

The Lynden LINK

Cornerstone Christian School

~ Chairman Report ~

December 22, 2024 ~ Volume 23, Issue 3

Welcome to the December issue of the Link! As we approach the break, I'm sure everyone is looking forward to some time of celebration, rest, and refreshment. May the staff and students enjoy the time off.

Thank you, teachers, for your efforts in this first half of the year. As parents, we value all that you do on our behalf each day. Not only do you inform and enlighten our children's minds, but you develop personal relationships with them and thus lead them in their Christian walk of life. Thank you, staff, for your consistent attention to the details of administration and finance. Thank you to many volunteers who take part in teaching, building, cleaning, marking, and fundraising. Thanks also to the many committee members who serve on standing committees, or who step up to help out with ad-hoc committee needs. The CCS community is quite a large "team", and it's rewarding to be on a good team such as this one!

Speaking of team efforts, I'm thankful to report that the building project is progressing well. I have an update from the **Building Expansion Committee** that I'd like to pass along, as follows:

It has been a great couple of weeks. The subcontracted portion of the remodel is well under way and going well. The plumbers, electricians, heating and air conditioning, and fire sprinkling trades are all well under way and doing a great job! Thank you to the crews that came out the last couple Saturdays to finish up for the sub trades. We made good headway. We are into the next phase and have recruited some good leaders to take on the volunteer

crews for the siding. We also have been working closely with the CBM for many other items such as updated security, bell and phone systems as well as furniture finding and purchasing. Lots of appreciation for everyone's efforts in this communal project. It is so wonderful to see the community come together for this. Please respond to our recruiter's call when it comes.

With regard to my ongoing review of the Strategic Plan, we've already looked at the first three goals 1) Governance and Administration; 2) Infrastructure and Campus Resources; 3) Membership and Community Engagement.

In the last Link, I reviewed the first half of the items under **Goal 4: Educational Program and Student Enrichment** - Integrating all curriculum and extracurricular activities with a biblical worldview. Striving for excellence as we seek to fulfill our mission.



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Upcoming Dates

- Dec. 23-Jan. 3 - Christmas Break
- Jan. 6 - First Day of 2025
- Jan. 20 - MLK Day (no school)
- Jan. 24 - HS 2nd Qtr Reports
- Jan. 27 & 28- HS P/T Conferences
- Feb. 14 - PD Day
- Feb. 17 - President's Day
- Feb. 27 & 28 - Mid Winter Break

**Next LINK Submission
Due Date:
February 19, 2025**

For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light. Eph. 5:8

Here is the second half of that 17-item list under Goal 4:

9. The library is used by students, staff and parents to its full potential.

10. A comprehensive Athletic Code gives guidance to players and coaches.

11. Meaningful service and leadership opportunities are available to students both in and outside of school.

12. Interaction with Canadian Reformed sister schools provides opportunities for relationship building and mutual edification with others in the communion of saints beyond CCS.

13. Assemblies are purposeful, participatory events that build on the school's mission.

14. An organized, aligned curriculum with an integrated Biblical worldview is taught and documented in all grade levels.

15. Multi-disciplinary units or school-wide themes are taught to promote an understanding of the interconnectedness of knowledge in God's world.

16. The school culture reinforces that each student is valued as a unique individual that belongs to a community of learners and a supporting covenantal community.

17. Feedback is sought after each school year for parent/student ideas on improvement.

Again, a brief look at this list indicates that we have been steadily working towards these goals. To mention a few highlights: #9 - All students continue to have access to the library, and staff are encouraged to work closely with the librarians. Parents are being kept informed of library materials by means of a new monthly newsletter. #12 - We had a setback with COVID, but we are experiencing more interactions with our sister schools in BC now and we hope to continue growing in that area. #16 - Our Ed Support department is busy working with many students across grade levels, and we continue to refine our ability to meet the needs of students at many levels.

We are seeing the need for CCS to become more mature in our policies and processes, and the strategic plan has been helpful in giving some structure to this. The board values your support, and we encourage you to contact us with any concerns you may have. May the Lord God continue to bless our work.

