have collected enough to make the payment. Also discussed were some highlights from the most recent Finance Committee meeting, including open house scheduling, fundraising, a new committee member, and the upcoming golf tournament and auction/dinner.

J. Doornbos led in prayer and the meeting was closed.

Short Report - Big Picture Meeting - September 30, 2013

J. Bareman called the meeting to order, read from Psalm 14, and led in prayer. The meeting's agenda was adopted.

The board discussed a proposed job description for the principal position. After some deliberation, the board decided to task a subcommittee to work harmonizing the job description with the duties of the principal outlined in the current handbook.

The board watched a brief video presentation on SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) to get a feel for how to use such an analysis to examine our high school efforts. After reviewing a sample SWOT analysis spreadsheet, the board looked worked on filling it out for the Cornerstone high school. The results of the SWOT exercise will continue to be items of attention for both the board and Ed Comm.

The board spent some time discussing possible space expansion options, as well as the current situation of having the library in the gym mezzanine. The principal and CBM liaison were tasked with assessing upcoming space needs based on enrollment projections and upcoming course offerings.

D. Kleyn led in prayer and the meeting was closed.



Short Report from October 14, 2013

Chairman J. Bareman called the meeting to order, read from Psalm 18, and then led the board in prayer. The minutes from the regular meeting of September 9, 2013 with the principal were approved. The minutes from the Big Picture Meeting of September 30, 2013 were approved after making two changes. Matters from the minutes were reviewed, and updates were given on past action items. As incoming mail, a request for a new teacher's college representative was received from the CCRTC. The proposed meeting agenda was adopted without changes.

The principal reviewed the major items from his report with the board. He very much enjoyed the principal's conference in Ontario, and gleaned valuable information there. As far as the student body, D. Kleyn reported that all is going well. He also shared some feedback regarding some of the school's recent special events, including the past sleepover, Rev. VanSpronsen's visit, and the planning for the upcoming Christmas program. He reported that teacher and staff development is going well, and shared some highlights from the recent professional development day held on October 10, 2013. The principal then touched on some updates regarding IT and facilities.

B. Lodder gave an update on the latest Education Committee developments. The new typing program has been successfully deployed. Investigation of potential future online course use is something that is on the radar for the Ed Comm to tackle. D. Kleyn shared that the staff has been involved in some "Lean" exercises on a monthly basis, and that Brad Kuik has been sharing his expertise in this area with the school staff.

T. Faber reviewed the latest CBM report with the board. Items of note were cost-sharing of the pump/tank with the church, and estimated property taxes for the new land.

T. Faber then shared updates on recent IT-related matters, and brought the board up to speed on both new and relocated equipment.

B. Lodder reported on his recent school visit with Ed Comm member Karla Leyenhorst. He reported that the visit went very well, that there were no areas of concern.

The board discussed the nomination of new directors. The board will select suitable persons for this purpose, but also encourages the membership to suggest names suitable to stand for election. Two positions will be filled: one to replace outgoing director J. Barman, and one to fill an added spot.

The board briefly discussed future high school staffing needs. Full-time vs. part-time teaching positions were weighed, and it was agreed that it would be advantageous to start to maintain a list of potential candidates, in order to start conversations with them as needed.

The next regular meeting was scheduled for November 4, 2013 at 7:30 PM in the school building, and the annual meeting with the Society was tentatively set for November 19th, 2013 at 8:00 PM in the American Reformed Church building.

D. Kleyn was thanked for his time and left the meeting at 10:08 PM

The minutes from the meeting without the principal of September 9, 2013 were approved as written, and the agenda for the second half of the meeting was adopted.

The board spent some time discussing financial matters including appointing auditors to review the books, and a preliminary look at last year's financials for the upcoming annual meeting.

The board discussed recent ideas regarding methods on expanding the membership base, and the responsibilities of doing so.

Items to be covered at the annual meeting were reviewed including financials, voting for new directors, and a Compensation Committee update.

Regarding the recent golf tournament, J. Doornbos shared that this year's event raised approximately \$40,000, which is \$6-\$7k more than last year. For the time and effort the junior and senior class donated to help with this event, the board approved payment of an amount recommended by the tournament committee to their trip fund.

