The mission of Sioux Center Christian School is to disciple God's children by equipping them with a knowledge and understanding of Christ and His creation so that they can obediently serve God and others as they work and play.

#### A Word from Mr. Bowar HEAD OF SCHOOL

#### **Luther Lives On...**

The nights are longer, the weather is getting colder, and it's the perfect time to get back into a reading habit. Maybe you are like me and you picked up a book about Martin Luther? (Maybe not...). In any case, you might consider it. I really get a kick out of Luther and the way he gets to the heart of an issue. Yes, he's a little "rough around the edges", but I kind of find that refreshing.

More than 450 years ago, **Luther preached a powerful sermon** encouraging his listeners to stand firm in their faith, reminding them of the nature of the conflict we all are in:

"Christendom must have people who can tear off the devil's equipment and armor, that he may be brought into disgrace. But for this work, powerful warriors are needed, who are thoroughly familiar with the Scriptures and can contradict all false interpretations and take the sword from false teachers. Each Christian should be so armed that he himself is sure of his belief and of the doctrine and is so equipped with the sayings from the Word of God that he can stand up against the devil and defend himself, when men seek to lead him astray."

This is the mission of the Christian school. We're all about preparing, about training, about making investments for now and for the future so we can be powerful warriors to stand up against evil and to spread God's love.

When you choose to support a Christian school, you're making an investment for now and in the future. You're making an eternal investment.

Our communities have **long understood what it takes** to keep a Christian school alive and thriving. In fact, there was a time in the history of SCCS that employees went without pay (during the Depression) to keep the doors open. Today, people participate in fundraisers, volunteer, and make economic decisions based on paying for tuition.

Leah Zuidema puts it this way: "Christ-centered schools depend on a community of believers working deliberately together to educate young people to learn and grow in the Lord."\*

Let's be honest: Christian schooling is a high-investment, labor-intensive venture. It requires sacrifices and hard choices. And it's becoming increasingly countercultural.

But I can't think of a better investment, **investing into the lives of our children**, **into the Kingdom of God**, **into His work – both now and in the future**.

When you partner with a Christian school, you make an investment in a school that supports what you teach at home. When you make an investment in God's children, you lay up your treasure in Christ's treasures - His adopted children, His Kingdom citizens. You lay up an eternal investment that will bear fruit now and in Christ's eternal Kingdom.

Thanks for choosing to invest in God's work at Sioux Center Christian School.

With you,

Joshua F. Boware

\*Leah Zuidema's article,"The Toughest Question about Christian Education" can be found at https://cace.org/the-toughest-question-about-christian-education/



Dropping by Mrs. Abby Finley's 4th grade classroom.

### NEW STORE FOR ALTERNATE REVENUE MR. JOSH BOWAR, HEAD OF SCHOOL

We are excited to report much progress regarding the new retail store!

The **retail store** is being created as an alternate revenue source for SCCS. The store will feature **new**, **brand-name** clothing for the family purchased from national retailers and sold at a **fraction of the cost**. The store will be open for a limited time each week. This business model creates excitement and brings in customers from the community and surrounding areas, eager to get in on the new deals each week. All profits from the store will be directed to the Sioux Center Christian School general budget.

# STORE NAME & LOGO REVEAL Monday, December 17

Watch our school Facebook page and siouxcenterchristian.com for the reveal!

We want to **thank the alternate revenue team** that came up with this idea and put in over a year's worth of work, thought, and research into the business plan. These individuals visited several stores, checked out various store locations in town, and drafted a fantastic blueprint to use moving forward. Thank you to Harlan Harmelink, Scott Postma, Melissa Punt, Eric Tudor, Dale Vander Berg, and Lorilyn Van Dyke, who served on this team. **Their work was top notch!** 

Now it's up to the store advisory team to make the vision a reality. These individuals will be "all hands on deck" getting the store set up and ready to go. Thank you to Bethany Bosma, Ryan and Liz De Groot, Scott Postma, Dave Punt, Jesse and Melissa Punt, Amy Vander Berg, Kelli Van Roekel, and Brett and Kristi Van Wyk for serving on this team.

