



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 welcome to a new school year. It is wonderful to have the students back in school. The once empty classrooms and hallways are now filled with singing, laughing, activities and schoolwork. If you want a real thrill, stop by school and see and hear all of the activities that are taking place. I know that you will leave recommitted to the cause of Christian education.

Since we are at the beginning of a school year, there are many things to share. I thought I would use some of this column space to report on some odds and ends.

1. The Sioux Center Christian School is beginning its 107th school year because of the love and commitment that God directs through His people.

2. The enrollment is currently at 420 students in grades TK-8. SCCS is up 20 students from the end of last school year. The Kindergarten class has 55 students and Transitional Kindergarten has nine students. We give thanks for all of the 250 families who have partnered with SCCS in educating their children.

3. We have several new personnel at SCCS: Mrs. Sarah Stoub – 2nd grade teacher, Mr. Jander Talen – band/music teacher, Mrs. Vicki Franken – Inclusive Education Administrator, Mr. Rich Koele – Development Director, Mrs. Maggie Rozenboom – 1st grade Adult Assistant, and Mrs. Anita Rens – cook. Also several staff members have changed to new teaching assignments: Mrs. Rebecca Vander Werf – Transitional Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Megan Haan – Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Lisa Mouw – 6th grade teacher and Mrs. Shelley Gesink – K-5 P.E. teacher. Welcome to everyone!

4. New board members: Rachel Landman and Kyle Van Wyhe.

5. The School Board thanks everyone for all the financial support given to the school through the fair share program and consistent giving by parents, grandparents and friends of Christian education.

6. To help meet the need for more space at school, a mobile building is being used south of the school. The Transitional Kindergarten, Discovery Room and Resource Room (Mrs. Haack) are holding classes in the mobile building.

7. The school-wide theme this year is: Christ's Stories Investigated (CSI).

There are many changes that take place at SCCS during the school year. We will use these monthly Bulletin Board newsletters to keep you updated on the many activities, programs and new personnel at SCCS. We can all be thankful to God for His faithfulness to His people from generation to generation. You are welcome to come and visit the school at any time.

In His Service,
Mr. Dirksen, Principal

FAIR SHARE REPORT

August 1, 2011 – September 14, 2011

8.3% of the fiscal year

CHURCH	BUDGET	RECEIVED	PERCENT
First CRC	\$175,986	\$19,000	10.8%
Bethel	\$218,013	\$23,000	10.5%
Covenant	\$133,303	\$ 5,644	4.2%
Faith	\$258,069	\$10,100	3.9%
Bridge of Hope	\$ 56,473	\$ 4,707	8.3%
Partner Society	\$ 83,396	\$ 8,797	10.5%

New Faculty and Staff at SCCS

It's the time of year when we say hello to some new faces around the building! This year we have quite a few new folks; some replacing staff members that have moved on to other places, and others filling brand new roles at SCCS. Be sure to welcome them when you see them around school!



Megan Haan, Kindergarten

My name is Megan Haan and I am teaching Kindergarten this year. Last year I worked as an Adult Assistant in Kindergarten, and I now have the amazing opportunity to have my own classroom again. After graduating from Dordt, my husband and I moved to Chicago, where I worked as a Kindergarten teacher for three years. We decided that we wanted to be closer to home so moved back to northwest Iowa last year. My husband Rob works at Alpha Omega in Rock Rapids as a graphic designer and we own a small acreage in Doon. We enjoy spending time working with our plants and animals and also spending time with our families. God has provided so much for us, and we are so grateful. I look forward to seeing what God has in store for this school year!



Sarah Stoub, 2nd Grade

My name is Sarah Stoub. My family and I just moved from the Orlando, Florida area to Sioux Center in July. My husband, Darren, teaches Chemistry at Dordt College. I have two children, Rachel who is in Mrs. Feekes' class, and Tyler, who is in Mrs. Van Ruler's class. I have had very diverse teaching and administrative experiences. I have worked with infants, toddlers, preschoolers and school-aged children in early childhood centers. I have also taught Kindergarten. I have been the administrator of an intergenerational child care center operated by a nursing home. I have been the Director of an early childhood center. I have worked as the Program Supervisor for a large agency in Los Angeles County, California that provided preschool for low income, bilingual families in over 50 locations. At my most recent job in Florida, I worked for the laboratory school of a Rollins College in a mixed age group, inclusive classroom as a model teacher. My hobbies include swimming, reading, flying in small planes, and scuba diving. I am very excited to be here at SCCS and am grateful for the chance to give my faith hands and feet.



Rich Koele, Development Director

For the last 13+ years I have been a business person in Sioux Center (Wesselink Insurance) and am now grateful for God's call to be involved at SCCS as Development Director. My wife Stacy and I live in Sioux Center and have two daughters at SCCS, Hannah (8th) and Emma (5th). We are members of Sioux Center 1st CRC.

I was born and raised in Sioux County and have lived here most of my life, with brief stints in Arizona and Michigan. In addition to Christian education, my interests include photography (look for more photos on the SCCS Facebook page soon) and taking family vacations out west. It's a great way to see and appreciate God's creation.