~ Steve Hofford



~ From the Ed Comm ~

The school year hasn't even hit the midway point yet, and three Seniors have already presented their Projects in front of a room full of relatives, friends, teachers, and the Ed Comm.

It's these evenings that are the reward for working on the Education Committee. The Grade 12 Senior Project is a self-directed course of the student's own creation which allows for... a lot of variety! Projects have included engine swaps, home renovations (and at least one tree house), shed and other construction projects, veterinarian job shadowing, music and swimming instruction, and at least one novel and a comic book. And this year, so far, students have tackled EMT training, a school job shadow, and working with children under foster-care. The projects vary greatly, because God has made a big world with innumerable opportunities, but a driving requirement behind every project is that it must stretch the student. What stretches a student will be as unique as they are, but every time it is just a joy to see how students will rise to this challenge.

That stretching is one of the Senior Project's big benefits – our children have received 13 years of Christian education, and now they get to use the

God-given skills they've been honing and refining, and put them to use, even as they still have parents and teachers to lean on and turn to if the going gets a little overwhelming. It's a chance to head out into the big world out there while still having a safety net (that may include some prodding too).

Another benefit is that projects offer students a chance to test out an area of employment they might want to pursue after school. Whether the students find out that yes, they absolutely love this field, or it turns out they really don't care for it, that's valuable to learn early on (before, and not after getting a four-year degree in that field).

The end result is an experience that is always impactful, and for maybe as many as half the students, might even be life-changing, giving them the experience and confidence to know they can do this thing!

So, as you can guess, the Ed Comm is looking forward to seeing more Senior Project presentations in the new year. And if you get a chance to come see one, it is not to be missed!

~ From the Treasurer ~

I am just getting my hands into my new task as treasurer, but it has been easy to jump into - due to the excellent work of our bookkeeper and former treasurer!

We are almost 5 months into the school/fiscal year, and, thankfully things are on track for income and expenses are within reasonable variances.

There is not much else from a financial perspective to report on. We are right in the middle of the school year, and have previously covered 23/24 actual performance. Also, it's not yet time to think about spring

budget—that will probably be covered in my next Link write-up.

The only other thing I want to leave with you is to please remember any pledges you have committed to for the building expansion project. If you can't remember what the time frame or details of the commitment are, please check in with me or Karla Leyenhorst and we can clarify.

~ Ian Davis



~ From the IT Committee ~

Greetings from the IT committee.

Outgoing board liaison Dave Hafford's term with our committee has come to an end. We thank Dave for his efforts during his time on our committee, especially in developing a clear path forward for some strategic improvements. Lance Visser has been appointed as our new board liaison. Welcome, Lance! Reece Lodder has meanwhile agreed to replace outgoing committee member Ian Davis. Thanks for your efforts Ian, and welcome to Reece!

On the whole, the IT at CCS is running smoothly after the typical busyness of the first weeks of school. The committee's efforts are currently focused on the IT specifics for the expansion project. Early next year we intend to take a more deliberate look at evaluating how we as a committee can best meet Cornerstone's current and future IT needs.

For the IT committee, Dustin Wielenga



~ From the CBM ~

Hello everyone!

The CBM crew is hoping you all have your boots out and slickers on, this rain seems to be sticking around!

We want to start out by thanking Terry VanDiest for his 3 years of service on the CBM committee. It is always so nice to have people willing to step up and help out. We are also very thankful for John Vreugdenhil for filling the void left by Terry. We look forward to squeezing out as much as we can from John.

We want to thank everyone who is consistently coming out to help with the new addition. It is all very much appreciated. We have been working closely with the building committee to figure out a lot of the logistics of the work that is being done, but also how best to utilize the tradesmen as they come in and do their work, hoping to get them to make repairs on the original side of things as well. We

hope to get things taken care of like drywall, wall paper, ceiling issues, leaks and things of that nature.

We are looking for furniture for the new addition. If anyone has any leads on desks or tables or chairs, please feel free to reach out.

