

SIoux CENTER CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

JUNE 2022

CONNECTION

630 First Ave SE /// Sioux Center, IA 51250 /// 712.722.0777
www.siouxcenterchristian.com /// sccsoffice@siouxcenterchristian.com

OUR MISSION

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.



TREASURED, TRAINED,
TRANSFORMED

Class of 2022



On Wednesday, May 25, **fifty-seven 8th graders** celebrated their journey of faith and learning at Sioux Center Christian School in a ceremony at Centerpoint Church. Dr. Josh Bowar, head of school, challenged the graduates to choose courage over comfort as they go forth in the promises of Christ and continue to be active in the process of restoration. Each graduate also shared, through a video, their deep hope and storyline.

Greg Van Dyke, board president, handed diplomas to the graduates and, in closing, the faculty and staff gathered around all the graduates to send them off with prayer. Everyone was invited to stay for refreshments and a time of celebration.



Graduates, we praise God for His mighty work which is already evident in each of you. We pray that God will continue to work through you as you live His Story! May you serve Christ and work as His lifelong agents of restoration and transformation in the world!

Class of 2022: Caleb Altena, Hanna Altena, Eve Baart, Jaida Barrow, Dylan Bosma, William Breems, Ellie Clemens, Noelle Colarossi, Reece De Boom, Annika De Goei, Jonah De Jong, Karsten De Jong, Natalie De Stigter, Cornelia De Vries, Zoey Eggebeen, Esther Eppinga, Stetsen Fedders, Marissa Feikema, Caitlin Frens, Landen Frey, Levi Groenewold, Jackson Gulker, Piper Hanson, Aiden Heldt, Olivia Hofland, Henry Hubers, Brandon Hulstein, Aubyn Jansma, Annabelle Koele, Kendra Kooiman, Savannah Lief, Kylie Meerdink, Jillian Metselaar, Chase Nieuwsma, Brevan Obbink, Brennan Obbink, Adalade Ochsner, Rowan Oostra, Ella Penner, Benjamin Ploegstra, Ava Postma, Alexander Saarloos, Brayden Schoellerman, Alexa Schouten, Daylea Tinklenberg, Micah Van Donge, Trinity Van Donkelaar, Alexis Van Ginkel, Thijs van Niejenhuis, Joren Vande Griend, Chloe Vanden Berg, Thane Ver Velde, Layne Vos, Allison Wielenga, Austin Wieringa, Scarlett Winterfeld, and Adyson Zylstra.

Class verse: "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze." Isaiah 43:2

Farewell from Mrs. Lisa Mouw

About every couple of months, the Sioux Center News asks SCCS to submit a column for publication, and this article was featured there. We thank Mrs. Mouw for her years of service and wish her the absolute best during her next steps on the journey!



Passing the Baton

Life is full of transitions, steps in our journey, and lessons along the way.

I have served at Sioux Center Christian School, both as a teacher and as an administrator, since 2009.

God is now calling me to a new place of service, and I will be transitioning to Dordt University this summer to be an instructor in the education department.

As I wrap up my time at SCCS, I am filled with gratitude for the years God has called me to serve: in this place and in this community. I am thankful to take this opportunity to share what I've learned during this part of my journey with you in the hopes that you take the opportunity to reflect on your journey as well.

Celebrating the Blessings

I am humbled and grateful for the **opportunity to teach and lead in a school where we get to invite students into God's Story in all we do - what a gift!** I am thankful to work with an amazing team of educators that show up every day to faithfully serve where God has called them. I am thankful for our school community and the ways we partner together. I am thankful for what God has done and continues to do through his people at SCCS. I am thankful for the high view of education held by the community members of Sioux Center and for this community's support. I am thankful for the many ways that students are educated in Sioux Center. **Let's keep working together for the benefit of our kids.**

Recognizing Lessons Learned

I believe that **God uses every experience to reveal Himself to us as we lean in and seek Him through challenges and difficulties and also during times of joy and celebration.** There are some things that I had hoped to accomplish in my time at SCCS. Of course, there are also tasks that I would have liked to do differently or better. That's normal as you make a transition. What I will take with me is the lessons learned, all of the memories, and the many relationships, and I have complete trust that God will continue His work through others.