J. Doornbos shared with the rest of the board some recent work done by the Compensation Committee.

T. Faber led in prayer and the meeting was closed.

From the Treasurer.....Mr. John Doornbos

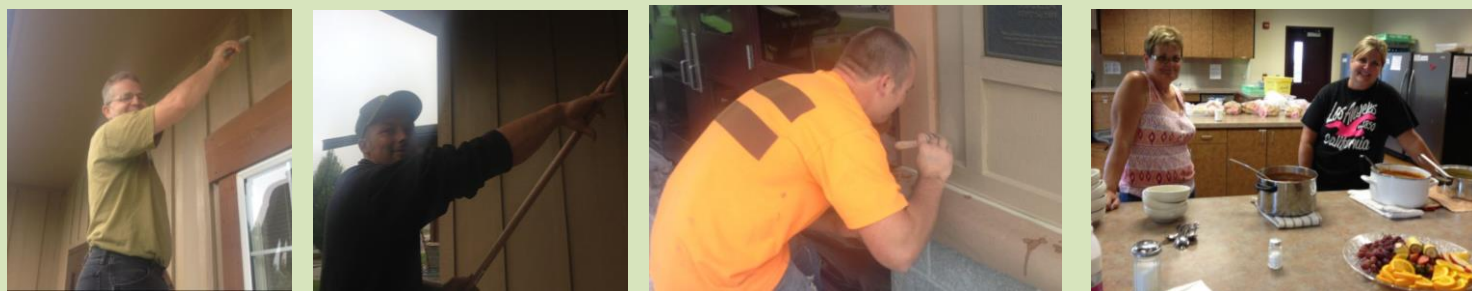
With the school year off to an excellent start we can once again reflect upon our many blessings. More details will be given at next month's membership meeting but, in sum, we can say that our financial situation continues to be very healthy. Generally speaking, tuition is being paid on time, pledges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

One regrettable item is that our budget tuition numbers will likely be down from what we budgeted for the year. This is because a couple of families, whom we had expected to send children to CCS this year, did not follow through after all. However, we are confident that we can make this up with a growth in non-traditional income... fundraising.

The Finance Committee's Activities will take up the majority of this report as there is not much to report on from the Treasurer's desk and because the Finance Committee is in the midst of various activities that involve most of our time.

Two changes to the makeup of the committee should be brought to your attention. First we had to say a regretful 'goodbye' to two people, namely Brad Kuik and Lydia Faber. Brad left for a higher calling but even in his

short time on the committee we could definitely appreciate his presence and wisdom. Much to our chagrin, Lydia's term on the Ladies Aid has ended. We'll miss her enthusiasm for fundraising, her tireless work, and broad community connections. The good news is that Janice Demooy now brightens our evening meetings, filling Lydia's shoes. We're happy to have her can-do attitude as part of our team. To replace Brad the board has approved the appointment of Dave Hoffer to the committee and he in turn has graciously accepted! A big welcome to both Dave and Janice!



This year, beyond what the CCS Ladies Aid will do, the Finance Committee is organizing/has organized four different revenue generating events. The first two have already been completed, namely the Soccer Carnival and the Golf Tournament. The Soccer Carnival was a big success in a number of ways. First and foremost we witnessed how splendidly the committee, led by Liana Faber, put together a wonderful array of different activities for the attendees to experience. From the bouncy castles, to various challenge games for varying ages, through to food and beverage offerings, everything was well organized and much appreciated. At the height of its activity it was very enjoyable to sit back and see how many people participated and how they were having a good time.

Another item of note was how well the committee had done in recruiting young people to help in managing the events. I dare say that never before have we seen such a large contribution of volunteer time and enthusiasm from our young people for the school's benefit. Thank you! Similar to the first time we had a Golf Tournament, the hope was that for the first year the event would be successful logistically speaking first and financially speaking second. In fact we were hoping that this event would be a break even event the first year so that we could build on it in year two and turn a profit. However, the final result showed a profit well beyond expectation! In conjunction with this event a big THANK YOU! also needs to go to the CCS Scrip committee which donated the seed money necessary to get this event off the ground. Ultimately the cooperation between these groups, their successful efforts in putting on a first class event, and the subsequent profit is much appreciated by the board and the school community! Word has it that the committee is keen to stick together to do a rerun on this next year...

The Golf Tournament was also another big success. Thank you to Ryan Vandelft and the rest of the committee who built upon prior years successes to increase this year's profits to a staggering \$40,000! This is an increase of about \$6000 on last year's results. Good weather, superior planning, and hard work by the committee, high school DC Trip Team, and volunteers were what facilitated this continued success. In spite of this continued growth the committee still identified several other simple ways in which they could improve future events and profits. Note that of this profit, \$4000 was shared with the DC Trip Team who did their part collecting prizes from the community, putting up signage, and various event-day activities.