We are figuring out what direction we will go in terms of fixtures and for the bathrooms for the addition but also replacing items in the current school. We are also replacing the water heater, after 20 years of use it is time to retire the current one.

We are working with our friends at Inspire to see if they would like to utilize the school another year despite the construction. We are not sure yet if they will or not.

We all hope that God gives you a beautiful Christmas and blesses you all in the coming year!
For the CBM, Josh Burger

~ From the Ladies Aid ~

Our Fall fundraisers - Apple Pies and the Pumpkin Patch have both wrapped up for the year. The Apple Pies generated \$13,087 in profit and the Pumpkin Patch \$2,328! A big thank you to both of these organizing committees and the MANY hands that helped!

The 2025 Coupon Books are available at the CCS front desk and the Green Barn. The books are \$15 each and each book profits the school \$5. We are

also restocked on the DeLaval dish brushes! They are at the front desk and are \$12 each. Wishing you all a great Christmas!

On behalf of the Ladies Aid,
Jessica Chase



~ Student Achievement ~

In a recent contest organized by the VFW, students in 6-12 were invited to participate by writing an essay with a given theme. The students in 7/8 were asked by their teacher to use this as a regular, but authentic writing assignment. As a result of their efforts, Cornerstone had a clean sweep of 1st, 2nd and 3rd, keeping in mind that many schools participated.

Congratulations to Lukas F. for taking first in the local contest, and also District, and will be moving on to the State level. Emma D and Cassie D took 2nd and 3rd place to round out the sweep. Very well done, everyone!

Here's the beginning paragraphs of Lukas' Patriot's Pen essay he wrote for the VFW essay contest.

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States

of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." Each week, as we stand united, hats in hand, a hushed silence blankets the crowd. Hundreds of voices blend into a powerful song, echoing like a thunderstorm through the air. The cold air swirls around the flag, while our hands rest over our hearts. As the words ring in my ears, I am filled with thankfulness for being an American.

As the sound floods over me, I'm reminded of how our nation has been blessed by God - the very foundation upon which our republic was built. The foundation of our constitution is slowly eroding from our foundation. My generation should fight so this won't happen. I look forward to a future for my children in a country that stands united and committed to our constitution.

~ From the Principal ~

Straying from the usual principal report format in the LINK, I've included a bit of an update in poem form. Our family still writes SinterKlaas poems, so I was in the groove. Enjoy!

Twas the week before Christmas and all through the school

The teachers kept students from breaking the rule
The work of the students hung in the hall with care
As celebration of learning we want to share

The students are hard at work in their seats
While days of vacation sounds awfully sweet.
We have love shown to us through cards and gifts
These measures of kindness gives our hearts a lift

Out from the back there is often a clatter
But with builders out there, we know what's the matter

The students do gaze out the window at times
"Attention up front", the instructor chimes.

Construction work goes on each day
Distracting us? Yes, it may
But we see the gift it is
To have more room will be bliss

The sun has peaked out the clouds this week
But black ice has made the parking lot sleek
No snow yet to dazzle our wondering eyes,
But when it does come, there'll be cheers of surprise.

The bell is rather soft with muted chime
It needs to be fixed– but not at this time.
But now after recess late they came
The teacher whistled, and shouted, and called them by name;

"Now, Jacob! Now, Tory!, Now, Bryson and Macy!
On, Heidi! On Aaron! On Lukas and Cassie!
Back to your seat! Get back to it now!
There's math to do. We'll show you how!

So work they did. They did a lot
Learning all the teacher taught
PE skills, and art things, too
We hope you saw it when you came through

Parents came to our conferences to chat
Fabulous turnout! Thanks for that!
It's so good to chat with parents all
We asked you to come. You answered the call.

And Reading month is done again
Pancake breakfast as the highlight reigns.
The costumes were outstanding, yes
It is so very hard to choose the best.

Looking ahead to January 31st
In Science projects we will be immersed
It starts at 7pm that night
Please come and join us for this sight.

We thank our community for all you do
Thanks to all! Thanks to you!
And now a break from regular things. That sounds right!
Blessed Christmas to all, and I hope you liked this poem I write.

