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NEWSLETTER

September 2017
Vol I No XI

Ponderings 1

The start of a new school year has always brought me a sense of excitement and a bit of nervousness as I anticipate the year ahead and the challenges it will bring. Perhaps that would seem odd to some who no doubt view me as an “old hand”. Indeed, I have served in Christian schools for 31 years, the bulk of them at CACHS – almost double the time the average student in our school has been on the planet! And yet there is always something new coming over the horizon, including everything that goes with the transition from vice-principal to principal. As I stood in front of our students, staff and parents on the first day of school, a lot of things were rolling around in my head even as I delivered my first opening principal’s address. Changes like that are both exciting and a bit unsettling!

Like most clichés, the notion that “the only constant in life is change” contains a considerable degree of truth. In my time at the school I have watched the school grow in physical size and experience ebb and flow in student numbers. Teachers have been hired and started their families, and some went on to pursue new career paths elsewhere. I have had the privilege to teach hundreds of young people and in many cases meet them later and hear the scores of things they have experienced and accomplished. Educational trends in this period also reflect the inevitable tidal action caused by ideas and events that have altered the fabric of life in this country and the world in a significant way. If someone had told me what 2017 would look like back when I started

teaching in 1986, I simply wouldn’t have believed at least a few things which are now part of the landscape of everyday life. And yet here we are - for better or for worse, or perhaps a bit of both – facing those changes and working out what it means to be students, teachers, parents, grandparents and Christian school supporters.

As I write my first “Ponderings”, the Society is preparing to decide whether to build an Industrial Arts facility – possibly another big change at CACHS. Whatever comes of this meeting, I can say with confidence that it is another sign that even as our supporting community continues to wrestle with what it means to be true to God’s mandate to proclaim this world and our school as His – one thing has not changed. God is still completely in control of our lives and the events which will someday be called “history”, as He always has been. It is with confidence that we can do our work, make the big and small decisions, sit down to our meals and enjoy our moments of rest, knowing that God will guide and provide all that we need if we remain faithful. To me, the story of CACHS is the story of God’s faithfulness to a community committed to operating a school whose first task is not to teach, but to proclaim to the world the “name that is above every name” (Phil 2:9). May God bless us as we humbly make every effort to do His will in His school.

Pete Hoekstra
Principal

Do not let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity. 1Timothy 4:12

Board Notes

Praise God as we begin this 2017/2018 school year!

He said, "Praise the name of God forever and ever, for he has all wisdom and power. He controls the course of world events; he removes kings and sets up other kings. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the scholars." Daniel 2: 20-20 NLT

This is a big year for CACHS, with many new beginnings. New leadership, new students, new teachers, and God willing, a new building. With all these new beginnings CACHS needs prayer. When we seek His kingdom first, all the rest will follow. We as a board would like to encourage parents to please continue to pray or begin to pray every day for CACHS. Please pray for the students, staff, families and all the committee and board members serving. God is faithful in all things and with all things! God is faithful in His care and provision of CACHS, which is, His school.

We kick off this school year with an exciting vote taking place. On October 2nd, 2017, Central Alberta Christian High School will be holding a special society meeting to vote to proceed with the building of a shop for the school. This new shop will open up so many new possibilities for CACHS. The meeting will be at 7:30 pm and will take place in the gymnasium. We hope to see you all there for this exciting time. For further information please feel free to contact any of the building committee members: Daryl and Sue Stang, Pete Walls, Nick Den Oudsten or Sean Folkerts, or our principal Pete Hoekstra or our Board chair Lennard VanderSchee.

Another first to look forward to and pray about, is that CACHS is planning to take a group of students to the Holy Land in the spring of 2019. This trip to Israel will be an amazing journey for students, parents and some staff to embark upon. On this trip one can grow and deepen in knowledge and relationship with our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. So exciting! This 2019 trip to Israel will be in place of the traditional trip taken to Europe. More information will be provided in the future. Please speak to Pete Hoekstra or Travis Eggink with any questions you may have about this.

We thank you in advance for your prayers. God

hears the prayers of His people and will be faithful to direct us in all we do for His glory and kingdom purposes. May God continue to bless CACHS, may He impart wisdom upon the students while they grow in knowledge and may He strengthen and bless the staff in their calling to serve and teach.

