

THE LYNDEN LINK

August 28, 2022
Volume 21, Issue 1

Cornerstone Christian School

~ Chairman Report ~

I would officially like to welcome you all back to school for the 2022-2023 school year and would also like to extend a special welcome to the A&L Pelleboer and L&A Cano families, who will be sending students for their first year at CCS. It's hard to believe that here we are again and that summer is coming to a close. One can only hope that the late start to the summer will translate to a late end to the summer... I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful summer break with your families and that you were able to spend some time and enjoy our heavenly Father's beautiful creation. The board and staff are looking forward to the fresh start of a new school year and have been busy preparing to welcome students back to the classroom. Thank you to all the committees who have also been working tirelessly behind the scenes in preparation! It was a blessing to have Inspire in our building once again this summer. From the look of things they had a productive time in our school. Thank you to all those who helped put all the furniture back where it belonged!

The start of a new school year brings joy, dread, excitement, fear and all kinds of other feelings. It also brings with it more demands and schedules. It's the time of year when beach balls get replaced with backpacks, homework demands take precedence over leisure time and much more is expected of students, but also parents and educators. One thing we need to be constantly aware of is how we spend our time, especially as busy schedules only increase. The world we live in is filled with high tech activities and screen time that may consume much of our time. Our smart phone apps, social media and video

games have been designed to capture as much of our time as possible. It's a fact that what we give our attention to is what we value. Technology can certainly assist us in our efforts and lives or hinder us, depending on how we use it. This year the teachers and staff have chosen "Flourish in Christ" as the theme. The world associates flourishing with activity and productivity but as Christians it means that we become more like Christ. We mature in faith and hope and the love of Christ lives in our hearts and reflects daily in our lives. We must continue to live in the word of God and to allow the Holy Spirit to do His work in our hearts. To flourish is also to trust in God's plan for you. We have all been called to be faith builders in the lives of our children. As parents we desire to raise children who love the Lord with all their hearts, souls, minds and strength, much more than raising children who know their math facts or are the star player on the soccer team. We are intentional at Cornerstone in preparing our students for a life of service and stewardship in the kingdom and church of God and to assist parents in doing so and to glorify God in all aspects of their lives. Let's all strive to seek God first each day and take time out of our busy schedules as we start the school year. Matthew 6:23 "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all things will be provided for you."

For the most part the board, committees & staff have been focused on back to school issues... however; there are also the regular items that need to be taken care of. I would like to extend a hearty thank you to all those involved!



Inside this issue

Chairman Report.....	1
Treasurer Report.....	2
Ed Comm Report.....	3
IT Report.....	3
CBM Report.....	4
Endowment Board.....	4
Ladies Aid Report.....	5
Principal Report.....	5
Athletic Committee.....	7
Calendar.....	8
Directory.....	8

Upcoming Dates

Aug 30 —First Day of School
Sept.5—Labor Day
Oct. 7—In Service Day
Oct. 10—Columbus Day
Oct.28- PD Day



This year we would like to extend a warm welcome to several new staff members for this coming school year. Jenny Tiemeyer will take on a part time role in grade 4 language. Welcome Jenny, you are no stranger in the staff room. We are excited to have you join us again this year. Kathleen Stevens will be taking on a part time role this year in 9/10 Geometry and yearbook. Welcome Kathleen! We welcome one new para-educator, Jordan Hicks. Jordan will be taking Sarah Beintema's place for the 22/23 school year. Welcome to the ed support team Jordan! We trust you will soon feel at home in this role! Tessa Kooiker will be taking on the Language Arts 1/2 classes. Tessa, welcome aboard, we hope your transition to CCS is a smooth one! Last, but certainly not least, I would like to thank Debbie Johnson for taking on the role of principal again for the 22/23 school year. We wish you strength and wisdom in leading the troops once again! To all the returning staff, part time and full time, thank you for all you do in the classrooms! Above all, we recognize the help of our faithful God and Father who once again has blessed us with a full complement of staff members.