Jander Talen, Band and General Music

Hi, my name is Jander Talen and I hail from the east coast of Canada. I grew up on Prince Edward Island (P.E.I.) as a son of Dutch immigrant dairy farmers. Even though Sioux Center, Iowa might be one of the farthest points in North America from any ocean, over an incredible four years at Dordt College, I have discovered some of the beauty of northwest Iowa and I have learned incredible things about God, His redemptive story, and how this impacts who I am.

When the final bell has rung at SCCS and all the planning has been finished, you could find me doing a number of things. I could be running, rock climbing, reading, playing Settlers of Catan, or garage sale shopping. But there is also a good chance that I would be in a phone conversation with my beautiful fiancée, Tiffany Blaauwendraat. Tiffany is from Nova Scotia, is in her last year at Calvin College, and is pretty excited to exchange that lengthy last name for a short “Talen” this coming July.

I am ecstatic to be a part of the SCCS teaching team, and I pray that God may use me for His glory while working at this wonderful school.



Vicki Franken, Inclusive Education Administrator

I’m Vicki Franken and I am excited to be working half time at Sioux Center Christian in a new position as Inclusive Education Administrator. I was born and raised on a dairy farm in Central Minnesota. My hometown is Milaca/Pease, MN. I met my husband, Will, while I was at Dordt. God blessed us with three children: Jill (Harskamp), Becca (Bleeker) and Mike, who all live with their families here in Sioux Center.

My past teaching experience has been at Sheldon Christian School where I taught 4th grade and as a teacher and counselor at the Sioux Center Community Middle School. In my spare time I love to golf, play piano, read and best of all, spend time with our 11 grandchildren! It’s fun getting to know all the staff and students, and I look forward to meeting all the parents and grandparents as well.



Shelley Gesink, K-5th Physical Education

I’m Shelley Gesink and I’m happy to be back at Sioux Center Christian School in a new capacity this year! I’ve been a paraprofessional in second grade for the past two years, and I’m excited to now teach K-5 PE.

I am married to Kevin, and we have four kids who have gone through SCCS; two are now in college, one is in high school, and one is in 7th grade at SCCS. Outside of school, I spend a lot of time attending my kids’ functions! I put on lots of miles in the Suburban. ☺



Maggie Rozenboom, Adult Assistant

My name is Maggie Rozenboom and I am an Adult Assistant in the first grade classroom at Sioux Center Christian. I also am helping out coaching the junior high girls volleyball teams this fall.

I am a graduate of Northwestern College where I earned a degree in Elementary Education and also received an Early Childhood, Reading, and Coaching endorsement. My husband and I currently live in Sioux Center and enjoy being involved within the community.



Anita Rens, Cook

I am Anita Rens. My husband is Timon. We have three children: Candra, our oldest, is a freshmen at Dordt, Brody is in 4th, and Cole is in kindergarten. I was born and raised in Sioux Center; my parents are Tony and Sue Bonnema, and I am the middle child of three girls.

I am a cook at SCCS and love to be able to see my youngest two at dinner. When we are not at school or working, we all like to go to Oak Grove to do a little hiking and fishing. We also like to do a little camping at Yankton.

New Tech Tools to Enhance Teaching and Learning

By Mr. Dave Mulder, Technology Coordinator

It was a busy summer for me! (They always are... ☺) This summer was especially busy because we have put a lot of new technology equipment into place. These additions are part of a changing vision for how we use technology to enhance teaching and learning at SCCS.

The students in our classrooms today are digital natives. As far as our students are concerned, their digital life simply *is their life*. They think differently than kids did even ten years ago, and so we're finding that we need to rethink the way we use technology in normal classroom practice. Over the past two years, we've really been examining how we use computers and other tech tools in school, and we're making a big shift, beginning this year.

In the past, we have used what I call the "tech-on-the-side" model—"computers" was a separate class, teachers brought their class to the computer lab for a 20-minute computer-based lesson, etc. But the world has changed! In order to best serve the needs of the 21st Century learners in our classrooms, we are beginning to shift from "tech-on-the-side" to **technology integration**—using technology as a tool to enhance learning in the classroom.

What that has meant in the short term is that we've replaced our aged computer lab machines with a cart of iPads for our K-3 students, updated our two laptop carts to newer machines, and have begun adding SMARTBoards to several classrooms. (Thanks to some generous donors last year, we now have six SMARTBoards in school! What a blessing!)

Along with this, my job description has changed somewhat to free up more time for me to co-teach tech-related lessons, to allow for better tech support, and to provide coaching and assistance to both students and teachers.

We hope that all of these changes will help to better train students how to use technology responsibly, not just now, but for a lifetime of faithful service to the King.



Mrs. Bleeker uses her new SMARTBoard to engage her Kindergarten students through video, music, and interactive websites.

CSI: SIOUX CENTER CHRISTIAN



Secret agents at SCCS? Nope, just our kick-off chapel for the 2011-2012 school-wide theme:

Christ's Stories Investigated

This year, we'll be carefully inspecting the various stories Jesus used—the parables—to teach people about the Kingdom of God. Along the way, we'll learn songs, memorize Scripture, and experience times of corporate worship as a whole school in chapel. And...we might just see those secret agents sneaking around, trying to uncover the truth of Jesus' Stories about the Kingdom of God.



Our intrepid secret agents (Hayley Visser and Rylan Brue) interrogate Mr. Talen to uncover a clue.