One last comment in prose form.
While the weather has been quite cooperative to get us to the Christmas break, there is always potential for snowdays in the new year. In case of such an event, a gradelink email will be sent to your inbox, a message will be posted on CCS Ladies Aid Facebook page, and a message will be relayed to KGMI radio station (they also post the list of closures on their website @MyBellinghamNOW.com.



~ From the 1st Grade Classroom ~

Worshipping - Drew

According to the Scriptures - Corbin

Listen - Lilly

Kind - Bridget

Adore Him - Jacob

Singing - Branton

Chosen - Corbin

Helping others - Avery

I love others - Lilly

Love - Reagan

Died on the cross for our sins - Jesus! - Myles

Respectful - Piper

Everlasting life from Him - Jacob

Nice to others - Jack

Oh God our help in Ages Past - Whole class

Friends are a gift from God - Zander

Loving - Lilly

I love God - Myles

God loves us - Jude

Have respect for Mom & Dad - Myles

Talk kindly - Avery



Why is Jesus the best gift?

Jesus is the best gift we receive. I am thankful for Jesus dying on the cross. I'm glad that he rose again. I'm thankful for Jesus.

By: Liam Vrengdenhil

Jesus is the best gift we receive. Jesus is the best because he died for all of our sins. He is also perfect. I'm thankful for Jesus.

By: Selena Vansabben

Jesus is the best gift we receive. I love Jesus so so much. I am thankful that He died on the cross for all our sins. I'm thankful for Jesus because it is His birthday. By: Easton Pelleboer

Jesus is the best gift we receive. I love Jesus because he died on the cross for our sins. He is really helpful because he saves us and cares for us. I'm thankful for Jesus!

by: Olivia Krayswijk

James 1:17

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.



Why is
Jesus the
best gift?

Jesus is the Best
gift we receive in
the world. He keeps
us safe from
our sins forever.
He died for all our
sins.
By: Lane monty Stap

Jesus is the best gift ever! He
died on the cross for all our sins!
He did so many miracles! He is our
Father! I'm thankful for Jesus!
By Tory Aspen Faber

Jesus is the best gift we receive.
Jesus died on the cross. He loves
you. He is our Savior.
I'm thankful for Jesus.
Kaitlin Thompson

2 Corinthians Jesus Christ is the most precious, valuable gift given by God

Jesus is the best gift in the world.
Jesus is perfect. He is the best and
one thing about him is that
he is God. He died on the cross
for all of your sins.
By: Hunter Burger

Jesus is the best gift ever.
Jesus died on the cross and
saved us from our sins. Jesus
is our Savior. Jesus can do
anything. I'm thankful for
Jesus. By: Kase Koorker

Jesus is the best gift we receive. He washes our sin away when we sin. We love God and Jesus so much. Jesus died on the cross for our sins. I'm thankful for Jesus and God.

By: Maxwell Dahlia Cano

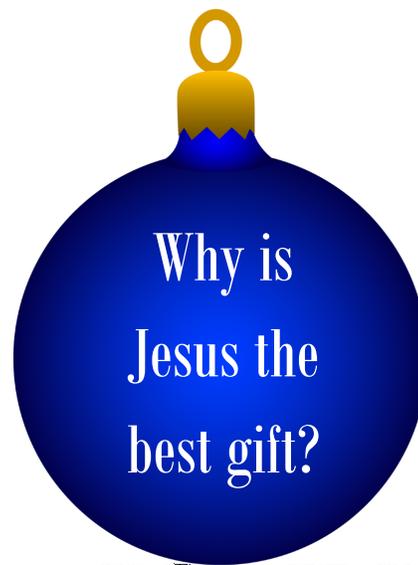
**2 Corinthians 9:15 -
Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gift!**

Christmas is not about the toys you get. It is about Jesus being born. Jesus was born to save us from our sins and satan. Jesus loves us and when we pray He always hears us. Never stop praying.

By: Raylan Lindeman

Jesus is the best gift we receive. He died on the cross for all of our sins. We love him because He can do everything. I'm thankful for Jesus.