The board has been busy with Visa renewals and new applications. The I-140 PERM visa for Stephan Houweling has finally been approved and the case now moves to final green card status. Something that we can be thankful for. We pray for the successful completion for this final process. We are also busy with the visa for Nathan Kok. We applied for the H1b visa lottery once again. He was not selected in this lottery. This past week we were able to file the PERM

visa. We will continue to provide updates as we hear more. The Kok family has decided to move to Ontario for the next year. Nathan has taken on the role of executive director at River's Edge, an equine therapy and youth mentorship ministry in Dunnville, Ontario. We wish Nathan and family the Lord's blessing and patience in the coming year. We continue to pray that the Lord would bless our efforts in this visa process.

The board is making plans for the fall membership meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 27th. Please mark this date on your calendar! We will be presenting our 21/22 year-end financials. We will also be voting for two new school board members. Outgoing board members are Clarence Kobes (SMA - Staff and Membership Administrator) & Tim Faber (Board Chair). The board will also be presenting and looking for a discussion regarding our facility needs. This is definitely a meeting you will not want to miss! Please look for meeting materials to be distributed via email on Saturday Sept 17th and in your church mailbox by Sunday Sept 18th.

We wish staff and students of CCS a blessing over the work and the studying for this coming year. It is our hope and prayer that the Lord would equip our staff with the strength and wisdom in your teaching duties. May the Lord also give students what they are in need of in their studies.

Thank you all for your continued support in the operations of CCS. It is our hope and prayer that the Lord would continue to bless Cornerstone Christian School in the 22/23 school year.

~ Treasurer Report ~

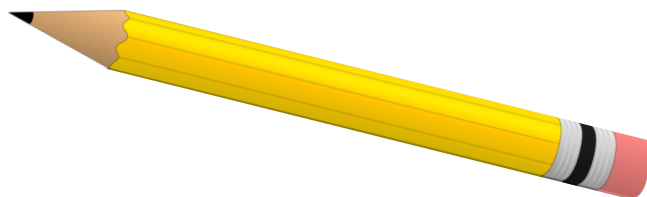
Dear Cornerstone Supporters.

Welcome to a new school year. We are pleased to have been able to close out 2021/2022 in a strong financial position. Looking forward to the 2022/23 school year and trusting we will again be provided for financially.

The 2022/23 pledge drive has been concluded and I am very happy to say our goal of \$100,000 has been met. Our total amount raised was \$127,305. Thanks to everyone for their prayerful consideration of the donations made. We were able to meet and exceed expectations. When budget time rolled around last spring, it was decided to use some surplus funds from the 2021/22 school year to offset part of the pledge drive. This would allow us to keep this year's pledge drive at the \$100,000 level. The surplus amount needed from 2021/22 would be \$25,000. With God's grace we will be able to cover our deficit fully this year with pledged amounts, no

surplus funds needed. It always blows me away how these financial numbers are met. Almost to the dollar!! Something to look back on and understand we are truly provided for by God's gracious hand.

There will most likely be a request at our fall membership meeting to transfer some surplus from the 2021/22 school year to another account, (capital projects account for example). Again, thanks to everyone for getting their 2021/22 pledges in, and to the society for their continued support in this year's pledge drive. May God bless our efforts and bless our staff and children in the 2022/23 school year.



~ Education Committee Report ~

A new school year is in view! It is such a blessing to look back and see God's faithfulness in the past and know that His promises are certain for the coming school year as well. While most of us put school far out of our minds after the last day in June, your Education Committee was still meeting and discussing important things. The Language Arts program is what we will be reviewing this year. Our current curriculum is no longer available in grades 1&2, so that has put us in a position where we must consider other options. Alongside our teachers we will delve into new possibilities.

Cornerstone is blessed to have the facilities to have a horticulture program. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage you to encourage your chil-

dren to consider taking this course. This coming year it will not be running due to low interest. We feel this is a good option for our kids and would love to keep it on our course selection sheet.

We are excited to see that approximately half of our Senior students have come forward with proposal letters for their upcoming senior projects. Way to go! This is always a challenging part of your final year, but it is also such a growth opportunity and will be rewarding!

It is a gift to be able to educate our children in a Christian facility. We are thankful for our teachers and would like to wish them and the supporting staff and committees around them a wonderful year.

FLOURISHING In Christ

~ IT Report ~

Greetings, happy and important LINK readers! The following is your IT update:

As with virtually every facet of CCS, a new school year brings a flurry of work in our arena. Getting things back to the way they were pre-Inspire, ensuring all staff equipment is working properly, connected to the internet, and ready to go on day one is what we've been busy with during the last couple of weeks. Our security camera system is working well, and so far is providing great coverage with high-quality video. We still have a few cameras yet to install.