We are excited to share that a **store manager and assistant manager have been hired! Bethany Bosma** will serve as the store manager, and **Melissa Punt** will serve as the store assistant manager. Bethany has experience as the human resources manager at Foreign Candy Company (and will continue in that role), as the floor manager of Pat's Jewelry Centre, and as a development programs coordinator at Dordt College. Bethany and her husband Matt have 3 children - Madison (2nd), Tysen (1st) at SCCS, and Quinn (3 yrs). Melissa has experience running her own painting business (and will continue in that role) and was instrumental in the development of the business plan for the retail store. She and her husband Jesse have 3 children at SCCS - Hannah (7th), Haley (6th), and Chase (2nd).

As we get the store set up and ready to open and also once it opens, **we will need volunteers to help.** Be on the lookout for opportunities! You are welcome to connect with anyone on the store advisory team (or call the school office) if you are interested in getting on the volunteer list.

We look forward to sharing more in the coming months regarding the store progress and can't wait to get the doors open!

We are thrilled that the **Sioux Center Christian School Foundation has committed to providing up to a \$50,000 matching grant** to donations given towards the **starting costs of the business.** This potential \$100,000 in startup funding will help provide initial inventory, a new main entrance for the building, interior upgrades, fixtures, equipment, and operational expenses. The Foundation's goal in offering the matching grant is to **encourage additional donors and to give the retail store an initial boost,** so that once doors open, profits can be directed to the school instead of paying off startup loans.

If you are interested in giving a donation that will support the launch of this new business AND will be matched by the Foundation grant, please call Amy Vander Berg (712-722-0777 x3) or mail your donation to school.

We are excited about the potential of this store as it will provide a service to our community and benefit to our school!

# LEGACY PLAN UPDATE MR. DONALD ROTH, PRESIDENT OF LEGACY PLAN TEAM

God has been faithful to Sioux Center Christian School for over a century through the **commitment of people who believe in a broad Kingdom vision of Christ-centered education.** Your contributions to the Legacy Plan are **making a Kingdom impact as they support the central missional call of parents and the church: the training of our children as disciples and lifelong servants of Christ.** 

The 2018-19 goal for the Legacy Plan is \$1,378,530

We want to remind you that

the SCCS Legacy Plan is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization,

so you may make tax deductible donations directly to the Legacy Plan.

Please make checks payable to "SCCS Legacy Plan" and mail your donation to 630 First Ave SE, Sioux Center, IA 51250, or drop it off at school.

We also appreciate a note indicating the church you attend.

**Legacy Plan donations cover 40% of our school budget.** Everything you do as a church family to contribute to the Legacy Plan and every individual gift given in support of the Legacy Plan is **appreciated** and is **needed** to keep our school fulfilling its mission!

Thank you for supporting SCCS through the Legacy Plan!



# SCCS AFTERCARE PROGRAM MRS. HANNAH VAN DEN TOP, ASSISTANT COORDINATOR

**SCCS** Aftercare is a fun after-school program where kids have a chance to unwind! We offer a "choice based" program where students have a guided schedule with many opportunities for them to choose what they enjoy. Our afternoon begins with **conversations about our day** as we eat a snack and relax a bit after school. After that, we all go outside (or to the gym if the weather is bad), where the students can play together and burn some energy! After this, we go back inside our lovable little building to play games, read, use our sensory bin, or do crafts. Students with homework are also given the opportunity for help at this time. On rainy days or extra long days, we like to watch movies, go on scavenger hunts, or do special crafts!





During Aftercare, there are always two people on staff. Our faculty coordinator, Mr. Jeremy Mills, is there most days, and is accompanied by one of our other employees. Miss Hannah, Miss Katie, and Miss Grace are all education majors at Dordt and work different days during the week. **They all have a passion for working with students** 

and really enjoy being present and involved in the Aftercare program!

We currently have about 25 students registered for this program. Some of the kids are regulars

and come on consistent days every week, and some just drop in when their parents need them to. **Parents may sign up their child at any time during the school year!** Aftercare is available until 5:30 each day at a rate of \$3.10/hour.

