

## **CCS Spring Membership Meeting Wednesday, May 27, 2020**

### **Board Committee Reports**

#### **Auction Committee**

The Auction and Soupfest was a wonderful community experience. We had 19 different soup donations to try while listening to dinner music by Mike Earls and his band. After the votes were tallied Monica Mudde won the most votes with her Potato Leek Bacon Soup.

Jerry Haanstra was back behind the microphone to lead our auction bidding and he didn't fail to amuse us while helping us spend our money. The auction raised over \$27,000.

The auction committee consists of Marlene Hendriks (Soupfest), Mike Dekok (outgoing), JoAnna Ott (outgoing), Tracey Paul, Kyle Bouma, Wendy Bootsma, Allison Moon (incoming), Natalie Roukema (incoming). We would love to have more members on our team and would welcome new members!

#### **Bazaar Committee**

The Bazaar was a great day held on November 16, 2019. Many people came to shop, eat, and connect with friends and neighbours. Children were excited to try out some new games in the Kids' Games Room as well as play other popular games such as the Cake Walk and Bottle Game. A new room, the Kids Only Christmas Market was busy with lots of children buying gifts. The Christmas Room and the Home and Style Room continued to be popular with shoppers, and the Silent Auction had a wide variety of products and services. Shoppers could also find delicious items in the Bake Room and Soup Room. We enjoyed delicious food catered by Gourmet Meats as well as Korean food served in the gym and Dutch food in a quieter area in the music room at the Dutch Café.

The online "Sign-Up" program was used to recruit volunteers and allowed them to pick a location and time that worked best for them. Volunteers and community members made this day a success!

Financially, the event raised over \$36 000 for the school. We thank the CCS community for giving their time, services, and products in support of this event!

The Bazaar committee current members are: Susan Guichelaar Gesch(chair), Allison Dekker, Daniele Bergstra, Karen Holloway, Katrina Harsevoort, and Stephanie Gonnering. We thank our outgoing members for their service: Debra Bartels, Jerome Vos, Jennifer vanOosten, Lisa Ouwehand, Joyce Vanderheide, and Dan Postma (Silent Auction coordinator). We hope to recruit some new members.

#### **Building Committee**

The Building Committee is tasked with making sure that the school building and property is well maintained, and areas of concern are addressed. The idea is to make sure the building ages gracefully, which means careful planning and execution on essential repairs and upgrades. We are very grateful for the tireless work of Mr. Cochrane and his team for keeping the facility in such great shape. As plans for the Unity Campus continue to unfold, the Building Committee is excited to make that building ready our children as well. The Building Committee members include Rob Ouwehand, Bryan Cochrane, Mark Weller, Devin Grootenboer, Jeremy Brouwer, Tyler Eggink, Jeremy Zandberg, Gerrit Hagen, and Jim Hosmar.

#### **Computer Committee**

The Computer Committee seeks to support and enable our students and staff to learn more about God's world through the use of technology. We maintain a computer lab, school wide wifi, classroom computers, classroom projectors, 3 chromecarts as well as multiple primary classroom chromebooks, a

digital display in the front foyer, and many other aspects of technology within our school. Our goal is to allow students to use chromebooks and school accounts to collaborate and dig deeper in creating beautiful work. Using this technology, teachers guide their students in how to honour God in our use of technology, while preparing our students with the 21st century skills they need to be an active, informed, and influential member of their community. Our committee is made up of 8 members who have a wide variety of talents and interests in the field of technology. This past year we replaced all of the Promethean Boards in the primary classroom with interactive smart boards. We also worked on boosting our wireless infrastructure, particularly in the junior and intermediate classrooms. We have replaced our computer lab with a fourth mobile Chrome cart. This allows more space for the EA's to continue their work. As well, we continue to maintain the devices and accounts here at CCS, while also looking ahead to put plans in place for the following years.

### **Education Committee**

Communication seemed to be a recurring theme this year at Edcom. As we learned about the results of the Unity Road Survey, we recognized that parents were thrilled to be able to give feedback and feel connected to the decisions being made about our school. This helped guide our meetings as we strove to maintain proper means of communication between students and teachers, as well as between school staff and our families. One of these initiatives was the finalization of a media consent form for teachers to use before showing content in the classroom. We continued with the formation of Teacher Growth Plans to help teachers be encouraged and challenged in their classroom goals each year. As the year progressed, we began to brainstorm ways to extend the invitation to parents to provide feedback, communication, collaboration and encouragement to their teachers. As we were starting to explore the option of a yearly survey for parents, we were met with a sudden change of gears: enter COVID-19! Even as this time of uncertainty has changed so many aspects of home and school life, we recognized the ever-present need for communication had not changed! We collaborated with administration to conduct surveys at every grade level to inquire about how Learning from Home Program was going and where more assistance was needed. Our most recent meeting was done virtually, and we were able to discuss some important aspects of our new school dynamic such as assessment, graduation, "classroom" visits, as well as some potential topics to engage in as Learning from Home Program continues (such as safety online, etc). We discussed the need for several new committee members and have begun the process of doing so.

