

## Nominees for Board of Directors - Spring 2020

Pursuant to the nomination process, the following members of the Calvin Christian School Society have agreed to let their names stand for nomination:

**Jeremy Brouwer** attended CCS as a student from K through grade 8. He and his wife Leslie have one daughter currently in JK, with their son registered for JK in September.

They are members of the York Maranatha Christian Reformed Church where Jeremy has served as Youth Elder on Church Council, as a member of the church golf committee, and liaison to the church outreach committee. He has been involved as a youth group leader. He is employed by Talbot Wood Products. Jeremy says that he is grateful to have access to a school that teaches the same biblical principles being taught in church and in their home. He looks forward to the opportunity to serve this community, whether that be now on the Board of Directors or in the future.



**Gillian Doucet Campbell** and her husband Stephen have been associated with CCS for 3.5 years as parents of two daughters attending our school in grades 6 and 4. They attend St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church in Hamilton. You may have met them as they ran the Glow in the Dark room for the bazaar in 2017 and 2018.

Gillian has served her church by being on the Steward Committee and on a Strategic Planning Committee, and has also been active in the community by serving as board chair of two committees from the Association of Fundraising Professionals, Golden Horseshoe Chapter, as a Corporation Member of Trinity College, a Diocesan Rep of the Anglican Foundation of Canada, and TASTE, York University (Take a Student to Eat mentorship program).

Gillian is currently working for the Anglican Diocese of Niagara as Director of Stewardship and Development, and as a Fundraising Consultant for the Shalem Mental Health Network Foundation.

Gillian shares, "Like a compass, Christian education orients children to Christ. It is the starting point and foundation of all learning. It informs the *why* of learning. Christian education is not simply saying, "The Bible says . . ." and it goes beyond rote scripture memorization and the sharing of Bible stories. Christian Education is learning about God's world and how to participate and interact with what God is doing in the world. Within a Christian Independent School, Christian education also includes modelling Christian faith through the care offered to each child, the working relationships between parents and teachers and between co-workers, and the support from volunteers and donors. It is truly about educating the whole child. For instance, I had a subscription to NAIS Magazine (National Association of Independent Schools) for several years to support my work with Hillfield Strathallan College and later Hamilton District Christian High School. Almost every article attempted to articulate how Independent Schools work at educating "the whole child". But, on closer look at what that means, you quickly see it does not include the spiritual aspect of a child. As a disciple of Christ it's important to me that Christian education does indeed educate the *whole* child so they learn a Christian way of understanding and a faith-filled way of living".



**Marie Eggink** was a student at CCS, and, with sons currently in grade 6 and 3, and one more son ready for JK in 2021, has had nine years of association with us as a parent along with her husband Tyler. Marie has served on the CCS Bazaar and Transportation Committees, and currently now on the Unity Campus Committee. She has also served as Resource Coordinator, Kids Church large group leader and as special events support at her family's church, Gateway, in Caledonia. Marie also has helped with a community food drive.



As a registered nurse, Marie is on the Rapid Response Team at the Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) and in the Burn Unit at Hamilton Health Sciences, Hamilton General Hospital. Marie sees Christian education as a key source of support in their journey of raising children in faith. "Biblical principles incorporated in academic learning give our children the practical opportunity to learn and witness a faith-based worldview. Teachers and staff in the Christian education system are important and exemplary role models of Christian leaders and disciples for our children. I am so grateful for the opportunity to send our children to a Christian school and for the opportunity to serve our Christian school community when needed and able".

**Maria Grootenboer** is married to Devon and they have three daughters, one currently in grade 1 here at CCS, one entering JK in September, and one still at home. They have been a part of the CCS community for three years, and associated with other Christian schools in our area for many years. She works as a Retirement Plan Specialist at the Christian Labour Association of Canada (CLAC) and is a member of the Ontario Human Resources Professionals Association. Along with her family, Marie attends the York Maranatha Christian Reformed Church where she currently teaches Sunday school.



When asked what Reformed Christian education means to her, Marie comments, "Being able to provide our children with access to Christian education where they are able to learn about God and understand the world with a Christian perspective has always been important for my husband and I. Watching our kids grow in their faith and build friendships with others who are believers is a real blessing". Marie is very interested in assisting with the launch of the new Unity Side Road Campus.

**Brian vanOosten** and his wife Jennifer have two children in grades 2 and 3 attending CCS, and have been part of the CCS community for five years. He is an active member at the Buchanan Park Free Methodist Church where he is a Member of the Official Board, member of the Classis Hamilton Campus Ministry Committee, and the Classis Hamilton ad hoc Hiring Committee. In the past he has served as deacon and clerk of council as well as on the Communications and Fellowship Committees at the First Hamilton CRC.



Brian is employed by Mohawk College. Brian shares these thoughts when asked about Reformed Christian education: "I believe that Reformed Christian education is a faithful response acknowledging God's dominion over every square inch of creation. In our vows as parents and as community members during the baptism ceremony of every covenant child, we commit to doing all in our power to encourage our children to live, learn, play, and work as citizens in Christ's kingdom. Providing and sustaining a school which shares this aim is an act of obedience and an opportunity to support one another in the exercise of this vow."

Brian adds that he is excited to serve the CCS community and to help it meet its mandate of providing Christian education to all those who desire it here in the Hamilton area.