Your sister in Jesus,
Kandice Heltman
Board Secretary

Shop Program Update

On October 2nd, 2017 Central Alberta Christian High School will be holding a special society meeting to consider a motion to proceed with the building of a shop for the school. The Agenda and plans were sent out to all society members on September 12th. If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like to vote, absentee ballots are available at the school office.

The proposal is to build an Industrial Arts facility at a cost of approximately \$1,100,000.00 with an additional cost of approximately \$100,000.00 to equip the facility. Total cost of the project will be \$1.2 million dollars. In addition to the \$54,041.99 that was raised at the "Swing into Spring" event, the board is extremely thankful that an additional \$554,050 has also been pledged for a total of \$608,091.99 to date. If you would like to pledge towards this project prior to the October 2nd meeting, please contact the school's Business Administrator for details.

If you have any questions regarding this proposal, please feel free to contact Pete Hoekstra, Principal, or Lennard VanderSchee, Board Chair, for further information.

CACHS Alumni Update

Alumni email requests. If you are CACHS alumni or related to a CACHS alumni we would appreciate an email contact. The CACHS Connection, which is the alumni newsletter, is sent out via email. This newsletter is a great way to keep up with what is happening at CACHS and alumni. Please send the emails to cekkel@cachs.ca or office@cachs.ca

Financial Update for September 2017

As another school year has started, I would ask that if you haven't already done so to please send in your \$150/student book deposit cheque dated for June 15, 2018 to the school, along with your tuition cheques. If you would still like to do direct deposit for this year please contact me and we will set it up.

Membership renewal letters were sent out in July. Thanks to the many who responded by September 2nd. Please remember our special society meeting to be held on Monday, October 2nd regarding the new Industrial Arts building. If you would still like to become a society member, please send your membership fee of \$50 to the school – Attention: Wendy Barnes. For families with students at CACHS, your membership is included with your tuition.

If you have any questions do not hesitate to give me a call.

Yours in Christ
Wendy Barnes
Business Administrator

2018 1A Boys & Girls Basketball Provincial Championships

CACHS is hosting the **2018 1A Boys and Girls Basketball Provincial Championships!** We will have over 350 basketball players and coaches from all over Alberta coming to Lacombe to compete for the boys and girls provincial championship. We are very excited to host this event in Lacombe from March 14-17, 2018. As part of hosting such a large event we are in need of many volunteers throughout the championship week and the time leading up to the event. Volunteers are needed for concession, score keeping, gate supervision, audio visual coordination, PA announcing, banquet helpers, etc.

To host an event as large as this we are in need of \$15,000 in sponsorship. We are looking for individual and corporate sponsors of any amount to partner with us! Please contact the school if you are interested in helping in any way! Thank you!

2018 Provincial Basketball Coordinators –
Travis Eggink, Veronica Den Oudsten, Pete Hoekstra and Cindy Ekkel

Reminders

If you have not yet completed and returned the Off-site Activity Consent form that is required for this school year, please do so as soon as possible. The form was sent home with the report cards in June or with the letter that was sent out to all the incoming Grade 10 students.

The \$150 book deposit is required from a number of families yet. Please send your postdated cheque (June 15, 2018) to the school as soon as possible.

Library News

The first month of school is speeding by and the library has been a busy place. Last year it was busy too, only for other reasons. We had a large 20,000 piece puzzle on the go. It was completed and is now hanging on the wall just outside of the Library. Feel free to come and admire the beautiful piece that involved many hands.

This fall the library has been busy with individuals reading! It is so amazing to come in after our morning staff devotions and find the room full of individuals either studying or deep into a favorite book.

A big thank you to the individual who left a pile of donated novels on my desk recently. They will soon be added to our collection. Any donations are gladly accepted and if we happen to already have them, I will find a suitable home for them.

If you are interested in reading Christian novels in a variety of genre please come and peruse the collection we have. If you have a student at CACHS or strong ties to the school, please come and see me and I can help you with the check out process the first time.

Yvonne Reed
Librarian

Career Corner

“We work in cooperation with the student’s parents. We believe that a student’s family has the foundational role in developing his or her beliefs, values, gifts, abilities, and skills. The Christian school plays a supportive role by being a community of learning in which students, parents and teachers work together to educate the whole student – intellectually, spiritually, physically, socially, emotionally and aesthetically. Therefore guidance is not just a ‘course’ in the traditional sense of the term, but an integral part of the total school’s goals and programs.” (Taken from page 1 of Educating for Life Today and Tomorrow)

All students were invited to attend the post secondary career fair held at Lacombe Composite High School on September 11, 2017. Over 20 tables were set up with information from various post-secondary educational institutions and career opportunities. CACHS will be hosting its annual post-secondary fair on October 26, 2017.