Two additional events are being organized for later this school year. One smaller one that we're planning for in early December is a first annual CCS Invitational Basketball Tournament. Darryn, Bernice, and Janice are working to get an eight team tournament together for the first weekend in December. We expect most of the teams to come out of Canada. Planning for this event appears to be on schedule. The second event will be larger... perhaps as large as the golf tournament (no pressure ☺)... this event will be a Dinner/Auction evening. It will have a theme, a first-class dinner hosted by the Ladies Aid, various forms of Live Entertainment and three variations of an Auction... online, silent, and live. The basic way it will work is that there will be seats for about 200 people but rather than sell individual tickets the plan is to having people purchase a table for a donation (amount TBD) and then invite three other couples to join them... ideally, couples not from CCS, so that many of the auction items can be purchased by people not part of CCS. Our hope is that we can have each CCS family submit at least one item with a minimum value of \$100 to the auction. Further details will follow as the event nears but it promises to be something not to be missed.

Another financial topic that has the board attention this year is staff compensation. This spring the board constituted a subcommittee of three parents and two board members to review the thorny issue of staff compensation. Being that we're an 'odd-ball' school means we have had at least some perceived challenges at

making sure we compensated our staff fairly. By 'odd-ball' I mean that we're not funded by a government in any way plus we're not geographically located in an area near other schools where a cooperative compensation plan makes sense. So, for the most part, the board has hiring and paying staff with one eye on the budget (what we can afford) and the other eye on how can we get a quality teacher for a fair wage. All in all that tends to be quite the juggling act and when teachers as a profession are used to some kind of a salary grid then it can be quite difficult at times to accept independently negotiated contracts. So, knowing how important our staff is and how critical it is to the success of the school that we hire and retain a high quality staff, the board put this group together with the hope that it could propose a solution that would accomplish the elusive goals of transparency, fairness, and affordability. Most of the first several months of subcommittee work was focused on researching all aspects of how other school systems manage all aspects of compensation; this included Lynden Christian, Lynden Public, Fraser Valley, Alberta, Ontario and Australian school systems. Most recently, once all the research was complete, one of the parents was charged with the task of composing the first draft of what could eventually be a salary grid for CCS. This has been reviewed, discussed and tweaked and preliminarily shared with the whole board. At the time of writing this report we still had work to do as we have scheduled time to get staff input via Mr. Kleyn, and based on his input put a final recommendation before the board. Our goal is to have the entire process complete in advance of the membership meeting so that we could present a final draft (Cliff Notes Version) to you all. Timing might not allow this to happen as hoped but if not, we intend to at least have it completed in advance of when we meet with staff to discuss their plans for next year.

My apologies for the lengthy report! See it as evidence of how much good activity is going on in CCS.

From the Ed Comm.....Mrs. Karla Leyenhorst

On behalf of the Ed Com I can report that, well, there isn't much to report. I was procrastinating in submitting my piece because I just simply wasn't sure what to report on and yet I felt I should do my job. Then it hit me that having not much to report is indeed a real blessing that we at CCS should not take for granted. We have two new teachers, a new principal, many adjusted roles, as well as some classrooms & the library slightly switched around and so far the school year has gone without much of hitch from our angle of things. Volunteers have stepped forward to help where the teachers need it and there is a good sense of community atmosphere.

First classroom visits for the year were recently completed and we can say everyone seems to be settled in rather nicely. We pray that the Lord will continue to bless the year with much success and bless our teachers and everyone else involved what they need to do their best work in respect to the education of these covenant children.

From the IT Comm.....Mr. Tim Faber

So far on the IT front things are going relatively well. We are working through some wireless network issues in the elementary wing. So for the staff in the elementary wing, please have patience, we hope to have this resolved soon. For the rest, the new computers that were put in place, the laptops and ipads all seem to be working well and getting excellent use.

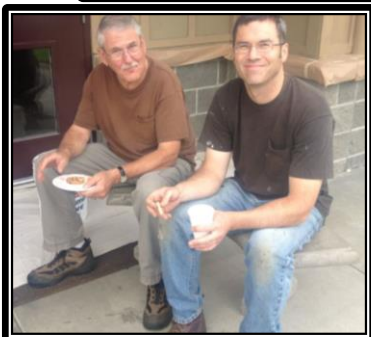
A big thank you goes to the Ladies Aid once again, for providing a couple of new technology devices: a projector for Mr. Marissen's classroom and a flat panel multimedia display screen. All of the classrooms now have up to date projectors. The multimedia screen will be installed in the front foyer, and will be used to greet visitors, showcase work done in computer and videography classes and post various announcements. These additions provided by the ladies aid will no doubt be put to good use. Thank you very much for these new additions!

We wish to thank all those who look after the technology needs of the school, Mr. Houweling and Mr. Marissen continue to be a tremendous help in troubleshooting day to day computer issues... Thank you very much for all your efforts in assisting the IT committee with this! We are continually amazed with how much technology, when integrated properly, can and does enhance the learning environment in the classrooms. What a blessing!