Currently our committee members are: Deb VanEgmond, Kaitlin Hoogland (Chair) Elizabeth Billiald (Secretary), Joyce DeVries (Vice Chair), Lisa Vanderzwaag (Board Rep), Tim Groenewegen, and Timothy Veenstra.

### **Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee works closely with the Finance Manager and the Treasurer to review the various and on-going financial matters involved in running a school. We are grateful to have Melissa Vander Wier, the Finance Manager, taking care of the day-to-day and month-to-month routines as well as lending her expertise for drafting budgets, issuing tax receipts, and following up on ideas submitted by the committee or BOD to help our school run the best it can. The committee brings considerable financial knowledge to the table and spends time reviewing financial aid applications, reviewing and updating finance policies and year-to-date data for our budget, as well as working with auditors each Fall. And, of course, the committee is responsible for proposing the budget for each school year. As with

all other committees and the BOD, this year has been especially challenging in light of COVID-19. Our goal is to maintain the financial soundness of CCS while keeping Christian Education affordable to our families. We also spent considerable time this year on the Unity Road campus project and its influence on the budget.

This year's Finance Committee members are: Letitia Fluit, Kim Hill, Isaac Hoogland, Gord Hornsveld (Treasurer), Steven Schilstra, Melissa Vander Wier (CCS Finance Manager), Pieter Weekhout and Jeremy Zandberg (Chair).

### **Fundraising Committee**

The Fundraising Committee has been working hard to meet its budgeted goal for the 2019-2020 academic year. The committee consists of Monica Mudde, Michelle Tomlinson, Christine DeBoer, Leanne Wrench, Tina Verbinnen, Charlene Harris and Jim Hosmar. We would like to thank those members that have completed their terms this year; it has been a fun working together. And, if anyone is interested in joining our committee, please feel free to contact [fundraising@ccshamilton.ca](mailto:fundraising@ccshamilton.ca). During the school year, the committee has provided the following fundraising opportunities to the CCS families and broader community: LunchBox (providing families with weekly options of special lunch days), Mabel's Labels, November - Under One Sun Ornaments, December - Kernels Popcorn, January - Little Caesars Pizza Kits. We were very sad to have to cancel the Sunrise Fest and Plant sale due to Covid-19. Please consider supporting the efforts of CCS's Fundraising team, as every dollar raised helps keep tuition costs as low as possible for all CCS families.

### **Golf Committee**

The Golf Committee was quite busy planning for the 26th annual For All God's Children golf tournament, to be held at the Willow Valley Golf Course on May 30, 2020, but unfortunately the tournament has been cancelled due to the unforeseen circumstances of the COVID-19 Pandemic. This was very disappointing for the committee, but necessary under the circumstances. There are still some items that need to be addressed from the 2020 tournament, such as what to do with donated funds and expenses incurred, but the committee will finalize those details when appropriate.

The Golf Committee meets once a month with members consisting of Kevin Postma (CCS board representative), Andy Pooni, Deb VanEgmond, Julie VanEek, Thea Voortman, Matthew Miedema, Craig Nyman, John James, Heather Mobach and committee chairperson, Mark Nyman. Special thanks to Audrey Benjamins and Lianna Reitsma for the office and website work associated with the tournament. The tournament committee has agreed to cease any meetings until the fall of 2020 in order for members to possibly join other new or existing committees as needed at CCS to help ease the burden of COVID-19. The committee looks forward to holding a successful event when able in 2021!

### **Membership Committee**

This Committee is chaired by Danielle Vanden Akker; the other members include Margarita Todd, Tim Groenewegen, Steven Schilstra, Karena Knight, Michelle DeBoer (BOD), and Lisa VanderZwaag (BOD). For the 2019 - 2020 school year, the committee has processed 26 applications for membership. We have had meaningful meetings with those who desired to be members of the CCS society. They all openly shared about their faith journey and described their hopes for membership and involvement at CCS. They indicated wanting to support and be a part of the good work happening at CCS, and with excitement and enthusiasm for future growth.