A Green Certificate Induction meeting was held on September 20, 2017 for students interested in this agricultural educational program.

A reminder to the grade 12 students to start looking for scholarship opportunities. Many major scholarships have deadlines prior to Christmas. Also, many post secondary institutions will use Grade 11 marks if you apply early and submit a scholarship application.

Veronica DenOudsten
Career Counselor

CACHS Catering

CACHS Catering upcoming events:

October 12 – Ponoka Christian School
Thanksgiving dinner fundraiser
November 16 – Red Deer Pro Life Banquet at
Lacombe Memorial Center

We are very thankful to the seniors/grandparents who faithfully come and help us at every major event. Their willingness to roll meatballs, peel potatoes and prepare salads and fruit platters lightens our work load immensely and we have a lot of fun while working together.

CACHS Catering strives for a high quality meal for a very reasonable price. If you would like to have us cater for an upcoming function, please feel to phone Emma for information. Have a look at the menu options and keep in mind that you will support the school by letting us cater your special function! We are only able to do one banquet on a weekend and only two functions a month so if you would like to book us, please call as soon as possible as we work on a first come first serve basis.

If you are able to help serve and/or clean up at any of our functions, please contact Anne Siebenga at 403-782-3554. Please consider volunteering a couple hours of your time to help at one of our functions.

CACHS Catering:
Emma Den Oudsten – 403-782-2657
Jennette Oosterink – 780-372-2130
Clase van Iperen – 403-396-3708
Rosemary Vander Ploeg – 403-783-5217

CACHS Boys Golf Team



Left to right - Evan Wiersma, Elijah Funkhouser, Isaac Kingma and Dylan Tenbrinke

The CACHS boys' golf team won the silver medal at the 1A/2A CASAA Zone golf championship held at New Norway on September 18th. They are off to the provincial championships next week.

Calendar

September 25 – Picture day – Individual & Group
 September 29 – No school – Staff collaboration day
 October 2 – Special Society meeting at 7:30 pm at CACHS – see note elsewhere
 October 5 – Meet the Teacher BBQ 5:00 to 6:30
 October 9 – Thanksgiving Day – no School
 October 19 – 20 – PCCE Teachers' Convention
 October 26 – College day at CACHS (pm only)
 October 31 – First report card

CACHS Family Phone List

For those families who have students at CACHS, the family phone list is included with this newsletter. Please check your phone number and let the school office know if there are any changes or corrections. Also if at any time during the school year, you change your phone number and/or address we would ask that you please let the office know so that our records, as well as those of Alberta Education can be changed. Thank you!

Red Deer Pro-Life



What: Dinner, AGM, and Guest Speaker Jonathon Van Maren

When: Thursday November 16, 6:00pm

Where: Lacombe Memorial Center (LMC)

Cost: FREE, however you must RSVP as there is limited seating

RSVP: Jackie DeGroot (403) 302-9514 or reddeerprolife@live.ca

*If you would like to sponsor a table for \$250 please contact Angela Shaw (403) 872-0651

Jonathon Van Maren is a pro-life activist, columnist for The Bridgehead, radio host and public speaker. He regularly speaks on a variety of social issues at universities, high schools, churches, and other functions in both Canada and the United States. He graduated from Simon Fraser University in 2010 with a B.A. in history. He is the Communications Director for the Canadian Centre for Bio-Ethical Reform (CCBR). He will be speaking to us about his book, the Culture War, where he examines how the Sexual Revolution transformed Western civilizations. He will help us understand how we came to this cultural moment and what we can do now that we are here.



-excerpt taken from the back of his book, the Culture War

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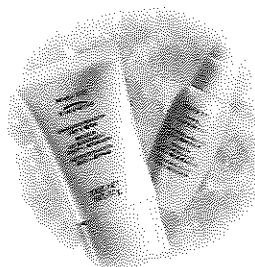
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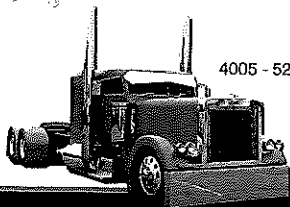
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