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

Since our last update our painting party has come and gone. I must say, the school looks brand new again! We can thankfully report that we had an excellent turnout and were able to completely finish painting & staining the exterior of the building. If we were to have had this done by a professional, we estimated the cost of this work would have been somewhere between \$8,000 and \$10,000. (Nearly equal to the amount of the entire CBM maintenance budget for the year!) By the many volunteer hours and one Saturday's worth of work this

amount of money was saved. We would like to thank everyone who participated in this event! From the organizers, the painters, and those who provided coffee and lunch, well done everyone!



We recently had a bit of a surprise in the main bathrooms, as puddles began to form in the toilet rooms. It turns out the septic system was backing up. The septic tanks were promptly emptied and thankfully everything returned to normal. We will be updating our regular maintenance schedule to be cleaning septic system filters and monitoring septic tank levels more frequently, so this does not happen again.

Some of you have noticed that the gym rental rates have increased, i.e. for evening basketball, soccer and volleyball. When the rates were first set (for association members), we did not have ongoing maintenance costs and we basically set the fees at cost to pay for the utilities during the use. Now that the gym is 5 plus years old we are beginning to incur regular maintenance and upkeep costs associated with its use. In an effort to minimize our budget impacts for these costs, the CBM has proposed these rate increases. We did comparative investigation for evening gym rental in the community, and found that the new rates are still well below the cost of renting similar facilities in the community for these types of uses. A fee increase is not meant to discourage anyone from using the facility, it is our hope that you will continue to enjoy the use of the facility. If you have any questions or concerns please let us know.

I'd like to take a moment to thank Al Sytsma for his years of service on the CBM. Al has retired from the CBM and Ryan VanDelft has agreed to take his place on the committee. Welcome aboard Ryan! We must also take a moment to commend the cleaning crews... I mentioned earlier that the outside of the building now looks brand new, but thru your diligent efforts, you also keep the inside of the school looking as good as the day we moved in! Thank you all and keep up the good work!

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

I'm sure we have all been grateful for the wonderful fall weather we have been experiencing. It sure is beautiful to see the sun rays bouncing off the changing colors on the trees on a regular basis. It all speaks of God's handiwork in creation; in due time the rain will return, the days will become colder and the daylight will be shorter. Who are we to complain?! God speaks and it comes to pass. "O Lord, O Lord how majestic is Your Name in all the earth." (Psalm 8).

Support

Fall has been busy with various school-related events dotting the calendar. The soccer carnival, golf tournament and sleep-over have come and gone. We can be very thankful for all the community support evident in these events. The juniors and seniors are a big step closer to realizing their fundraising goal for their DC trip next year after receiving a generous donation from the golf tournament committee. Thank-you to all those involved in putting on a fantastic fundraiser for the school and for making it possible for a sizable donation to be made towards the school budget.

Our inaugural sleepover was a real highlight for the students and was a nice shot in the arm for school culture. Again we had good support with a nice mix of parents and high school students helping with the activities, meals, singing and sleeping arrangements. If it was up to the elementary students – it would be placed on the school calendar as an annual event!

Recently we were graced with the presence of Rev. Van Spronsen at our school assembly. He shared with us the ongoing and exciting work on the mission field in Brazil. The Lord is using the talents of humble men to bring the gospel to the nations. With our increased awareness of the work in the Brazil, Rev. Van Spronsen asked us to support the work by remembering in prayer the specific needs of the mission work.



Later this month, STAMP is hosting a Reformation Day event at the school. We invite you to join us in celebrating and learning about God's wonderful work – also through the man of William Tyndale. Dinner is at 6:30pm and that will be followed by various activities for all ages.

Time Away

When you spend time away from home and community - you often get an opportunity to stand back and reflect on what you 'have' back home. It can be a good reality check or reminder of the blessings of the Lord, received in your own school and church community.

Recently I had the privilege of attending the International Conference of Reformed Education in Ontario, Canada. The keynote speeches and workshops were thought-provoking and the interaction with fellow brothers and sisters in different lands, contexts and communities was invaluable.

As teachers, we experience on a daily basis that we work alongside a community of believers (parents) who really do care about Reformed Education. Our children may come to a school where the Word of Christ is central in the curriculum, in classroom practice and in our daily walk of life. This is not to say that we have arrived, can rest on our laurels or be satisfied with our behaviors. However, working alongside you as parents and community, with such vibrant volunteer support, is exciting, invigorating and motivating for a Reformed teacher. We really do feel that our mission statement is alive in the school; we have the support *"to assist 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."*

Please continue to support the work of the school, putting your shoulder to the wheel in whatever way you can, and remember that, as staff, we really do feel your support in so many tangible ways and we appreciate it! Continue to keep the communication pathways open between home and school!