New this year in the school are twenty-five Chromebooks for use in the elementary and middle school grades. We retired just as many, which are no longer

licensed for school use, and have officially "expired." This means Google will no longer provide updates, bug fixes, and security patches, or guarantee extension compatibility on these devices. However, they otherwise work perfectly fine. If you would like to purchase one of these retired Chromebooks, they can be had for \$25 apiece. They function fine for the time being, but Google cannot guarantee their long-term operability.

To indicate your desire to purchase a retired Chromebook, or for any general IT help, say hello to us at it@cornerstoneschool.us. We're friendly.

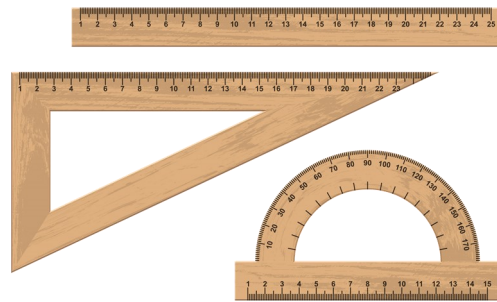
For the IT Committee - Eric B.

~ CBM Report ~

As usual summertime flew right on by and the new school year is upon us. Though summertime can be a break from normal school-building related activities, CCS once again had the school rented out by Inspire. We are grateful for their rental and though it creates many of its own summer-time CBM activities, it was another successful year for both of us. Recently we saw a good portion of the school carpets get cleaned and furniture get moved back into its rightful place. Many thanks to the Cleaning volunteer efforts over the past week! Also thank you to those who came out to help move furniture back last week - many hands do make light work! As we move into the new school year and the change of season, the CBM's list of tasks has grown, and we are busy working through these items. An exciting development is that the school building is receiving all new lighting for classrooms, hallways and the exterior through a PSE program for energy efficiency upgrades. Through this program the school was able to have this replacement done for about 5% of the cost it would have been, so we were grateful to be part of this opportunity. The lighting installers are there this week working through replacing the origi-

nal ballasted fluorescent bulbs with new LED bulbs - so hopefully this means many less flickering and buzzing lights throughout the school year. There are many other maintenance items actively being worked on such as: replacing broken playground equipment, setting up new maintenance procedures and protocol manual, and many more quick-fix-it tasks to keep things running as smoothly as possible. We wish the staff and students a great start to a new school year!

Dave Hofford, for the CBM



~ Endowment Fund Board ~

Greetings from one of the two newest members on the Endowment Fund Board (Ian Davis and I are the new members!)

Perhaps now is a good time to get back to the basics - what actually IS an Endowment Fund?

According to GOOGLE, "an Endowment Fund is money set aside (invested) to earn revenue to fund some type of charitable activity".

In other words, it is an investment account that generates interest for the benefit of our school. Most endowment funds (ours included) are designed to keep the principal amount intact while using the investment income for the benefit of the school. (ie: it is not a rainy day fund, or a savings account that we dip into as needed). This money is set aside forever, with the intent that it will benefit our school society for years to come. Educational Institutions that have been around for many years often have an Endowment Fund that has grown quite large, and generates interest that will benefit that school and its members every year. (It's like a generator that generates money instead of electricity!)

Our society agreed that once our account had reached a certain point, a board would be established to invest that money wisely.... hence the Endowment Fund Board.

The role of the Endowment Fund Board is to invest the money of the Fund wisely, and to raise awareness about our Endowment Fund so that members of our society (and their extended families) will consider contributing to the Endowment Fund, and that our members consider CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL in their wills.

There are lots of potentially confusing terms when discussing something like an Endowment Fund..... but it really isn't terribly complicated.... our community is setting money aside and investing it for the LONG TERM, with the expectation that FUTURE GENERATIONS will benefit from the INTEREST that today's money will generate over time!

May God continue to bless the entire community at Cornerstone Christian School!

On behalf of the Endowment Fund Board,
Cason VanDriel

~ Ladies Aid Report ~

Hello from Ladies Aid! The end of summer is fast approaching. We hope you all enjoyed the sunshine this summer and just like that it comes to an end and a new school year begins.