If you have any questions about the Aftercare program, please feel free to email Miss Hannah at hnnhkl@dordt.edu



# **WATCH FOR OUR TV COMMERCIAL!**

SCCS was chosen as the recipient of a month of free TV commercials as part of the ICAN Make a Difference program. **Thanks to American Investment & Trust,** who chose SCCS to receive this gift of airtime, and the **ICAN Independent Cable Advertising Network**. Our TV commercial will run on select cable channels at various times for 30 days (Nov. 22 - Dec 21). The Christmas-themed commercial, which incorporates our vision of Treasured, Trained, Transformed, will be seen by thousands of households in the NW lowa region.



Go to siouxcenterchristian.com > At A Glance to see the commercial and the schedule of when to catch it LIVE on TV!

#### **CALENDAR NOTES**

Mon, Dec 3: Winter bus routes begin

**Tues, Dec 4 - Thurs, Dec 6: PACE Book Fair** in the school art room. Hours: **noon - 6pm** on Tues & Wed; **noon - 5:30pm** on Thurs.

Fri, Dec 14 from 6:30 - 8pm: Family Game Night in the music rooms.

**Thurs, Dec 20 at 7pm:** 5th-8th band/4th-8th orchestra **Instrumental Christmas Concert** at Dordt.

Fri, Dec 21 at 12:45 pm: Christmas chapel

Fri, Dec 21, 2:05pm through Fri, Jan 4: Christmas break; Classes resume Mon, Jan 7.

TRIP Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8am - 1pm

Open on <u>Thursdays</u> during Christmas break: Thurs, Dec 27 and Thurs, Jan 3 from 8am - 1pm

**Wed, Jan 9 at 1:35pm:** Storyline chapel - Order

Discoverer

Fri & Sat, Feb 1 & 2: Mary Poppins, Jr. musical

#### - WELCOME TO SCCS!

Mrs. Imelda Mejia-Vargas is serving SCCS as a custodian. Imelda and her husband Lucio have three children at SCCS - Adlemi (6th), Madeli (3rd), and Melani (K). We're glad to have you here, Imelda!



We also have openings for a part-time paraprofessional, a part-time adult custodian, and a part-time custodian (after school, must be 16 years old). Go to siouxcenterchristian.com > At A Glance > SCCS Employment for more info and application forms.

### - IN MEMORY OF GOD'S FAITHFUL SERVANTS

With gratitude to God, we gratefully acknowledge the receipt of gifts toward the Building Expansion fund in memory of Rosella (Sally) Wassink and Lorraine Schaap.

Lorraine Schaap worked part-time in the school office from 1990 - 1999 and volunteered for 3 years before that.

# MUSIC HONORS MRS. JILL FRIEND AND MR. PETER KUIPERS, MUSIC DIRECTORS



Tyler Rozenboom (6th), Maddie Koele (6th), Jaedalyn DeGoei (7th), Emily Eppinga (8th), and Stella Winterfeld (8th) were selected to participate in the **2018 Opus choirs** at the lowa State University campus on November 15. Thousands of students across lowa auditioned in September to be selected for one of the four Opus choirs. **SCCS had an all-time high of 48 students who auditioned.** We are **proud of every student who made the extra effort to prepare for this event.** 

Emily Eppinga (8th), JoyLyn VandeBerg (8th), Anna DeJong (7th), and Laura Ross (7th) were selected to participate in the **lowa Junior High Orchestra Festival** on the lowa State University Campus on November 16. This event is open to students in grades 7-9. The students participated in the symphony orchestra with string players from across lowa. >>>>



Congratulations to Dylan Koelewyn (7th) and MyKayla Zylstra (8th) who were selected to participate in the 51st annual **Northwest Iowa Junior High Honor Band.** On October 13, they auditioned along with over 300 area students for a spot in one of the two equal talent honor bands. On Saturday, November 3, they went to Storm Lake High School, rehearsed throughout the morning and afternoon, and put on a great concert that evening.