Covenant Children

At the Reformed Education conference the focus was on the covenant child. Professor Van Vliet from the Canadian Reformed Theological Seminary presented a paper entitled: So, who's *really* sitting in front of you. In his presentation he reminded us that the identity of our children is God-given. Their identity doesn't come from their peers, from their community or from family but from God himself. Flowing from this God-given identity are four 'truths' which are worth remembering and thinking about. Firstly, in the ups and downs of life our children's identity is stable. God is steadfast, reliable and never changes. We can instruct our children in this truth - to give them comfort; God's children can rely totally on an all-faithful Father in Heaven who cares for us. Secondly, covenant children know that they belong. Students want to feel that they belong; the covenant shows them the way. In Jesus Christ, they "belong with body and soul, both in life and death, to their faithful Savior..." (Lords Day 1). Thirdly, in covenant, redemptive history supersedes chronology. Chronology is a way we can identify a child – through their past and present experiences and performance. However, our children have to be reminded that they are part of a much bigger plan; they too are part of the redemptive history brought about in Jesus Christ. Fourthly, within the covenant, our children have an obligation to be motivated. God zealously applies himself to us. He comes to us with glorious promises and our children are obligated to respond in thankfulness to this knowledge – also in their work.

I appreciated these reminders as this is also reflected in one of our school's Vision and Educational Goals. Our school seeks to:

Provide education that: recognizes the position of our children as members of the covenant and communion of saints; strives to make a place for all of those children; utilizes the community's talents and resources; and is in harmony with what is taught in the home and Church.

This goal is further explained in our Parent Handbook as follows:

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.

Please use this as an opportunity to remind your children again – that being a part of God's covenant is a wonderful reality that gives them direction, focus and motivation for their work at school.

Finally

The high school students can expect their first quarter report cards this week. They have been busy writing tests and completing some final assignments to wrap up the first quarter. Please take the opportunity to interact with the teachers for the well-being of your children. Christmas program practices have begun. We look forward to putting on a performance on December 20th. Mark your calendars!

May the Lord continue to bless us in our respective roles!

Athletic Report.....Mr. Darryn Kleyn

As sons and daughters of the living God, we seek to glorify His name in all we do! This should be our motivation also in the sports arena and should give color to our view of competition. As parents, coaches and teachers – let it be our aim to instruct our covenant youth with the right mindset when entering the court in the upcoming sports season.



Soccer

The grade 7/8 students have been a pleasure to coach this past soccer season. They were ably led by their captain in the warm-ups, in coordinating the equipment and in adding that extra zest and camaraderie in the team huddles. As always, Ebenezer, Bellingham and Oak Harbor Christian Schools were very welcoming in

hosting us and we enjoyed the return matches at Bender Fields. As a team we have enjoyed our time together building team spirit, taking on leadership responsibilities and learning life lessons along the way. The players have begun to take greater ownership of the strategy and game plan and worked hard at contributing to the whole in the position they are asked to play in. Well done, students!



Basketball

Some of our high school students started their basketball practices this past week. A new season sure seems to come around quick again! This year we have a small intake of 9th grade boys which means we are back down to two teams again for the high school boys. On the boys side, Marty Vreugdenhil will coach the senior team and Kyle Lodder will lead the junior team (grade 9/10). Ken and Kyle Bosscher are back again to lead the grade 7/8 boys team in the middle school league.

The high school girls are a young team this year. They have three experienced basketball-brains to help them in their development. However, there will be some tag-teaming going on. We welcome Trina Visser back to the fold (who has just been blessed with the birth of her first child – a daughter!); she is preparing to fill the shoes of her Aunt Janice Dykstra who is a few weeks away from her due date. They are both supported on the court by (new grandma) Bernice Vreugdenhil. We are delighted with the way they have worked things out for this new basketball season.

The middle school girls will receive a new coach in the person of Kristina Faber and assisting her is Mrs. Kim Sytsma. Thanks for stepping up to the plate to lead our enthusiastic bunch of players!

The Northwest Youth Basketball League will be in full swing again this year to give our high school teams an outlet to play. We are currently taking registrations for teams. As always you can follow their progress at www.nwyouthbb.com. Our middle school teams will have a full schedule playing against Ebenezer, Bellingham, and Oak Harbor Christian schools as well as Skagit Adventist and possibly some AAU teams. We look forward to an enjoyable season! If you have some time up your sleeve and would like to help out in some capacity during the busy basketball season we'd love to hear from you.