Cornerstone Cafe: The latest fundraiser that is still very fresh on our minds is the Cornerstone Cafe. It's been quite the time at the fair for nine days! A BIG thank you to the Cafe committee (Helena VanDriel, Debby Lodder, Irene Hicks, Janice DeMooy, Stephanie Bareman) who put countless hours into getting the cafe off the ground as well as a supportive community where we can have 315 positions filled and function smoothly! Thank you to all our managers, food supers, cashiers, drink servers, assemblers, fryers, grillers, cleaners and order compilers. You all came together to make a great team and the resulting spirit of camaraderie and fun was wonderful. Thank you also to the behind the scenes people - the booth cleaners, the decoration donators, the understanding spouses and families, and the

babysitters and drivers who enabled our volunteers to come out in full force. And of course, we want to thank our customers. It was great to see so many of you come through and enjoy the Cafe's Rodeo Beef Burger, the Blue Ribbon Chicken Burger and our famous sweet potato fries. It seems as though a lot of Canadians have returned and it was much busier than last year. The final calculations are still pending and we will update the membership once the results of this fundraising effort are in.

Apple pies & Pumpkin patch: Stay tuned for your opportunity to help in the next few months.

We are looking forward to another successful year of fundraising, May God bless the decisions made at board level, and the efforts of the committees in the coming year. Your contribution as a volunteer is both needed and wanted!

On behalf of Ladies Aid,
Ang Davis

~ Principal Report ~

The beginning of a new school year is a very exciting time. There is so much activity going on in various ways and places. From colleagues re-uniting, or meeting for the first time and making connections, to CBM members and other volunteers moving furniture. From the whirring noises of the photocopier to the smash of the stapler against the wall. Or the voices of young children running through the halls while mom cleans cobwebs from a classroom. Or the call of "koffie" at 10 am. It's a joy to be back at our school tasks once again.

The hustle and bustle of the various school and community parts is the visible part of before school preparation. However, there is a lot more that goes into getting ready for the school year. Sometimes it means a stare into the corner of a classroom as a teacher thinks about how they want to tackle the spelling program this year, or it can mean a silent bowing of the head for prayer asking for wisdom for decisions that need to be made. It can also be many hours at a computer typing up course plans for the year, or meetings to discuss protocol and expectations. Especially for new teachers the planning part of a new school year can easily become overwhelming. For any teacher, experienced or not, working with new materials can be a learning curve, too. Making schedules for all the parts to come together is another facet of the new year planning that needs to be looked after.

All of these parts, whether highly visible or less no-

ticeable are the things that make this an exciting time! There is so much anticipation and looking ahead. While planning may be a lot of work, it also builds the excitement. We, teachers, are anticipating great things for the new school year!

The staff chose the theme "Flourishing in Christ" for the 2022-2023 school year. Flourishing is a word that elicits the idea of abundance and excess. Christ Jesus told us He was the Good Shepherd and that He "Came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." That is flourishing! Or God's promise to His nation Israel, in the words of Zechariah the prophet, "that I will restore double to you." (Zech 9:12)



In the following verses, Zechariah (NASB) uses words like 'drenched' and 'sparkling' and 'boisterous', all words that demonstrate the abundance of God's goodness. Psalm 1 is the Bible passage as a great example of God's people flourishing. The "tree firmly planted by streams of water" depicts the life of a faithful child of God, who follows the "way of the righteous". They are those who flourish.

As we were busy with our planning these past few weeks, we grew in anticipation for the new school year. We are excited to flourish, but we aren't isolated trees in an open grassland, rather we are a forest, or a grove of trees that will flourish together. The gift of community is a beautiful one, where everyone works together to a goal. The goal, or mission, of Cornerstone is "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" and when we accomplish that goal there is flourishing! And that's exciting! What an exciting time of year!

New to Cornerstone

There are some new students we need to introduce to you. Aaron and Liam Pelleboer will be joining the students in third and second grade respectively, and we are so thrilled to have these young lads join us for their learning journey. We also have a new crop of first grade students to introduce. Kierra Bouwman, Everly Bysterveld, Cruz Cano, Asher Chase, Mia Chase, Isaac Faber, Wyatt Kuiper, Nolan Lodder, Joel Pelleboer, Ryan Thompson, Bryson VanDelft, Jasper Vanderlinde, and Elise Veldman make up our class of 13 first graders. Welcome to Cornerstone everyone and may our heavenly Father cause you to flourish!

