



CENTRAL ALBERTA CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER

September 2018

Vol XXVI No I

Ponderings

A new school year is off to a great start and it's good to have a sense of routine. Summer once again afforded me the opportunity to enjoy time away from work at the most pleasant time of the year, and this summer was a glorious one, with many hot days to bask in the sun (my apologies to farmers).

I did spend a certain amount of time at school this summer in response to the Bill 24 issue. Those who are familiar with it know that many Christian schools are grappling with the challenge posed by laws mandating the establishment of gay-straight alliances upon request and prohibiting a school from informing parents of their child's participation in them. Our Board continues to work with the Justice Centre in response to the Alberta government's directives regarding compliance. Without going into details, the work is progressing and your prayers for wisdom continue to be a source of strength.

Last semester I read from Acts as the opening devotions in my social studies class. As I read I was struck by Paul's response to being imprisoned unjustly while in Philippi with Silas (and later in Jerusalem). Upon release, Paul demanded recognition that his rights as a Roman citizen had been violated. He boldly asserted that he was entitled to treatment consistent with the codes of the Empire. I feel that his example is useful for us here and now. Paul correctly asserted that his actions, perceived as violations of local law and order, did not entitle authorities to disregard or nullify his

fundamental rights. He clearly demonstrated a well-worked out understanding of the role and limits of the state in its relationship to the individual.

At the risk of contradicting myself, I must also share that I do not feel that protecting our rights and demanding our due as Canadian citizens is a worthy end in and of itself. If that were the case, we would be joining the ever growing numbers who view citizenship simply as a conduit for accessing entitlements. We must reject this view. Christian school supporters are not just another interest group protecting its turf. Like Paul, we must understand our rights as gifts to be used in the service of God and our neighbours. In this struggle we must believe that we are responding to God's command to love him and to be a blessing to all of society as we carry out our mission to proclaim Christ's name. Let us continue to pray for discernment, courage and vision as we respond to the challenges we face daily, and remember that we will be called to account for what we have done with what we have been given. Jesus' words to Paul in Acts 23:11 guide us today. "Take courage" As you have testified about me in Jerusalem, so you must also testify in Rome." May our testimony in these matters be a clear and lasting witness to all.

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

Credits and Cell Phones

Last spring as we worked on creating the 2018/19 course selection sheet, we included a limit on spares, and I want to stress the reasons for this. First, the school exists to provide an education, and we feel that a full course load is the best way to achieve this goal. Second, we wish to maximize the use of our school resources. Most of our costs are fixed, but our instructional funding is based upon the credits our students earn. Reducing a student's course load actually costs us money!

We continue to work to minimize the presence and influence of cell phones. Of particular concern is their potential use for inappropriate and even illegal purposes. The popularity of gaming also compounds this problem. I would ask parents not to communicate with your children during class times. If you have an emergency, please call the office. Your cooperation in these matters is greatly appreciated.

Board Notes

On behalf of the school board, we welcome all our students, staff and supporters to a new school year. God has blessed our school with 72 students this year. We welcome 20 new high school students in Grade 10, 23 students in Grade 11 and 29 students in Grade 12. We have a new student in Grade 11, Simonne Abe (Yasufumi & Jessica), and two new students in Grade 12; Matthew Demund (Jakob & Anna) and Fernando Jose (Librado & Guetty). We pray that each student will adjust to daily school routines and be a blessing to each other. We encourage each family to get involved in CACHS. Please keep in mind the volunteer letter/signup sheet that came home and sign up where you are able.

We also welcome Ms. Shalynn Lindballe to our teaching staff. She is teaching Math, Music, Drama and Chemistry. She is also helping with the volleyball teams. A full load! But she's doing awesome!

The shop is completed and looks great! You're welcome to come and check it out. We are excited for all the students who have signed up for shop courses this year. We are thankful to have Darrell

Stang teaching wood shop to 14 students this semester, and Nick DenOudsten as he prepares to teach mechanics to 23+ students next semester.

Over the summer, our principal and school board have been dealing with Bill 24's 'Safe and Caring Policy' alongside Rimbey, Ponoka and Lacombe Christian school boards. Many hours have been spent in meetings and conference calls with our school boards and also with JCCF. The policy we submitted earlier this summer was not compliant. And yet as a school board we are very thankful that we could start this school year with the regular government funding. We are thankful for the unity among our school boards as we strive to obey the Bible in light of Bill 24. Please continue to pray for all four school boards. May we all be reminded of Daniel's faith when he and his three friends disobeyed the government in Babylon, while still treating their governing authorities with respect. "We must obey God rather than men." Acts 5:29

Board Appointments for 2018/2019

Chairperson – Lennard VanderSchee

Vice Chair – Steve Wildeboer

Secretary – Val Ingwersen

Treasurer – Phil Tenbrinke

Maintenance – Fred Baong

Development – Hennie van de Brake

Education – Brian Bajema and Tracey Wiersma

Finance – Steve Wildeboer, Phil Tenbrinke and
Lennard VanderSchee

Val Ingwersen

Board Secretary

Address/Phone changes?