Embracing the Transition

I believe that **we are each called to various roles throughout our life and that God will equip us to accomplish His purposes.** I believe that I was called to this role for the time I have been at SCCS. God is most definitely equipping the next person to take my place. He has a plan, and His plans far exceed anything we can imagine.

I will miss doing life with my colleagues, interacting with our students, and experiencing God at work in each classroom. I am thankful for the time I spent at SCCS and look forward to what God has in store next. I am also thankful to continue to work with the entire education community of Sioux Center through my new role.

If you are anticipating a change in your life, I encourage you to celebrate the blessings of where you have been, recognize what you have learned along the way, and embrace what God has planned for you in the days ahead. May we continue to be faithful during the transitions. **To God be the Glory in every step of the journey!**

Greetings from Mr. Brandon Haan

Before I introduce myself, I want to say thank you! Thank you for the opportunity to serve Sioux Center Christian School. **Thank you for your commitment to SCCS, Christian education, and the community of believers.** Thank you for your role in the "village" of raising children to love and serve the King. My family and I cannot wait to dive into life in Sioux Center, and, in many ways, we already have! I can quickly tell that SCCS is a great school because of the great people.



My name is Brandon Haan, and I will be **serving as Principal at SCCS.** I am grateful for this opportunity to be a part of the Trailblazer team. My wife is Jill (Bouma), and she will soon begin working at Dordt University in the Business Office. We have three daughters: Makenna (entering 7th), Jacy (6th), and Addison (3rd). We spend much of our free time with athletics, exercising, playing games, and being at the lake. Jill and I are back in the area after having lived in Sioux Falls for ten years, and, most recently, Prinsburg, Minnesota, for six years. We are looking forward to meeting (and re-meeting) many people in the weeks and months ahead.

Building relationships and gathering information will be the top priorities this summer, leading into the beginning of the school year in August. I am thankful for Lisa Mouw who has graciously served SCCS for many years and has set things up very well for me. **I am really excited about working with our teachers, connecting with our students, developing our middle school program, and deepening the vision of SCCS.** Thank you for keeping this transition in your prayers!

SCCS Annual Society Meeting Report

The SCCS Society held its annual meeting on Tuesday, March 29. Thank you to those who were able to attend! Highlights of the meeting include:



- » Greg Van Dyke, board president, gave a **board update** regarding the IGNITE the Vision campaign, the new principal hire, the Legacy Plan, the school's solid financial situation, regular communication that has been happening between the board and the society, an increased interest in Christian education in our community, quality hires made for open positions, trustee visit days, the CSI accreditation process, and strategic planning. Greg announced that, as one result of strategic planning efforts recommended by CACE, the school will be **hiring a director of development** as another effort to increase alternate revenue for the school. This position will be **revenue-generating and will be supported through funding from the SCCS Foundation**.
- » Since all trustees who are eligible for another term of service are choosing to renew their term, the board did not have a trustee nominations process this year.
- » Michael De Boer, trustee and chair of the building task force, provided a summary of information that has been shared at the four IGNITE the Vision Briefings held in February and March. **To learn more about the campus plans, head to <https://www.siuoxcenterchristian.com/support/ignite.cfm>.**
- » Joe Bakker, finance team trustee, gave an alternate revenue update, Legacy Plan update, and financial update. The recent update to the Legacy Plan has been very well received and successful.
- » Joe Bakker, finance team trustee, walked through the **various line items of the budget and answered questions. The 22-23 budget was approved.**
- » Amy Vander Berg shared an **update on behalf of the Sioux Center Christian School Foundation**. The Foundation realized a 16.83% rate of return on investments in 2021 and ended the year with a \$3M balance.
- » Greg Van Dyke **thanked Society members for attending the meeting** and announced that the **IGNITE the Vision building project proposal vote result was approval of 78%**, exceeding the 60% threshold set by the board of trustees. **Nearly \$3 million has already been committed or given to the campus project** and our efforts will continue to generate support that will move forward this God-sized vision for His kids.

