



The BULLETIN Board

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“Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” Matthew 6:33

Principal's Corner

Greetings and Merry Christmas from the Sioux Center Christian School faculty and staff! It is our prayer that your Christmas will be full of joy as once again you feel the impact of God's love in His Son, our Savior. May the New Year present you with continuing opportunities to bring in His Kingdom through those whom your life touches.

The first half of the school year has been wonderful. All the teachers and staff are working hard with the students. The curriculum areas of math, science, reading, and the rest are all being covered. And they are being taught in a way that the students will see and know that our Heavenly Father has control of it all. We are so privileged to have a school where His name is praised every day and Christ is seen as Lord of every part.

If you would like to visit the school at any time, you are more than welcome to join us. Take a friend along. If you would like to stay for lunch, a 24-hour notice is required. I would very much like to give you a tour and introduce you to some of the great personnel and programs at SCCS.

The next all-school theme chapel is on Wednesday, Jan. 11. The theme for January is the parable of the servants and the talents found in Matthew 25. You are always welcome to attend chapel, and we know you'll be blessed by coming. Also, please be sure to mark your calendar for the end-of-the-year Theme Extravaganza on May 21 at the Dordt Chapel.

Please continue to pray for and give thanks for the Christian education that we have in the Sioux Center area. He has entrusted to us a precious gift that we can pass on to the next generation.

In His Service,
Mr. Dirksen, Principal

Help Wanted

SCCS is seeking applicants for the position of Afternoon Bus Driver. Please call the school at 722-0777 if interested. SCCS will help train.

In Memoriam

The SCCS Foundation gratefully acknowledges gifts in memory of the following people:

Wilbur Draayer
Magdalena Fedders
Burdette Geels
Henrietta Hoogland

FAIR SHARE REPORT

August 1-December 13, 2011
33.3% of the fiscal year

CHURCH	BUDGET	RECEIVED	PERCENT
First CRC	\$175,986	\$64,000	36.4%
Bethel	\$218,013	\$82,000	37.6%
Covenant	\$133,303	\$35,464	26.6%
Faith	\$258,069	\$82,300	31.9%
Bridge of Hope	\$56,473	\$18,829	33.3%
Partner Society	\$83,396	\$21,493	25.8%

Minutes of the SCCS Board Meeting — December 12, 2011

President Doug Tinklenberg opened with passages from the book of John. Eight members were present.

Committee Reports:

BG&T: SCCS is renting a unit from Ten Kredit for bus 2000. Afternoon bus driver Noah Boer has resigned. Advertising for another driver is underway. Handicapped entrances were discussed.

Building Expansion Subcommittee: The committee continues to work with the Timothy Group and CMBA.

Education: Mrs. De Smith gave a curriculum report. The PDS program with Dordt College was discussed. The JH drama will be *Charlotte's Web*.

Finance: Financial papers were found to be in good order. The committee met with Sandi Vonk for a TRIP update. NICSTO was discussed.

Promotion: A new school logo is being discussed. Results from the new parent survey were reviewed.

Fair Share Liaison: Plan to be making contact with the churches quarterly – Kyle Van Wyhe.

Guild: Profits from the Spring Auction will go toward classroom SMARTboards.

Administrator's Report: Basketball season is underway. The Christmas project will support the Hope Haven Wheelchair project. Jan. 9 will be the Staff Appreciation Evening.

School visits: Lisa Doelman reported on her visits with Mrs. Postma and Mrs. Timmer. Kevin Timmer reported on his visit with Mrs. De Smith.

Next meeting scheduled for Jan. 16, 2012.

Meeting closed with prayer by David Eekhoff

Save the Date!

The SCCS Drama Department is proud to announce our Spring production:

Charlotte's Web

to be performed March 16 and 17 at TePaske Theater

Outstanding SCCS Musicians!

by Mrs. Friend, Music Teacher

Ten students from SCCS represented our school at the annual OPUS and Junior High Honors Orchestra Festival in Ames on November 17 and 18. Micah Goslinga, DJ Nibbelink, Rylan Brue, Susannah Boersma and Jaren Brue were selected to participate in the OPUS choirs, and Alyssa Fedders, Anna Christians, Kendra Wieringa, Jaren Brue, Franklin Reinders and Erika Buiters were selected to participate in the Honors Orchestra. SCCS music teachers Mr. Talen and Mrs. Friend accompanied the students and attended the Iowa Music Educators' convention while the students were in rehearsals. The students thoroughly enjoyed the privilege of participating in such excellent ensembles, and we are honored to have students from SCCS chosen to represent our school at these statewide events.