By: Ezra Chase



Jesus is the best gift because he died on the cross for our sins. He prays for us and he can help us get to heaven. Jesus can help us wherever we are and we can pray to him.

By: Everly Bysterveld

~ From the Staff ~

During our last PD Day, our full time staff attended the InspirEd conference, a Christian professional development event, held in Langley, B.C. with several hundred participants.

To give you a taste of what they learned, they have each completed a little summary paragraph of what



A number of teachers chose to attend two sessions about AI, particularly GenAI (Generative AI) platforms such as ChatGPT, Gemini, and Claude.

In the morning session, which Mr. Houweling and I attended, Darren Spyksma of the Society of Christian Schools of British Columbia (SCSBC) led a session titled "Life is Better with AI?" The session focused specifically on how educators and administrators can use AI to be more effective and efficient, especially in generating ideas, individualizing learning, and editing student work. Quite a number of examples were shared for effective use of GenAI in the classroom. This included having AI adjust the reading level of a difficult text, personalize content to a child's area of interest, or increase engagement by giving content a fun twist. Apparently, asking ChatGPT to rewrite learning content in "pirate talk" makes for an engaging learning experience! We also discussed ethical considerations of the use of GenAI in the classroom, in particular student privacy.

In the afternoon, a number of Cornerstone staff attended a session led by three members of Baylor University's Center for School Leadership. The presenting team jumped right in by conducting a live poll asking about the potential educators see in AI

and the concerns we might have about this new technology. The presenters acknowledged that GenAI is a "printing press moment" that will radically change our world, not just in schools, but throughout society. The presenters shared information from surveys Baylor recently conducted about the use of GenAI in the classroom. One notable disparity jumped out in one particular topic: In surveying teachers across the US, the team found that less than 50% of teachers believed their students used GenAI. However, when surveying students, they learned that almost 90% of students acknowledged that they used GenAI!

One effective and ethical application of GenAI, the presenters explained, is improving student writing. Students can use AI to review and refine their work by seeking specific feedback on readability, then revising their writing before submission. Teachers who've tried this approach noted marked improvements in clarity and structure. (For the record, I did exactly that with this writeup. I asked ChatGPT for feedback on how to improve readability, and I made quite a number of changes based on the suggestions it gave!)

- S. Chase



A workshop I attended at the recent InspirEd Conference titled "Five Relationships We All Need" highlighted the significance of various interpersonal connections. The presenter, Erik Ellefsen, shared his experiences regarding his 'coffin crew' while battling a terminal illness, emphasizing the importance of personal friendships. It prompted us to reflect on who our close friends are and whether we have expressed to them the impact they have on our lives during challenging times.

The second relationship discussed was that of work friends. It is crucial to identify who we turn to for support in our professional environments. Following this, the relationship with our employer, boss, evaluator, or manager was examined. The dynamics of these relationships, both with colleagues and super-

visors, play a vital role in an individual's success and longevity within a workplace.

Additionally, the importance of mentorship was addressed. Both mentees and mentors benefit from this relationship, as it fosters professional development as well as facilitating career advancement. The final relationship explored was that of outside networking. It is essential to connect with individuals beyond our immediate workplace for support and insights.

Purposefully nurturing all of these relationships is essential for personal growth and professional engagement, which in turn contributes significantly to our overall well-being.

- D. Johnson

Dr. Gordon T. Smith, Teaching Fellow at Regent College, Executive Director of Christian Higher Education Canada, and previously Professor of Theology at Ambrose University, Calgary, presented two workshops, lectures really, which focused on the meaning of Christian education and vocational calling.

In his first lecture, "Discerning Vocation" Dr. Smith focused first of all on the vocational calling of teachers themselves. Teachers attending this lecture may perhaps have been surprised that this presentation was not immediately directed to assisting students with career directions in their lives. However, the primary thrust of this presentation was well known to those of us at Cornerstone Christian School, that is, thinking in terms of a Christian worldview. Dr. Smith noted that many evangelicals have slid into a sacred vs. secular distinction when considering vocation. Too often evangelicals have thought of careers in general as belonging to a secular realm. Additionally, he noted that students may approach the choice of a career simply as one of "getting a job" without recognizing that all work is service in God's world and Christ's kingdom. It was encouraging to again be reminded of the need to be thinking Christianly, and therefore holistically, when considering the top-

ics of career and vocation.