Our 38 amazing orchestra students in 6th - 8th grade participated in the **NW lowa Christian School Strings Festival** on October 17 at Unity Christian High School. Students spent the day practicing in sectionals and with the whole group of about 140 students, which included four area Christian grade schools and both Christian high school orchestras. The day-long event concluded with a beautiful concert at 4pm.

# 7<sup>TH</sup> & 8<sup>TH</sup> GIRLS VOLLEYBALL MR. JEREMY MILLS, ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

The volleyball season has officially come to a close at SCCS. This was a year that involved a **great deal of growth for all of the girls** who participated. This year, we had a total of **26 girls participating in volleyball.** The season consisted of ten matches scheduled with local Christian schools, along with a round robin tournament for both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade teams capped off the season with a tournament hosted by Western Christian. **SCCS is so thankful for the hard work the players put into the season,** and **thankful for the parents** who helped with line judging at home games and carpooling for the away games.

SCCS would also like to acknowledge our coaches for this season. We were blessed to have a group of coaches who poured their

hearts into working with these girls.

The 7<sup>th</sup> graders were led by Karla Hanson, who was assisted by Regan Pennings. The deep hope that Coach Hanson set for this team was, "Through their involvement with volleyball, the athletes I coach will grow in their understanding about what it means to serve God and others as they work to develop their unique skills and abilities God has given each of them."

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade teams this year were led by Becky Postma, who was assisted by Tiffany Postma. Coach Postma established a deep





hope for the season that stated, "That they will further develop their God-given gifts and achieve skills to carry with them into the future. I hope their sportsmanship will reflect our Lord and Savior and that the girls will encourage one another in lifting up their fellow teammates."

Thank you, coaches, for your work with these girls, and for your dedication to creating opportunities for these young women to grow as teammates and in their abilities. Most of all, thanks for helping them grow in their walk with their Savior.

Congratulations on a great volleyball season, girls!

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES UPDATE** MR. PAUL ROSS, PRESIDENT

The Sioux Center Christian School Board of Trustees needs your help! We are seeking nominations to fill two open board of trustee positions for retiring trustees Matt Van Essen and Liz De Groot. At the June society meeting, a new board of trustee nomination process was passed, which aims to better encompass the entire constituency of SCCS. An important part of this process is seeking nominations from you, our society members.

Trustees serve in an important role at school, as they are the governing and visionary body and directly supervise the work of the head of school.

**Below are the qualifications for an SCCS trustee** (from board policy):

- All trustees **must confess Jesus Christ as their only Savior and Lord** and shall personally believe, adhere to, and support the infallible and inerrant Word of God as expressed in the standards of the Reformed faith (the Heidelberg Catechism, the Belgic Confession, and the Canons of Dort), exhibit a lifestyle consistent with that confession, and be a member of and regularly attend a church that adheres to these stated creeds and confessions.
- Each trustee **must be a member of the Sioux Center Christian School Society** and meet the requirements for Sioux Center Christian School Society membership.
- Each trustee is to sign a statement that he or she will **support and promote the school's covenantal task**, and not seek to redirect the school from:
  - Educating children of families with at least one parent who confesses Jesus Christ as their only Savior and Lord and who is a member of and regularly worships with a Christian church that holds in preaching and practice all articles of the Apostles Creed.
  - Articles I, III, and IV of the bylaws
  - Ownership of Sioux Center Christian School to be held by the Sioux Center Christian School Society

Also, an SCCS trustee cannot be an employee of the school, or a near relative of an employee or current trustee.

Once all nominations have been received, the board of trustees will narrow the list of nominees based on qualifications and current needs of the board. They will then submit the final nominees to the society for approval. The board will then make the final selection.

**Please submit names of society members whom you feel would be a good fit** by filling out a paper form (copies are available at the school office) and mailing it to school or dropping it off by Friday, January 18, 2019. You can also electronically submit your nomination by going to **siouxcenterchristian.com** > **At A Glance** > **Our People**. We encourage you to speak with the person you are nominating prior to submitting their name. A current trustee will be contacting them to determine their willingness to serve and to answer any questions.