SCCS Legacy Plan Report

The SCCS Legacy Plan is the means by which churches financially support their SCCS students and the daily mission of Sioux Center Christian School.

The total Legacy Commitments for 2021-22 from fifteen churches is \$1,134,500. We are 92% of the way through our fiscal year, and we are **blessed to report that Legacy giving is at 98.6% with \$1,118,620** given since August 1, 2021!

We are blessed by all these churches who work hard to fulfill their commitment through fundraisers and weekly offerings. **THANK YOU for being THIS generation of faithful givers who invest earthly treasure into the lives of God's kids, so that it can be transformed to eternal treasure!**



In Memory of God's Faithful Servants

With gratitude to God, we gratefully acknowledge the receipt of the following memorial gifts:

Grace Droog (Grandma Grace) – SCCS Foundation

Henrietta Dibbet – SCCS Foundation

Leland (Lee) Woudstra - Building Fund

Sharon Snieder - Building Fund



Stories from the Hallways

...sharing how our teachers, who are fellow disciples of Christ, connect every learning experience to God's Story!



4th grade students visited our first grade classrooms where the older students **took time to teach them** about chicks, ducklings, worms, fish, and other fun critters!

#creationenjoyers

Our **TK students** were on the move this spring! They **observed our local community builders** as they toured Culvers, Central Vet, the fire station, and the post office. Visitors from SC Health and the police station came to their classroom. We are so thankful for the wonderful businesses in this community who give their time to serve these little visitors.

#communitybuilders



Kindergarten students explored God's creation as they observed tiny creatures during a visit to Oak Grove. They toured the Cornucopia Farm and Ground Effects to learn more about **how God created His world for us to take care of.**

#earthkeepers #creationenjoyers



First graders celebrated Beach Day to conclude their **study of plants and animals that live in the various zones of the ocean.** They loved digging for shells, reading on a beach towel, and playing outdoor games with hula-hoops!

#creationenjoyers

2nd graders took a field trip to Lake Pahoja to explore and discover the amazing plants and animals God has created. They caught crawfish, snails, and water bugs in dip-nets, learned the differences between amphibians and reptiles, and discovered facts about bees. They even tasted honey right from the honeycomb!

#earthkeepers



As they memorized 1 John 4:7-11, **3rd graders** were challenged to live out God's Word, reflecting on His love for us and His command to love others. Classroom activities helped students be image reflectors by showing their love for one another.

#Wordappliers
#imagereflectors



For the first time since 2019, we were able to enjoy our **year-end Storyline Celebration chapel** in the BJ Haan Auditorium! Our **517 TK - 8th grade students** filled the front of the auditorium and shared a recap of our chapels this year in which we learned about each classroom's storyline and their songs. **It was wonderful to sing and praise God together,** thanking Him for what He has done in and through our students as they learned and lived God's Story this year!

#Godworshippers #Wordappliers #treasured #trained #transformed





4th graders spent a day at Oak Grove learning more about bird species found there. Highlights included finding skulls while dissecting owl pellets, hiking the trails, and learning how God designed each feather to serve a unique and important role for the birds.

#creationenjoyers #orderdiscoverers

Formational Learning Experiences (FLEX) provide authentic opportunities for students to practice living God's Story.

6th grade students were asked to consider how even one ingredient in a batch of cookie dough could represent a distorted worldview. They discovered if any false worldviews/ingredients go into our recipe - even one! - the end result (the finished cookies) won't be good.