In his afternoon lecture entitled "Generation to Generation" Dr. Smith considered what role schools may have in passing on the Christian faith, and the extent to which schools share a role with the family and the church in this task. Of course, in the broader evangelical world to which the presenter belonged, the student body of a Christian school might represent a wide variety of churches and ecclesiastical traditions, but in our own Reformed circles, not only is there much less diversity theologically, but Reformed people have given this question a good deal of thought. Dr. Smith noted that the affective domain, the faith-life of students, is an area in which schools should purposefully be involved. Nevertheless, Dr. Smith cautioned against schools deliberating seeking the "conversion" of students. Again, this presentation needs to be understood against the backdrop of the mainstream evangelical world, where students may be unchurched altogether. In the end, I came away with a renewed appreciation for the effort which our own Reformed community has made to think more carefully about the work of the Christian school within our covenant community.

- W. Chase



I recently attended the Forming Fearless Little Mathematicians workshop, where I learned practical strategies to help students succeed in math, especially those who struggle or dislike it. The speaker stressed the importance of starting the year by creating a positive tone by validating students' feelings, fostering open-mindedness, and showing genuine enthusiasm for math. Partnering with parents to promote a positive attitude toward math at home was also emphasized as key to building student confidence.

The workshop also highlighted the value of building thinking skills by encouraging class discussions about concepts like fractions or patterns. These discussions help students think critically and develop problem-solving abilities.

A standout idea was the reminder to celebrate math's creativity and beauty. Math is more than numbers, it's full of patterns and connections. The speaker also encouraged shifting the focus of math classes from performance to learning, where mistakes are seen as opportunities for growth. This helps create a safe environment where students can learn without fear.

Overall, this workshop reinforced how intentional teaching strategies can help students see math as accessible, creative, and meaningful. By supporting both mindset and skill development, we can empower every student to become a confident, fearless mathematician.

- J. Groves

InspirED main keynote reflection

We're excited to share with you some inspiring insights from our recent professional development at the InspirED conference, where our teaching staff gathered with many other schools to explore innovative approaches to education and student well-being.

Reimagining Joy in Learning

One great takeaway was a fresh perspective on joy in education. Rather than viewing joy as the absence of challenges, we learned to see it as "the freedom to struggle well." This resonates deeply with our approach to supporting your children through their learning journey. When we embrace productive struggle as part of the growth process, we help students develop resilience and find genuine satisfaction in their achievements.

The FEW Approach

The speaker introduced us to the FEW framework - Feedback, Engagement, and Well-being. This approach emphasizes that true educational success comes from:

- Providing meaningful feedback that guides growth
- Fostering genuine engagement in learning
- Supporting each student's overall well-being

Seven Daily Practices:

The speaker challenged us to implement a new approach to catalyze joy and enhance learning through seven key practices:

- 1.Reframe challenges as opportunities
- 2.Incorporate laughter and positive energy
- 3.Ensure every student has a friend

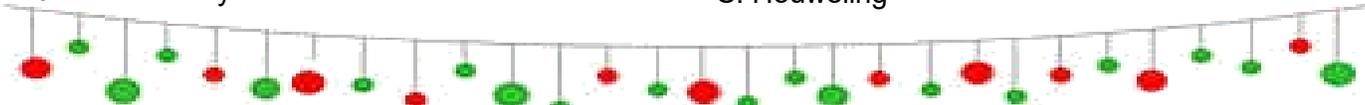
- 4.Listen actively to student voices
- 5.Be a champion for each child
- 6.Cultivate wisdom through experience
- 7.Celebrate growth in all its forms

Building a Community of "Turtles" We were introduced to an interesting metaphor: while crabs in a bucket might pull each other down, turtles help lift each other up. If we were to consider using this metaphor at school, students, teachers, volunteers, administrators, committee members and board all work collaboratively toward shared goals. This approach significantly enhances our teaching effectiveness and creates a supportive environment where everyone can thrive.