Thank you for your help with this very important process!

# NICSTO TAX CREDIT MR. JOSH BOWAR, HEAD OF SCHOOL

The state has recognized the need to support taxpayers who wish to support Christian education. Iowa taxpayers can receive a **tax credit up to 65% of their donation** that supports families who need tuition assistance and **deduct 100% of the gift** on Federal income tax. The NICSTO program (Northwest Iowa Christian School Tuition Organization) has been around for years and has been a benefit to both the recipient (SCCS) and the donor (you). This is a great tax benefit to those who will be paying taxes on their income. **NO LIMIT on your contribution amount!** 

The Sioux Center Christian School contribution goal for 2018-19 is \$297,789.

As of November 24, 2018, \$232,939 had been received. \$64,850 remained in our allotment.

We are hoping to fill our allotment by Dec 1, but since this newsletter is coming out after that date, you are welcome to call Josh Bowar or Kelli Van Roekel at 722-0777 to see if there is still room to donate.

Your contribution to NICSTO directly benefits Sioux Center Christian families. In the 2017-18 school year, 106 families received a total of \$281,748 to help cover the costs of tuition. THANK YOU to all who bless SCCS and our families through this opportunity!

#### STORIES FROM THE HALLWAYS

• Congratulations to our 7th and 8th grade science teacher, Mr. Dan Tinklenberg! He was recently selected to attend the Christian School Educators Science Academy, sponsored by Christian Schools International and held in Grand Rapids, MI, on Nov. 15 & 16. Mr. Tinklenberg was selected as part of a competitive process, and the academy is designed to support transformation of Christian science teaching to a practice-based culture. Understanding scientific study in the light of biblical revelation is vital. The Bible tells us who our Creator is and explains our relationship to Him, each other, and the creation, while science gives us some insight into how God acts in His creation. The Bible and science are complementary, together helping us understand God's plan and purpose for creation. Throughout the training, Mr. Tinklenberg examined a biblical perspective and discussed Christian responses to a revolutionary instructional model created by Van Andel Education Institute with the guidance of two trained biblical worldview facilitators. We are thankful for this opportunity to provide the best possible science instruction to our students!





- Our 1st graders are exploring and growing as community builders, confident speakers, and image reflectors through the games we play and crafts we do. Mrs. Emily Penner's first grade class made a visit to Franken Manor in early November to visit, sing, and decorate pumpkins together, as a way to share with the elderly community and meet a real need while building relationships with them.
- Mrs. Samantha De Weerd's **6th graders** had the opportunity to be **order discoverers and beauty makers when they created catapults** for social studies class. Our storyline

for 6<sup>th</sup> grade is **"We are a body...a flourishing community".** It was amazing to see the 6<sup>th</sup> graders cheer each other on and celebrate each other's creativity as a body of Christ.>>>



- The **3rd graders** of Mrs. Linda Feekes' class have been studying all about communities, and they wanted to **help our community of Sioux Center by being community builders** in some small way. Mr. Lee Van Meeteran (the park manager) asked if we could **help clean-up Children's Park** by picking up trash and sticks. It was great working together and seeing the park look a lot better.
- 7<sup>th</sup> graders worked on engineering trebuchets with the goal of accuracy instead of distance. This goal requires an understanding of all variables within a trebuchet and how to manipulate those variables for the desired outcome. Students put to work their knowledge of potential and kinetic energy along with their understanding of the relationship between force and distance when doing work. Our end product will be a graph that provides data to suggest where a group should set up their trebuchet in order to hit a target. Nice work, order discoverers! >>>