This year we'll be hosting our first basketball tournament for our senior boys on December 6 & 7. We're looking to attract senior boys' teams from Canada to fill the 8-team schedule. We look forward to you supporting our teams during the upcoming season!

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

At our General Membership meeting in September we voted in two new board members; Shona Doornbos and Louise Willis. They join our current members, Janice DeMooy and Erika Postmus. At the same time, two board members finished their terms. We'd like to thank Lydia Faber and Sharon Veldman for their two years of service on the board and various sub-committees. Your dedication and hard work has been appreciated by all – thank you!

After a summer break we are again full swing into fundraising. Veggie packs were made and sold and profited our accounts with an amount of \$705. Thank you to all who contributed in making this fundraiser a success again.

This year's apple pie committee did a fantastic job in organizing and promoting the fundraiser. With the added incentive of a free pie for every 12 sold, they received orders for just shy of 600 pies! It's been a long time since we've had to make such a large amount and it definitely stretched our limits. However, things ran smoothly and, pending collection of outstanding payments, we earned a profit of just over \$2,300. Again, thank you to the many volunteers who contributed to the success of this venture.



The board met recently to discuss upcoming fundraisers and decided to give croquettes a pass this year – we will assess it again next year. Given that, our next fundraisers include:

Wreath Making in early November. Kari V., Jolene V., Debbie J. and Janice De. have volunteered their time for this committee; however, they are in need of two more women to assist them in this task. They'd love to hear from you! Please contact Janice if you are able to join them in making this fundraiser happen.

Concession Stand during a basketball tournament on December 6 & 7. We will be selling/serving 4 meals as well as snacks over an evening and full day of games. Lydia Faber and Erika Postmus are taking the lead on this – look for additional information and requests for help as we get closer to the event and please consider donating your time for this event.

Auction Dinner in February. We realize that this is still some time away but we want to get the word out that we'll need help with prepping and cooking the dinner. Do you love working in the kitchen and spending time with friends? Then please contact Janice De and she'd be happy to add your name to the volunteer list.

We'd also like to remind you that cookbooks and dish brushes are still available for purchase. Think birthdays, bridal showers, or Christmas gifts...contact any of the board members for information on how to obtain one of these wonderful products.

We look forward to continued success and the Lord's blessing on all activities in support of our school. May His name be glorified in everything we do.

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 6 – Eighth Grade Graduation
 June 13 – Last Day of School /
 Senior Graduation

Board:

Chairman:	Jim Bareman
Vice-Chairman:	Bob Lodder
Building Liaison:	Tim Faber
Secretary:	Eric Brown
Treasurer:	John Doornbos

Building/Maintenance Committee

Andrew DeMooy	Tim Faber
Dave Kruyswijk	Ryan VanDelft
Terry VanDiest	

Education Committee

Jon Dykstra	Ranelle Faber
Darryn Kleyn	Corrie Klos
Karla Leyenhorst	Bob Lodder

IT Committee

John Bisschop	Tim Faber
Jan Hensen	Steve Hofford
Jack Marissen	

Finance Committee

John Doornbos	Lydia Faber
Rick Faber	Darryn Kleyn
Brad Kuik	Ryan VanDelft

Library Committee

Antina Chase	Corrie Klos
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

...from the Third and Fourth Graders at CCS



October, 2013

The School Sleepover

During Third and Fourth grade, students learn the lessons about writing with a special focus on a writing process that includes prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing. We want students to recognize that writing is more than just putting words down on paper. Instead of seeing just an end product, they should see writing as an act of communication that involves a lengthy process. Please enjoy reading some of our pieces of writing below:



By: Maddy Brown

"Come on, guys! Hurry up!" I yelled to my friends, "Let's go set up our beds!" 'Finally the time has come for the sleepover,' I thought, 'I have been so excited for this!'

Finally, we got to set up our beds.

We were all laughing, and talking while we were setting them up. I slept between Brooke and Serena. In front of me was Julia and Shanna, and behind me was Reagan and Desiree.

After we completed setting up our beds (and testing them out) we all came out of the room, and went to the gym. We were all extremely excited that the time had come for us to actually get started.

I was playing 'Pass' with Reagan, when I heard a yell. "Snacktime, come and line up!" announced a teacher. We dropped the ball, and ran to line up. When I finally got to the table with all the cookies on it, I chose a tasty chocolate chip cookie, and a yummy brownie. Then I sat against the bleachers to enjoy my snack.

As I was eating my cookies, Stefan was taking pictures of us (all the students that were sitting against the bleachers). Serena and I found out, and we immediately covered our faces. We laughed. "Okay, he's gone now." I told Serena. We both lowered our hands from our faces.