We also have some new staff members that are taking up their tasks among us. Jordan Hicks is excited to be working as part of our Education Support Team. She joins Janice Dykstra, our EdSupport Coordinator, and Christine Hofford and Mikayla Vandeburgt (nee Willis - and congratulations!) in the Educational Support Department. In addition, we welcome Tessa Kooiker, who has enthusiastically jumped into the Language Arts role for first and second grade. She is "wild about her new job" (check out her classroom!) and we are just as thrilled to have her onboard. Kathleen Stevens is another educator seeking to help children flourish. She has joined the teaching team in the high school, agreeing to lead the Yearbook class, as well as the second stream Math course in 9/10. And while Jenny Tiemeyer isn't exactly new to Cornerstone, we do want to welcome her back and are so thankful for her love for this work and her willingness to share that with our school once again.

Also new to Cornerstone are a few courses. Mrs. Stevens is teaching one of these courses. Geometry 2 is a 9/10 Math course that will tackle similar concepts as the Geometry 1 course, but will do so at a more individualized pace for students who need this type of instruction. We also have developed a separate PE 11 course. The high school PE class had grown to a large number that becomes increasingly difficult to manage, in addition the large class decreases opportunities for students to be actively involved in skill development. The goal of PE 11 is to focus on lifestyle activities. It will be somewhat of a learning curve as we put our ideas into practice, but we hope the students will be able to be involved in activities like tennis, biking, swimming, etc. We are open to ideas and assistance with this course. We'd love to hear from you. Mrs. K. Wendt has been found willing to be the instructor for all our high school PE courses again.

Things to note for this year

There are two things I'd like everyone to be aware of so I've included them as bullet points below.

1. Cornerstone is now a CASHEW and PISTACHIO FREE school. We have a student coming into kindergarten that will need emergency care should he come into contact with even the oil of these nuts. Please check granola bars and trail mix for these items. None of us should bring these items into the school. An epipen will be hung on the medical board in the staffroom should this be needed.
2. We will no longer be parking cars on the gravel area beside the school kitchen. With students coming and going during the day, it has become too much of a hazard.

The 2022-2023 school year is about to begin. Classrooms are decorated. Booklets are copied and stapled. Course plans have been prepared and submitted. Desks and chairs are set out and waiting to be filled. The teachers have been working many hours to be ready and now they are! May God bless all our efforts! May our work be to the Praise and Glory of His Name.

Opening Assembly

Everyone is welcome to join us at our opening assembly on Tues, Aug. 30th at 8:15, in the church building. After the assembly we will all walk over to the flag pole at the school to sing our National Anthem and say the Pledge of Allegiance. Then the students will head to their classrooms, with grades 1-8 meeting their teachers at their outside classroom doors. Parents, as usual, are welcome to come into the school to see their children settle into their seats, and snap a few pictures. There will be an opportunity to have a cup of coffee as well. See you then.

~ Athletic Report ~

As we start the school year, many students are looking ahead to their participation in school sports. Most students in 7th through 12th grades will be playing at least one sport for a Cougars team, and some will be playing for other local high school teams as well.

Those who were present for the athletic awards presentation at the end of last school year may recall the qualities that we are looking for student athletes to develop: not only high skill level in their chosen sports, but also a commitment to academics, sportsmanship, leadership, and character development. Before any sports seasons begin, I would encourage parents to talk with their student athletes about what it would look like for them to demonstrate those characteristics.

Creating an athletics program also requires a significant time contribution. Throughout the school year we will be looking for coaches, referees, gym supervisors, and other volunteer (and paid) opportunities to contribute to Cougar athletics. I ask that when those requests come across your email inbox that you seriously consider if you might be able to help, even in a small way.

And as always, feel free to reach out if you have any questions, ideas, or thoughts about our athletics program.