#truthfinders



8th grade students were challenged to answer the question, *"How can we obediently serve God and others through building a brighter community?"*.

The students posed and studied a research question and then built a presentation board that explained the background of their topic. They shared their ideas about **how to build a brighter community by embracing creativity, critical thinking, and innovation.**

They hosted an **Inquiry Fair** in the lunchroom, inviting a few business leaders, parents, and other SCCS students to browse their presentations and ask questions.

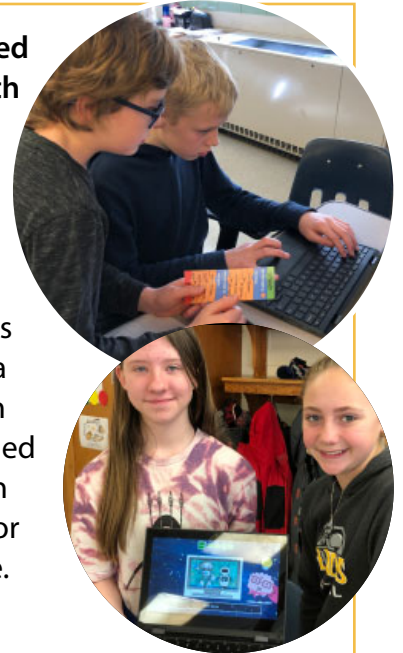
Eleven presentations were chosen to be shared with participants in Leadership Sioux Center and the staff of the Sioux Center Public Library. Students were given very positive feedback and helpful ideas for how to actually accomplish their ideas, if they decide to pursue them!

#communitybuilders #servantworkers



5th graders pursued God's order in math and science as they studied a unit on coding and worked together to solve challenging puzzles in order to unlock a breakout box. Then they were challenged to design their own breakout puzzles for classmates to solve.

#orderdiscoverers



In Bible class, 7th graders researched John Calvin and learned more about the acronym TULIP

(Reader... can you recite the five points of Calvinism?). Students also connected with an adult they know and asked them to share their faith journey.

#truthfinders #Wordappliers



Grandparents and Special Friends Day on Friday, April 8 was a much-anticipated event for both students, grandparents, and special friends! Teachers and students are always excited to **invite these treasured guests to sit with them and share in their learning experiences.**

Thank you to ALL our grandparents and special friends, for the wisdom you share and the prayers you lift up for our treasured students every day!

#imagereflectors



More Stories from the Hallways



The 5th - 8th grade Spring Choral Concert was on Monday, May 16. The students blessed the audience with songs of praise to our Lord, and some lively, fun songs. In middle school music class, students practice singing parts, plus are given the opportunity to sing in small groups.

#beautymakers

Two instrumental Pops Concerts were held in our gym on Thursday, May 19. Parents, grandparents, and students first packed the gym for the 7th-8th Band and 6th-8th Orchestra concert, then the 5th-6th Band and 3rd-5th Orchestra shared their music. Both concerts were a delight and included fun, yet challenging music that blessed all who heard!

#beautymakers



4th grade team



5th grade team



5th grade team

Congratulations to the SCCS students who represented our school at three various Math Bees!

They did a great job using their math skills to solve challenging problems. Dordt University hosted virtual math bees for 4th-5th and 7th-8th grades, and Northwest AEA hosted the 6th grade bee.



6th grade team



6th grade team



7th grade team

Many of these students placed among the top 20 individual students in each bee, and most of the teams placed among the top four teams in their grade levels.

#orderdiscoverers



On Thursday, April 7, our gym was filled with 2nd, 3rd, and 4th graders leading their guests in singing traditional folk songs and dances. This Folk Song Celebration was a fun way to experience

how God has worked through music to bring people together over the generations!

#beautymakers #communitybuilders



8th grade team



In Art class, 6th graders did a collaborative unit in which they constructed skylines of famous cities and worked together to develop a plan for displaying their group cityscapes.