After we were done our cookies and juice, we threw the napkins and paper cups in the trash. We all sat in the middle of the gym, waiting for instructions.

Next, when everyone was ready, Mr. Kleyn talked to us. "Okay, everybody, I am going to tell you what groups you are in for the games" Mr. Kleyn said, with his funky chicken hat on. He told me that I was in group C, with Desi.

First, we went to Jillian's group, and we played 'What time is it, Mr. Wolf?' and a game called 'Concentration'. We also went to a lot more fun games!

After that, we had some time to ourselves to finish setting up, before we had dinner. There was a lot to choose from! I enjoyed some lasagna, jello, tomatoes and carrots, and caesar salad.

Right after dinner, we had a brilliant dessert. "Yum, this looks good" I said. I had one scoop of vanilla ice-cream, but it was small because I did not feel good. Thankfully, Mrs. Janice gave me some medicine beforehand, so I did feel better than before.

Next, when we were all full, we played three games with our intramural teams. The first game we played was called, 'Pass the Flip-flop'. Then we played a game called 'ChainTag' (Blob). After that, we played a super fun game called 'Animal Noises'.



Then, when we were all settled down, we went to the gym for a slideshow, and sing-a-long. We saw lots of pictures, including the one of me, and Serena covering our faces. Next, we sang lots of songs.

One was about a moose, and one was about a worm. After that, the grades 1-3 went to bed. After they were all in bed, the grades 4-8 played an amazing game called 'Generals'. All through the game, I had so much fun. I got a red cross card.

Then, we went to the gym and found out that our team had won!! Next, we got ready for bed. We laid in our beds, and played a short game of telephone.

During the night, I woke up and went to the bathroom because my stomach hurt so bad. It did not stop all night, but I did fall asleep, and in the morning I felt fine. We also had an awesome pancake breakfast in the morning.

The End.





Excerpts from the school sleepover:

It was Friday, 27th September. When I woke up, I knew that today was going to be a terrific day. I collected my comb, gel, electric toothbrush, my minty tasted toothpaste, my blue fluffy pillow, and my cozy sleeping bag. I hopped in the white van, and left for school.

At school, I left my sleeping gear in the van! After the six very long hours, it was the SLEEPOVER...! -Kierijan Kottlenberg, age 9.

I liked the game 'Animal Noises'. Brent and I went out the door, and saw Aaron on the ground right away. He ran, and ran. Finally we caught him, and he was the Mystery Person! So he gave us a sticker. Then we went to look for more people. We found Wesley, two other people, and then Brent. I searched and searched. There was a light in the distance, which was Josh, the bear! Then we ran, and ran, and found Joel. We walked a little ways, and found Kenton. Next, we found Brandon. That was the most fun part about the sleepover- with Brent. We were the only ones to find Brandon, and I'm not going to tell you where he was! We also had very good food, and played lots of great games. It was lots of fun. I hope we have a sleepover next year!

Lewis Hofford - age 9



"Yah! Finally it's Friday, September 27!" I exclaim.

'Riiiiinnnggg!!' School's out! We are all so noisy, and excited. After school, we put everything in our bag, and hurry to set our beds up. We first get our room vacuumed, and then we set up our cosy beds. After setting up our beds, we go to the kitchen for a tasty snack. Next, we play rotation games. We go with Jaclyn Houweling, in the gym, Hailey V (lab), Katrine D (hall), Jillian (5/6 room), and Elissa K (7/8 room).

After a delicious dinner, we play 'Pass the Flip-flop'. Following this fun game, we play 'Blobtag'. Then we played 'Animal Noises!' Grade 1-3 went to bed after these games. Grade 4-8 got to play 'Generals'. I was private number three. Stefan game me a



bomb!! We had soo much fun! After 'Generals', we went to bed.
~Alayna Leyenhorst - age 9.

The Night Games

Lewis and I ventured out in the darkness to find animal noises. First, we found Aaron. Then Joel, Kenton, Wesley, Gabriel, Caleb, Shanna, Dallas, Josh, and very last, Brandon. He was very hard to find. We walked by him once. After that, we walked by him again. Then, finally, we found him!

During Generals, I went out with Kenton. He hid me really well, because nobody found me. The game started already, so I waited, and waited. Then, I looked, and saw people playing. I heard 'tag', and 'I'll challenge you', and 'challenge'. I saw people running. It was fun watching, but I wish I was challenging people, and bringing people to jail. However, it was fun hiding too.