Individual Focus in a Collective Environment Of course, students are individuals who bring with them a spectrum skill and talent to the learning environment. As educators, we do our best to see and serve each student as an individual in the context of a covenant community. While we aim to create excellent programs for all students as a whole, we recognize that true educational success happens at the personal level, through differentiated approaches and individual attention. Although this happens in different ways and measures in the classroom, we are extremely thankful for our education support team.

Looking Forward These insights can shape our teaching practices and school culture. May the Lord bless all our endeavors, so that walking as children of light, the LORD's light shines brightly in all facets of life: at home, school and church.

- S. Houweling



Representing the book
"Chicka Chicka Boom Boom"
By Bill Martin

High School Math - Our Journey at Unity Christian School

Unity Christian School, under the direction of its two main math teachers, has implemented the use of a proficiency scale for mathematics at the high school level (up to and including grade 12). They received a lot of push back at the time from parents, students and administration initially, as the rest of the school was still using percentages and grades. However, the teachers felt strongly about this.

It's now been in place for a few years, and everyone has gotten used to the system. I'm not sure that I would support this idea for CCS, as to me it's too subjective and in the end, because of college requirements, they still end up giving the students a percentage at the end of the year.

I did have some takeaways from this session. They include:

Students write reflections on every assessment, indicating how they feel about the topic assessed (understand etc.). This seems like a bit of work, but it does give an insight into how students are thinking, especially those that don't ask for a lot of help in class. A pre-made form is used for each assessment (same one for each) and it's mainly check boxes. This works for both skills-based and thinking-process based.

Quiz/test correction papers. I like how this school does corrections for assessments. Rather than do it on the actual quiz (which I currently do), students need to do their corrections on a separate page (pre-

made - up to 4 corrections per page). This method encourages students to rethink the question as a whole, and also correct the full answer, rather than just part of it (especially important when follow through marks were given). This gets them to think about the concept, and correct their understanding of the concept, rather than just part of the question. I may look at implementing this, if not this year, then next.

Inclusive Tiered Educational Support (Duncan Christian)

This session wasn't really what I was expecting, and it focused on how the school could remove barriers that stop students from being in, or participating in classes. The main focus was on Tier 3 students who are supported through many extra resources, including personnel. A typical school will have around 80% of their student body in Tier 1 (regular classes), 5 - 15% in Tier 2 (need some support) and 1 - 5% in Tier 3 (Need intervention support for either behaviour, academic or a combination of both). This particular school had a greater percentage in the Tier 3 area and so they had to take action.

While a lot was not really applicable to our circumstances at CCS, it did reinforce the idea that when issues with students arise, it's very important to:

Address it

Work as a team to support each other and keep information confidential, as much as possible (Admin and/or teachers and/or ed support)

- J. Janssen



The "Teaching Hands-on Science in the Elementary Classroom" workshop at the InspirED Conference was a wonderful opportunity to learn about ways to incorporate active learning in the science classroom. By learning to see science as a circular and flexible process instead of the linear scientific method, students will be much more likely to engage deeply with scientific concepts. Students will then be able to move beyond the "what is happening" to discover more about the "why". In addition to this, we also were presented with multiple exam-

ples of hands-on science experiments for a variety of elementary grades, even trying one ourselves! Science is an amazing reflection of the power and order of our Creator God, and it is crucial that this perspective is evident through our teaching. Overall, this workshop reminded us that it is vital to make science class active and engaging for students, making sure that our teaching is framed through the lens of a Christian perspective.

- P. Kooiman



Hannah
Gonzalez

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Wayne Chase

Sharon V.

Kari
Vandiest

deanette
dansen

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Melanie
Kottelenberg

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Jolene
Groves

Bea
Sterk

Janice
dykstra

Julie Thompson

Warmest thoughts and best wishes
for a wonderful Holiday Season.