#beautymakers #communitybuilders



7th & 8th grade girls soccer team
coached by Liz De Groot & Troy Ten Napel



8th grade boys soccer team
coached by Mark Oostra



7th grade boys soccer team
coached by Jay Dekkers, Deon Wynia, Nathan Tintle

The 7th and 8th grade girls and boys soccer teams worked hard and represented our school well this spring season! It was fun to see them develop their gifts and have a fantastic season!

Thank you to the coaches who gave their time to lead these teams in developing skills, teamwork, and Christ-like attitudes.

#imagereflectors
#community-builders



7th & 8th grade girls track team



7th & 8th grade boys track team

Thank you to head coach Luke Vander Horst and assistant coaches Abby Finley, Annika Brands, and Donte Gulker for leading these young athletes.

#imagereflectors #community-builders

The 7th and 8th grade track teams also had an excellent season this spring!

They learned new skills and built a team culture of perseverance while striving to reflect Christ in their practices and track meets.

SCCS Calendar

Our calendar is also at www.siouxcenchrchristian.com

Summer hours resume Tuesday, July 5:

TRIP Office: 8am - 1pm M-F

School Office: 8am - 1pm M-Th (closed on Fridays)

Aug 8-12, 15-19: Teacher Work Days, professional development, flex worktime, and meetings

Thursday, Aug 11: School Registration 2-8pm at school
All parents must register at this time or make other arrangements with the school office.

Thursday, Aug 18: Parent-Teacher Conferences 2-8pm
Meet with homeroom teachers before school begins!

Tuesday, Aug 23: First Day of School 8:00am - 3:05pm

4Care for Preschoolers

Sioux Center Christian School offers a play-based, childcare opportunity for 4-years-olds enrolled in preschool called 4Care. This is a great place for your child during the half of the day they are not in preschool.



We offer the options of a morning or afternoon session, with busing between SCCS and preschool included in the cost. Hot lunch is an available add-on option.

There's still room for this coming school year!

Your child will love this "step up" child-care in the "big school"!

Head to our website to learn more and reserve your child's place in 4Care: siouxcenchrchristian.com >

Admissions > 4Care for Preschoolers

Position Openings

We have position opportunities available at Sioux Center Christian School for the 2022-23 school year!

- » **Part-time Cook position:**
Hours would be between 7:30/8:00am and 1:30/2:00pm four days per week. This position could also be shared between 2 people.
- » **Adult Custodian (full- or part-time)**
- » **Bus Drivers** are also needed (any combination of route or activity bus driving).



MORE DETAILS and APPLICATION PACKAGES:

www.siouxcenchrchristian.com > About SCCS > Employment

8th Annual Trail'Raiser Night

THANK YOU to ALL who made our 8th annual Trail'Raiser Night a joyful, community-building event that **COMPLETED** the **FUNDING** for the 7/8 science lab/classroom in the future Blazer Center campus addition! We believe a science lab is a window to God's handiwork, where students discover the fingerprints of God in **EVERYTHING** and are **thankful** for everyone who donated to make this piece of our vision happen!

Through Prayer Pens, Truth T-shirts, Gourmet Cupcakes, Bars, and Snack Mixes, Buy It Now items, Freewill Supper, Concessions, and the Family Feud game show, our **supporters gave \$125,662 in donations!** When combined with year-end **IGNITE** the Giving donations and gifts from key donors, we are **very excited to report that we have reached the \$550,000 needed to build this room in the campus expansion!**



We estimate that **over 1,200 people** walked through our doors on Saturday, April 9 – a beautiful day God provided after a very windy and cold week. The **Family Feud Game Show** was a highlight of the event. Our game show host, Dr. Nick Mouw, our announcer, Piet Westerbeek, and the four amazing teams (Bunyan's, Dunksters, Marvels, and Nerds), gave us a night we won't soon forget! The teams, dressed to WIN, faced

off trying to guess the top answers SCCS students gave to the survey questions. The Dunksters won the rounds and a \$15,000 "prize" and the Marvels won the Fast Money round and a \$10,000 "prize". Both teams graciously handed over their winning checks to SCCS! :)

THANK YOU for blessing SCCS!