Finally Kenton took me out of the hiding place, and I ran around with him. We ran towards Dallas. It was very weird. Dallas ran away from us. People asked us, 'who is that?'. I put my head down, so they wouldn't know it was me. The alarm sounded, and the game was over!! Everybody drifted into the gym. Mr. Houweling declared that the green team won!!!! The yellow team cheered so loud, that Mr. Houwelning said they would win by the shouting contest. After that, we went to our bedroom, and talked for a bit, while getting ready to sleep. Soon I feel asleep, zzzzzz. p.s. Thank you teachers for organizing the sleepover. I think everyone had a blast.
Brent DeMooy - age 9.

When the grades 1-3 went to bed, we stayed up, and played 'Generals'. I got caught quick by Carter. Then I was bombed out of jail with my green card still. I was then caught by Caleb Bareman. I received a red cross card. Suddenly I found out their code word, and then my sister caught their spy, Dallas. Soon, the game was over, and then I went to bed.
By: Levi Sytsma

Our school had a sleepover! Grades 1-8 slept over. Everyone was extremely excited for the sleepover. We could not be quiet all day. We played a lot of great games. Some of the ten, eleven, twelfth graders helped out, and slept



over. Everyone was jumping out of their chairs after the bell rang!

After school, everyone drifted over the great smelling snack station. It was weird with everybody still at school for the night. Then everyone went to the gym, after their snack, to play some games. We were supposed to go outside, but it was raining, so we stayed inside, and played some games. We had groups, and we rotated to different stations. For dinner there was salad, jello, lasagna, and various pasta dishes. We had a brilliant time at the sleepover.

Grades 4-8 played 'Generals' in the dark. Grades 1-8 played 'Animal Noises'. All the games were fun. We also played chain tag. Chain tag is when four people are 'it', and they go and catch someone, and then they chain arms. We also played 'Pass the Flip-flop'. It is when your team lines up, and there is a flip-flop at the front of the line. You pass it down the line over your head.

The next day, I had a soccer game. After a delicious pancake breakfast, I collected all my things, like my soggy cleats, and dry socks. My dad picked my sisters, and I up. We hopped into his warm, cozy truck, and drove to his shop, through the pouring rain. Then we turned on the heater, and I put my soggy wet cletes in front of it to dry!

By: Desiree Veldman

Yes! We get to play 'Generals.' I can't wait! Team 1 and 3 go to Stefan. Yes! I received a high number. It is a seven. We all ran out, and caught some people. I caught someone, and brought him to jail. Now I run to try catch more people. I caught someone, then 'ding, ding,' the game is over. Now we get to go to bed. I am tired! By: Joel Hofford - age 9





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AUSTRALIAN THEMED CHARITY DINNER AUCTION

It's time to resurrect the old fashioned auction, with a timely, seriously funny & exclusive twist...

Dinner Auction Down Under!

As we ramp up the excitement for a summer themed event in the middle of winter, we ask for your participation **NOW**.

Submit an auction item! Think outside the box; connect with close friends, Facebook friends, business contacts or long lost uncles to find that unique item/service that would be sure to bring success to the Live or Silent Auction.

Since we already have your email address, you will be receiving emails with more information; clever donation ideas, needed forms and event updates.

Please keep reading on the reverse page...

CONTACT

auction@cornerstoneschool.us



February 21 – 2014
Cornerstone Gym



Cornerstone Christian School
telling the generations to come, the praises of the Lord



Dinner Auction Down Under!

Feb 21 - 2014

AUSTRALIAN THEMED CHARITY DINNER AUCTION

You're part of all this...

For many of you, being involved with CCS is part of your daily walk and you've invested physically and emotionally for years to further the cause of Christ centered solid reformed education. We are asking for you to tap into your broader connections, to folks who understand what Cornerstone Christian School means to you, can identify with its mission and who would be delighted to help.

How to Find that Bottler Thingo or Doovalacky?

Ask a relative, a *cobber*, the *milko*, a *postie*, or a co-worker for items or services to be auctioned. Be creative, you won't be a *stickybeak* if you suggested someone donate 4 tickets to the aquarium for instance. They'll be stonkered, you'll be stoked and all the while it is for a great cause. Good onya!

What to do next?

Fill out the donation form, give it to your contacts after you've warmed them up and hand it in at school, or send it in via email to auction@cornerstoneschool.us. We'll arrange any pickup, follow up with donors and get it into the catalog.

Look for the donation form in your email inbox!

Give it a burl!

More information about the evening's program and entertainment will be included in future updates; stay tuned, keep in touch, with ears flapping. G'Day

Sincerely yours,
Cason, Lydia, Jan, Rick F, Eric, Dave H
CCS Auction Committee
& Cornerstone Finance Committee
auction@cornerstoneschool.us

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