Kathleen
Stevens

Taige Koosman

Katrina
Lodder

Shari Krusswijk

Tessa
Heerde

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Debbie Johnson

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Stephanie Baremar



2024/2025 School Calendar

August

27- First Day of School

September

2- Labor Day

11- Student Picture Day

October

11- PD Day

14- Columbus Day

November

7- HS 1st Qtr report Cards

8 - PD Day

11- Veteran's Day

12, 13 - High School P/T Conferences

27- Elem Report Cards Term 1

28- Thanksgiving Day

29- Thanksgiving Break

December

2 & 4- Elem P/T Conferences

20- Last Day of 2024

23-Jan 3 – Christmas Break

January

6- First Day of 2025

20- Martin Luther King Day

24- HS 2nd Qtr Reports

27 & 28- HS P/T Conferences

February

14- PD Day

17- President's Day

27& 28- Mid Winter Break

March

13- Elem Report Cards Term 2

14- PD Day

17 & 19- Elem P/T Conferences

April

4- HS 3rd Qtr Reports

7- 11Spring Break

17- Grandparents Day

17- Easter Concert

18- Good Friday

May

9- PD Day

23- Sports Day

26- Memorial Day

27- Sports Day Backup

30- Eighth Grade Graduation

June

6- Last Day of School

6- Senior Graduation

9-11- Teacher Work Days

11 - Report Card Distribution

Board

Chairman:	Steve Hofford
Vice-Chairman:	Jan Kottelenberg
Secretary:	Stephanie Bareman
Treasurer:	Ian Davis
Ed Comm Liaison:	Stephanie Bareman
Staff & Membership Admin	Jan Kottelenberg
Building Liaison:	Harvey Pelleboer
IT Liaison:	Lance Visser

Building/Maintenance Committee

Joshua Burger	Rick DeMooy
Will Kingma	Jon Kruyswijk
Harvey Pelleboer	John Vreugdenhil

Education Committee

Debbie Johnson	Janice DeMooy
Jeanette Janssen	Jon Dykstra
Rianne Kruyswijk	Ryan VanDriel
Stephanie Bareman	

IT Committee

Caleb Bareman	Reece Lodder
Lance Visser	Dustin Wielenga

Finance Committee

Brian Hendricks	Harvey Pelleboer
Kolin Veldman	Gavin Willis

Athletic Committee

Katrina Lodder	Stephen Chase
Harvey Pelleboer	Kolin Veldman
Gavin Willis	

Ladies Aid Committee

Pres - Malorie Burger	VP - Lisa Pelleboer
Sec - Jessica Chase	Treas -Leanne Veldman

Staff

Office Administration:

Debbie Johnson - Principal
Kari VanDiest- Secretary
Karla Leyenhorst - Bookkeeper

Full Time:

Debbie Johnson - Art 5-10
Jeanette Janssen -Science 7-12, Math 9-12, Comp-Program 10
Jolene Groves– Gr. 3/4
Paige Kooiman - Gr. 5/6
Stephen Chase - PE 5-10, HS Eng & Hist, His. 7-8, Per Fin 9
Stephen Houweling - Math 4, Gr.7/8, Comp Progr. 9
Wayne Chase - HS: Bible, Math, English, History

Part Time:

Bea Sterk - Art 3/4, Math 5/6
Christine Hofford - Ed Support
Hannah Gonzalez - Spanish 11/12, Gr. 1/2- PE & Science
Janice Dykstra - Ed Support Director
Jolene Vreugdenhil - Culinary Arts 11/12
Julie Thompson - Ed Support
Kathleen Stevens– Yearbook, L.A 4
Katrina Lodder - Athletic Director, Ed Support
Kaylene Hofford - Ed Support
Kristina Wendt - PE 11
Melanie Kottelenberg - Music 3-6
Ranelle Faber - Gr.1/2 Friday, History
Shari Kruyswijk - Gr.1/2 Bible, Math, Music, Art,
Sharon Veldman - Culinary Arts 11/12
Stephanie Bareman - Gr.5/6 Math
Tessa Kooiker - L.A. 1/2