Igniting the Vision for God's Children

Our vision is to treasure and train God's children so they may be transformed and equipped as the next generation of servant-leaders and restoration workers, obediently living their unique role in God's Story with the passion to share His Story and defend His Truth, now and for their entire lives.

Our next step includes the **Blazer Center**, a multi-purpose performance, athletic, and gathering space, outfitted to house chapels, plays, concerts, athletic events, and more. Also in the approved building plans are **ten new classrooms**, several flexible gathering spaces for student learning and teacher collaboration, and a kitchen remodel.

We are blessed to report that **over \$3 million** has been pledged or given to Ignite the Vision for God's children! The total estimated cost of the campus expansion is \$14 million and the board has put in place a **giving-driven construction timeline** with a milestone of \$9 million committed or raised before breaking ground.

Please pray for us as we share the vision and encourage supporters to prayerfully consider how they can move this vision forward and **impact our kids now and for generations to come!**



siouxcenterchristian.com
> Support > **IGNITE**
the Vision

SIOUX CENTER
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



630 First Avenue SE /// Sioux Center, IA 51250
712.722.0777 /// sccsoffice@siouxcenterchristian.com
www.siuoxcenterchristian.com

PLEASE JOIN
IN THIS
OPPORTUNITY TO
**IMPACT
OUR
TREASURED
STUDENTS**

WITH \$406,189
IN TUITION GRANTS
\$304,642 GOES
BACK TO DONORS!
(NET COST OF \$101,547)

RECEIVE **75% BACK**
AS AN IOWA TAX CREDIT



GIVE, then Receive 75% of your Donation BACK!

Did you have to pay for income tax owed on your 2021 Iowa tax return? Make sure that doesn't happen in 2022 by giving to NICSTO!

When you give a donation to NICSTO (an Iowa School Tuition Organization) **you benefit** by receiving 75% of your gift back as an Iowa tax credit certificate and **SCCS** students are impacted by 100% of your gift!

Why not give a gift that directly impacts God's kids instead of paying income tax next April?

We are so grateful that 232 students received a total of \$304,000 in tuition grants for this 21-22 school year!

For 2022, our goal has been increased to \$406,189! NICSTO tuition grants make a Christ-centered, transformational education possible for 45% of our students! Use the form below to GIVE!

**SIOUX CENTER
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**



630 First Avenue SE /// Sioux Center, IA 51250
712.722.0777 /// sccsoffice@siouxcenterchristian.com
www.siouxcenterchristian.com > Support > NICSTO

You may give any donation amount (no minimum or maximum). You may donate **CASH, GIFTS in KIND of grain, appreciated STOCK, and bonds.** You may donate from your IRA (including your RMD).

NICSTO - Northwest Iowa Christian School Tuition Organization

CONTRIBUTION MEMO - 2022

This completed memo must accompany your contribution. An Iowa Tax Credit Certificate will be sent to you in January 2023.

Taxpayer/C or S Corporation/LLC/Partnership Name

Date of Contribution

Amount of Contribution

Address

City, State Zip Code

Social Security Number or Taxpayer I.D. Number

Phone

Email

Please apply my contribution to the following school(s):

Go to www.siouxcenterchristian.com > Support SCCS > NICSTO for the list of schools that participate.

Please make check payable to NICSTO. Please mail (or drop off) to either of these addresses by Friday, December 2, 2022:

Sioux Center Christian School
Attn: NICSTO
630 1st Ave SE
Sioux Center, IA 51250
Questions? Call 712.722.0777

NW Iowa Christian Schools Tuition Organization
204 Kentucky Ave NW
Orange City, IA 51041

THANK YOU!