If you have recently moved or changed your phone number, please let the school office know as soon as possible. Our office, as well as Alberta Education requires up to date information and we would appreciate receiving any changes as soon as they happen. Any updates can be emailed to office@cachs.ca or call the office at 403-782-4535.

Financial Update for June 2018

The Board, staff and students would like to thank Building Blocks Thrift Store for their generous donation of \$25,000 to help make tuition affordable for all.

If you have not sent in your cheques for tuition please send them to the Business Office. If you would like to still do Direct Deposit, please call me and I will send home a form for you.

If you have questions do not hesitate to give me a call at the school at 403-782-4535.

Yours in Christ
Wendy Barnes
Business Administrator

Career Corner

“The guidance of the young people entrusted to the Christian high school by the Christian community is the task of the whole school. The school as a whole is given the responsibility to guide, direct, and help each student to grow into an independent person who serves God according to His Word and is able and willing to employ every talent to the honour of God and for the well being of all fellow creatures, in every area of life. (From *Educating for Life Today and Tomorrow* – A Christian Schools Canada publication)

I look forward to meeting with all the students this year. Typically grade 12 students are met with at various times throughout the school years, starting at the beginning of the year. I then meet with grade 11 students and finish with the grade 10 students. However, all students are welcome to come and chat at any time. I also am the off-campus programming coordinator, so students and parents are encouraged to contact me if you have questions about Work Experience, Green Certificate or Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP). I am at school on Monday and Wednesday and some other days as well. It is great to be back at school.

September 10 – Lacombe Composite High School invited us to attend the ELAA fair which consists of many post secondary institutions providing information at booths. Many of our students took this opportunity to discover more about options available to them after high school.

October 16 – The Christian college tour will be coming to CACHS. Various Christian post secondary schools will be coming to present. A few other schools will also be coming and present their schools as well. Students will be finding out more about this event in the weeks to come.

Veronica DenOudsten
Career Counselor

Library News

Welcome back to school! I hope you have all gotten your new schedules figured out. I would like to encourage you to take a minute to drop into the Library and see what is available to you, both as a student and a society member.

We have several new additions to existing series; John Flanagan's Ranger's Apprentice and Melanie Dickerson's Fairytales to name just two. Come and see what is exciting and new.

I received Ted Dekker's new book, 49th Mystic as a free copy to put in the Library in exchange for a review.

“Ted Dekker has once again written a deep and insightful book. He takes us on a journey to a place that is different, yet familiar. Like his previous series “the Circle”, (if you have not read the Circle series, read it first) we are forced to look at the story on two different planes of reality. We are reconnected to past heroes and introduced to new ones. Also like the previous series, the two worlds intersect although a lot sooner than last time. Like most of his novels this is an allegory and has a strong spiritual vein. I have been challenged to look at myself and life situations differently. How I worship and communicate with God has also changed. Yet if you choose not to read into the allegory, it is a good thriller. I look forward to reading the next in the series.”

Please come in and check out what is available. If you don't find what you are looking for, please let me know.

Yvonne Reed
Librarian

CACHS Catering

We need your help!! CACHS Catering will be serving the snacks and hot lunch for the upcoming teachers' convention. This will be held on October 18th & 19th at the Gateway Christian School in Red Deer located at 4210 – 59 Street. We are looking for many helpers on these days. If you are able to help in the morning or afternoon (4 hour shifts maximum) this would be very much appreciated! The times we need you are from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm or 12:30 pm – 3:00 pm. Please contact one of the CACHS Catering members or Mrs. Oudman at the school (403-782-4535) if you could help us. We are also looking for some prep helpers on October 17th. Please contact Emma Den Oudsten if you can help on that day.

CACHS Catering upcoming events:

- October 11 – Ponoka Christian School Thanksgiving Dinner
- October 18-19 – Teachers Convention in Red Deer

If you are able to help serve and/or clean up at any of our functions, please contact Frances Vander at 403-782-3327. 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

Rosemary Vander Ploeg – 403-783-5217

Industrial Arts Committee Update

The new shop is built and the Industrial Arts Building Committee has completed its mandate! Our committee has felt the great community support around CACHS and we are counting our many blessings! There will be an **Open House on October 22 at 6 pm** where there will be a BBQ with refreshments and a dedication of the new building.

On behalf of the CACHS Board, administration and community a BIG THANK-YOU goes out to Sue Stang, Darrell Stang, Nick DenOudsten, Sean Folkerts, Pete Walls, Mel Brandsma and Lennard VanderSchee for the high level of care and many

hours of meetings that were put in to make our Industrial Arts Shop. You have been a great blessing to our school!