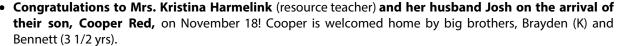
- The **3rd graders** of Mrs. Linda Feekes' class have been **studying communities and the history of Sioux Center.** After visiting Heritage Village, our class decided to **invite some real people to come to school,** including Mr. Harold Schiebout, Miss Katie Haan, Mr. Ron De Groot, and Mr. Stan Feekes. We divided into groups and interviewed each one of them, finding out **what life was like for them growing up, how Sioux Center has changed, why they like living in Sioux Center, and how God has been faithful in <b>our community throughout the years.** One student had the privilege of interviewing her great -grandmother, Mrs. Margaret Feekes, at her home.
- Each month, SCCS students are participating in social skills activities with Ms. Crista Smidt, school counselor, to help them understand **how they can reflect Christ's image as they work and play.** Areas of concentration include: diversity and inclusion, healthy boundaries, positive communication, problem-solving, empathy, critical thinking, peer relationships, and forgiveness. >>>



• Congratulations to Mr. Jeremy Mills, our 7th & 8th grade math teacher, who received the Pella Staff Member of the month award in October. Pella Corporation has started this program to recognize Sioux

Center educators who go "above and beyond". Denny Van Zanten, Sue Halma, and

Amber Jaworski surprised Mr. Mills with the award and a \$250 gift he may use towards school-related items. Pella gives this award each month, and the nomination form is on our school website.





# MORE STORIES FROM THE HALLWAYS

• Our 7th and 8th graders are busy rehearsing after school three to four days a week in preparation for the upcoming *Mary Poppins, Jr.* musical. Students have been memorizing lines, memorizing songs, blocking stage positions, and learning the moves to several songs, including *Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious* (the same moves used in the Broadway version!). Many students are also working on sets and props. Mrs. Eileen Buiter is director, Mrs. Sarah Jensema is assistant director, Mrs. Mel Knobloch is the choreographer, and Mr. Steve Crull oversees the sets. Thanks to everyone for ALL the work you are doing as beauty makers! We can't wait to see your performances on February 1 & 2!



• If you love games, we've got just the thing!

Family Game Night is a new fellowship event
at SCCS, where families and anyone who likes
to play games may come and learn new
games, led by experienced players (many from



Dordt's math dept.). The next Family Game Night is **Friday, December 14, from 6:30-8pm in the SCCS music rooms.** Experienced players will lead groups in playing Catan, Sheriff of Nottingham,

Qwirkle, Harvest Dice, and Hoot Owl Hoot. Popcorn and beverages are provided, plus you might win one of the games to take home! You are welcome to bring your own favorite games. **We hope you can join us!** 

Our 5th through 8th grade choirs gave their first choral concert of the school year on Monday, November 19 at the BJ Haan Auditorium. The audience enjoyed a variety of songs sung by 5th & 6th and 7th & 8th choirs. The evening ended with the mass choir singing, "I Am Not My Own", a beautiful rendition of Q & A 1 and accompanied by high school and college brass players. If you would like to watch a recording of the concert, click on the link on our school homepage or go to https://youtu.be/5G3K5XMSww4.



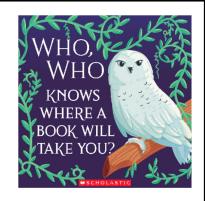
# **BOOK FAIR** SPONSORED BY PACE —

You are invited to the Book Fair at SCCS sponsored by PACE (Parents in Action for Christian Education). This is a great opportunity to buy quality books at a great price! Proceeds from the Book Fair go directly back into the classrooms at SCCS.

#### **Book Fair in the SCCS Art Room**

(please use our main school entrance)

Tuesday, December 4: Noon - 6pm Wednesday, December 5: Noon - 6pm Thursday, December 6: Noon - 5:30pm



Check, credit card, and cash are accepted. Browse hundreds of books that will be on display. You can take your purchases home with you immediately. **This is a fabulous way to shop for Christmas gifts for kids and grandkids!** 



As you make holiday travel plans or plans to go somewhere warm this winter, **remember that you can support SCCS when you book a hotel stay!** Stay to Help is a company that converts hotel bookings into donations toward our school building fund. You can make hotel bookings on our site for the same rates as other global travel websites. Go to **sccs.staytohelp.com** (bookmark it!) and book a hotel for your next trip. There are also links at www.siouxcenterchristian.com.





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