Twenty-six 6th-8th grade orchestra students from SCCS prepared audition CDs for the Northwest Iowa Honors Orchestra. The Honors Orchestra festival will take place on January 19 and will include students from the entire northwest quarter of the state. The participants were chosen by a panel of string teachers, and the list of participants was posted at the beginning of December. We are thrilled that so many students decided to audition and that 16 students will represent our school in January! The list of participants from SCCS are: Susannah Boersma, Kendra Wieringa, Anna Christians, Brianna Miedema, Erika Buiters, Abbey Bos, Abby Vander Werf, Nikole Van Engen, Adri Tilstra, Zoe Hoekstra, Philip De Groot, Alyssa Fedders, Spencer Van Ravenswaay, Jaren Brue, Caden Zonnefeld and Franklin Reinders. Congratulations to all!

We thank God for the talents of these students and of the many other music students at SCCS who seek to glorify God through their pursuit of excellence in the area of music.



OPUS participants (L to R):
Back row: D.J. Nibbelink, Susannah Boersma, Jaren Brue
Front row: Micah Goslinga, Rylan Brue



Iowa Junior High Honors Orchestra participants (L to R):
Back row: Anna Christians, Kendra Wieringa, Alyssa Fedders
Front row: Jaren Brue, Franklin Reinders, Erika Buiters



Northwest Iowa Honors Orchestra participants (L to R, top to bottom):
Jaren Brue, Anna Christians, Alyssa Fedders, Kendra Wieringa
Abbey Bos, Adri Tilstra, Abby Vander Werf, Kirsten Buiters
Nikole Van Engen, Caden Zonnefeld, Susannah Boersma, Franklin Reinders
Brianna Miedema, Zoe Hoekstra, Spencer Van Ravenswaay, Philip De Groot

Afghanistan Project Broadens Borders

by Mr. Bowar, 5th Grade Teacher

So what's it really like to live in Afghanistan? And how does it compare to our life in Northwest Iowa? The 5th graders at SCCS recently participated in a cross-cultural unit focused on Afghanistan to find answers to these questions and many more. This topic of study was chosen because it is very relevant in today's current events, and it helped 5th graders consider how life is different in other parts of the world. Fifth grade teachers Mr. Van Dam and Mr. Bowar partnered with Dordt Professor Gwen Marra for this exciting learning opportunity.

The unit focused on these essential questions: Who am I? Who is my neighbor? What does it mean to serve God and love my neighbor? Throughout the unit, teachers met standards in writing, language, reading, technology, and social studies through the integrated activities that allowed students to gain a larger picture of who they are and how they can serve God. Professor Marra, Mr. Van Dam, and Mr. Bowar taught as a team throughout the unit and also collaboratively planned the learning activities. The fifth graders also learned from several guest speakers. Dr. Charles Veenstra from Dordt shared information about Islam with the students and helped them to understand the differences between Christianity and Islam. Soldier Scott Dorhout shared with the students what it's like to live in Afghanistan and what the people are like.

Through the use of children's literature, students examined the geography, history, and culture of Afghanistan. Students were also involved in learning experiences such as reading fiction and nonfiction materials, learning about maps and different kinds of maps, researching a topic of interest, citing sources, writing paragraphs, designing a display board, and sharing what they learned through a classroom wiki (found near the top of <http://www.siouxcenterchristian.com/fifth.cfm>). They learned about Afghanistan's history, geography, customs, religion, industry, education, people, and many other areas of interest. Students even created their own book filled with paragraphs about their hopes and dreams.

Students gained so much head knowledge related to the country of Afghanistan, but they also gained a lot of heart knowledge that they will take with them forever. We were very thankful to be able to offer such a rich learning experience for the students, and we were excited to see just how much they learned about themselves, other people, and how to serve in God's Kingdom!

The Development Director's Desk

Rich Koele, Development Director

Planned Giving: *A Way Out of the Real Estate "Trap"*

Many Christians invest in farmland and other real estate. When the opportunity arises, it makes sense to acquire the property and hold it.

Later, as they approach retirement years, they find themselves with property that has appreciated nicely. Many don't regard themselves as wealthy, and they certainly don't think of themselves as real estate tycoons, but they find themselves with some property that is worth a lot more than they paid for it.

Sounds good, right?

Unfortunately, for some Christians, appreciated real estate can become something of a "trap." They feel that they can't afford to sell the property because of the capital gains tax they would have to pay on the sale.

A Charitable Remainder Trust can be a way to solve the problem. Real estate owners can contribute property to the Trust. In turn, they get an income stream from the Trust's sale of the property, a tax deduction, no capital gains tax on the sale, and ultimately a contribution to a ministry that is close to their hearts.

Barnabas Foundation works with Sioux Center Christian School to assist donors wishing to establish Charitable Remainder Trusts. For over 30 years Barnabas Foundation has advanced God's kingdom by providing Planned Giving and Estate Planning services to Christians across the United States. Because SCCS is already a member of Barnabas, there is no charge for this service. For more information, please call Rich Koele, Development Director at SCCS (phone: 722-0777), or Barnabas Foundation directly toll-free at 1.888.448.3040.