On behalf of the Athletic Committee, Gavin Willis



1. **Dress code policy:** Modesty is the guiding principle, but we want to specifically remind you that no leggings, crop tops, or severely ripped jeans (those that show more skin than a pair of shorts!) be worn to school. Also remember professional sports teams and apparel from other high schools is also against the policy.
2. **Cell phone usage:** Students may not access their cell phones within school hours. If home-student communication needs to take place during that time, please do so through the homeroom teacher. Cell phone 'jail' and 'bail money' will materialize if students ignore this policy.
3. **Cashew & Pistachio's:** Cornerstone is now cashew & pistachio free school. Please check your granola bars and trail mix for these items.
4. **Student Parking** on the gravel beside the kitchen is now off limits. Students will now need to park in the church parking lot on the north side of the church building.

2022/2023 School Calendar

August

30- First Day of School

September

5- Labor Day

October

7- PD Day

10- Columbus Day

28- PD Day

November

4- 1st Qtr report Cards HS

7,8- High School P/T Conferences

11- Veteran's Day

18- Elem 1st Term Report cards

21- Early Release -11:55am

21,22- Elem P/T Conferences

24- Thanksgiving Day

25- Thanksgiving Break

December

16- Christmas Program

21- Last Day of 2022

22- Jan 4 – Christmas Break

January

5- First Day of 2023

16 - Martin Luther King Day

20- High School 2nd Qtr Reports

23, 24- HS P/T Conferences

February

3- PD Day

22- 2nd Term Elem Report Cards

23, 24,27- Mid Winter Break

27- Elem P/T Conferences

March

1- Elem P/T Conferences

17- PD Day

31- HS Third Qtr Report Cards

April

3-7- Spring Break

7- Good Friday

May

5- PD Day

18- Ascension Day

26- Sports Day

29- Memorial Day

June

2- Eighth Grade Graduation

9 - Last Day of School

9- Senior Graduation

Board

Chairman:	Tim Faber
Vice-Chairman:	Ray Buitenbos
Secretary:	Ray Buitenbos
Treasurer:	Kolin Veldman
Ed Comm Liaison:	Eric Brown
Staff & Membership Admin	Clarence Kobes
Building Liaison:	Dave Hofford

Building/Maintenance Committee

Joshua Burger	Nathan Burger
Nathan Chase	Andrew DeMooy
Dave Hofford	Terry VanDiest

Education Committee

Stephanie Bareman	Eric Brown
Debbie Johnson	Debby Lodder
Lisa Pelleboer	Sharon Veldman

IT Committee

Eric Brown	Stephen Chase
Ian Davis	Matt Hoefakker

Finance Committee

Janice DeMooy	Brian Hendricks
Harvey Pelleboer	Kolin Veldman
Gavin Willis	

Library Committee

Stephanie Bareman	Janice Dykstra
Fiona Houweling	Debbie Johnson
Helena VanDriel	Michelle VanDriel
Sharon Veldman	Bernice Vreugdenhil

Ladies Aid Committee

Pres - Janice DeMooy	VP - Michelle Veldman
Sec - Ang Davis	Treas - Kelli Kobes

Staff

Office Administration:

Debbie Johnson - Principal
Gavin Willis - Athletic Director
Kari VanDiest- Secretary
Karla Leyenhorst - Bookkeeper

Full Time:

Debbie Johnson - Geo, Sci, Music 3/4, Art 7-10
Jeanette Janssen - Science 7-12, Math 9-12
John-Mark Stromberg - PE 5-8, His.7/8, Eng,& His. 9-12
Lynette Van Hofwegen - Gr. 5/6
Stephen Houweling - Math 4, Gr.7/8
Wayne Chase - HS: Bible, Math, English, History

Part Time:

Christine Hofford- Ed Support
Darlene VanStaalduinen - Spanish 11/12
Janice Dykstra - Ed Support Coor.
Jenny Tiemeyer - LA 4
Jolene Kingma - L.A.3, Math 3, Bible, His.,PE 1-4,Sc. 1/2
Jolene Vreugdenhil - Culinary Arts 11/12
Jordan Hicks- Ed Support
Karen DeMooy - Art 3/4
Kristina Wendt - PE HS
Melanie Kottelenberg - Music 5/6
Mikayla VandeBurgt- Ed Support
Shari Kruyswijk - Gr.1/2
Sharon Veldman - Culinary Arts 11/12
Tessa Kooiker - L.A. 1/2