## **Personnel Committee**

The Personnel Committee's primary task is "providing the school with the best possible staff consistent with the school's mission and the applicable professional standards for Ontario." To this end, committee members have the distinct privilege of reviewing applications and, especially, personal statements of faith commitment and philosophies of Christian education, from candidates for all staff openings.

It has been our joy this year to review and appoint teachers both for the school year just ending and for the school year coming up, for Grade 6, Grade 3, Grade 2, Grade 1, and Kindergarten, plus several paraeducator and special education positions. We also assisted the administration in filling office and school counsellor positions.

Our most significant hire was also the most affected by the COVID crisis. We were delighted to appoint Amanda Breimer as the Vice Principal in charge of the new Unity Road campus. She will ramp up her leadership as the 2021 campus opening approaches, and we are grateful for her gifts.

The committee also oversaw a simplification in overlapping paraeducator roles. The committee rounds out its work assisting the administration with recruitment, evaluations, and professional development policies.

The committee consists of principal Arn Boonstra, board vice-chair Dan Postma, and board members Harry Groenewegen and Jonathan Van Der Heiden.

## **Public Relations Committee**

This Committee has had the ongoing privilege of promoting Christian Education inside and outside the walls of CCS. Our committee consists of parents who are passionate about the value of Christian education and want to share that with our supporting churches as well as the broader community.

Our first big event was the Back to School BBQ, which was a fun start to the new school year and grand-opening of the new accessible playground! This event allowed the opportunity for parents to meet with their child's new teacher and check out their classroom. It also allows for a wonderful time of fellowship, for parents and kids to reconnect, and for new families to feel welcomed into the CCS family. In December we partnered with Mission Services in running our Christmas Service project. The students and staff provided many donations of winter clothes, food, toiletries, sporting equipment, toys, and more. It's always a blessing to see how CCS families are so generous with all that God has provided them.

In January we helped the staff host a Pastor's breakfast. The breakfast allows a great opportunity to connect with local pastors, their staff, and churches. The Pastors also pay a visit to kids who are a part of their congregation, to see what Christian education looks like and to say hi to the kids. This is a highlight for all! Breakfast included delicious homemade breakfast casseroles along with fruit and muffins.

January was also when the first issue of this year's InTouch came out. We are incredibly grateful to our editorial team Audrey Benjamins and Sue Wikkerink, as well as our Design Publisher Katherine de Ruijter for all their hard work in getting this edition out and allowing it to reach many in our community and abroad.

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 we were unable to celebrate Christian Education week as we usually do, with hosting an Open House, Shine Festival and Grandparents' Day. It's disappointing that we don't get to highlight students and staff's accomplishments and that we cannot properly thank all of the amazing, loving and supportive grandparents off the CCS community, but we trust in God's work in all of this and pray for everyone's safety.

A few of our other tasks include refreshing promotional posters, Join Us cards and the Website. We also continue to look at the projected JK/SK enrollment from our supporting churches.

Our current members are Marlene Hendriks, Rachel VandenDool, Michelle Wilms, Sandi Tigchelaar, Steve Dobrenski, Christina D'Angelo, Bryce Jaspers, Marita VanHouten, Jenny Vyn, Laura-Jane van der Heiden, Katherine de Ruijter, Nicole Douwes and Melissa Hutten. We would like to thank Michelle Wilms, Andrea DeVries, Sandi Tigchelaar, and Bryce Jaspers for their years of service on the committee. We will be searching for new members to fill their shoes.

### **Transportation Committee**

The Transportation Committee oversees matters pertaining to the fleet of CCS buses including staffing, routing, maintenance and operation of 6 routes. This committee has been updating transportation related documents over the past few years and the registration, route form and conduct documents were updated this year. Additionally, we have acquired an additional bus in anticipation of the opening of the Unity Road campus. We have 5 hardworking full-time drivers and reliable spare drivers when needed. We were thankful to add Mr. David Stephenson to our team this year and anticipate the return of Colleen Brouwer to the 2020/21 school year.

The committee members are Jon van der Heiden (BOD), Marie Eggink (chair), Jim Hosmar (staff representative) Jay Haanstra, Marc DeJong, Dave Kemper, Ryan Gibbons, and Russ Hutten. The committee is hoping to add a new member for the next school year.

Thank you to the CCS community for the support extended to the committee over the past year.