Student & FCC Drive Away Hunger Drive

This year CACHS is once again participating in FCC Drive Away Hunger, which means we'll be collecting donations of food and cash for people in our area who are hungry. Because we're participating in this program, FCC will include our school in a draw for a \$500 donation to be used to make improvements at the winning school.

There are three ways your child can participate. If you can, please send food items to school with your child during the week of September 24-27 to support this program. You also have the option to send a monetary donation with your child to school in the collection envelope provided. We'll have a short assembly on Friday, October 5 to present our donation to the Lacombe Community Food Bank and Thrift Store.

For easy reference, here are the most needed food items (according to Food Banks Canada):

- Pasta products and rice
- Canned meats and fish
- Dry and canned soups and stews
- Canned fruits and vegetables
- Flour
- Breakfast cereal
- Canned/powdered milk
- Fruit juices
- Pasta sauce
- Beans and legumes
- Infant formula and baby food

For more information about this program, visit FCCDriveAwayHunger.ca

Thank You!

Holy Lands Trip - March 2019

I had a great meeting with Dr. Phil Harbridge from Christian Journeys this week. He was very excited about our group and our school's commitment to Christian education through a Holy Lands journey. He has helped lead Richmond Christian School on a number of Holy Lands journeys and spoke about the impact those journeys have had on their school community. Dr. Phil encouraged me regarding the wonderful opportunity for our CACHS community with the coming Holy Lands trip in March 2019!

We have a good looking group committed to the journey and we are open to others joining us! If you are a CACHS student, parent, guardian, former parent, grandparent, alumni, or future parent, then you are welcome to join us. We believe this trip is an excellent opportunity to share our Christian faith between the generations that support CACHS. Keeping in mind that this is a CACHS trip, we are committed to emphasizing educational and faith formation values throughout the trip, with particular emphasis on the students.

If you would like more information on the trip, please contact Mr. Eggink at the office (teggink@cachs.ca) or 403-782-4535.

Development Director Report

I am looking to grow my Alumni email list! If you graduated from CACHS, or have a family member who did, please send me your/their email address. I would like to keep as many alumni as possible up to date with what is happening at CACHS, and with our alumni. Please contact me at cekkel@cachs.ca

Cindy Ekkel
Development Director

Off-Site Activity Consent form

We are required to have a signed completed Offsite Activity Consent on file for each one of our students. These were sent home with the report cards in June or by mail in early July. If you have not yet signed and return the form, please do so asap.

Athletics Schedule

Follow us on:

Facebook: Central Alberta Christian High School

Instagram: cachsknights

Twitter @CACHS-Knights

Athletics Calendar:

CACHS Volleyball

Sept. 21/22 – GVB Didsbury & Carstairs tournament

Sept. 24 @ 6pm BVB CACHS at PAA

Sept. 26 @ 6pm GVB/BVB Bentley at CACHS

Sept. 28/29 GVB LCHS tournament

Oct. 10 @ 6 pm GVB/BVB Koinonia at CACHS

Oct. 12/13 BVB Eckville tournament

Oct. 17 @ 6pm GVB/BVB Eckville at CACHS

Oct. 19/20 GVB/BVB Picture Butte tournament

Oct. 24 @ 6 pm PAA at CACHS

Calendar

September 28 – Staff collaboration day – no school

October 8 – Thanksgiving Day – no school

October 12 – No Wolf Creek buses

October 15 – Picture day – individual and class

October 16 – Post secondary/college day at CACHS
Afternoon only

October 18 – 19 – PCCE Teachers' Convention in
Red Deer – no school

October 22 – Industrial Arts Shop Open house at 6
pm – see note elsewhere

October 26 – no Wolf Creek buses

 **What:** Dinner, AGM, and Guest Speaker: Arnold Viersen
When: Thursday October 11, 6:00pm
Where: LaCombe Memorial Center (LMC)
Cost: FREE, however you must RSVP as there is limited seating
RSVP: reddeerpolitec@live.ca or Jackie: (403) 302-9514 or Anita (403) 302-6977 or Bill (587) 984-8549

*If you would like to sponsor a table for \$300 please contact any of the people listed above

Arnold Viersen MP is a Canadian politician, who was elected to represent the riding of Peace River—Westlock in the House of Commons of Canada in the Canadian federal election, 2015. Prior to politics Viersen was a mechanic. He is one of the co-chairs of a new all-party parliamentary group to end human trafficking. Recently (June 2018) he stood before parliament and brought forward petitions from BC, Alberta and the Yukon about our concern for the lives of the pre-born; being the only country in the world that does not have a law to protect the preborn. He called upon the parliament to step up and bring legislation that would bring Canada's abortion regulations in line with other developed countries.



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