

SIoux CENTER CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 2021

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



**"KNOW
that the LORD is God.
It is He who made us,
and WE ARE HIS...
GIVE THANKS to Him
and PRAISE His name.
For the LORD is good
and His love endures forever;
HIS FAITHFULNESS CONTINUES
THROUGH ALL GENERATIONS."**

Psalm 100:3-5



FROM Dr. B.

Greetings, SCCS supporters! Thank you for reading more about SCCS and getting updated on the amazing things God is doing through our school. Thanks for caring about SCCS.

We are off to a great start at school, and **our focus remains on staying committed to our Reformed Christian perspective, staying committed to our deeply held beliefs, and staying committed to our biblical mission and vision.**

At SCCS, we strive to permeate every activity, every lesson, every interaction, every part of the school experience with a biblical perspective. How does that happen? A teacher explaining plants through the lens that God made them unique and for a purpose, a staff member providing correction on the playground through grace and restoration, the choir director highlighting that God made our voices for praise, students planting trees because they are motivated to be creation enjoyers and earth keepers, kindergarten students making maps of SCCS for incoming students to help them feel welcomed, and so much more.



It's knowing and then doing. It's practicing. It's living. Students have basketball practice, they have piano practice, they have play practice.

If they are to truly take to heart their calling of being a disciple of Christ, we have to give them practice actually being a disciple of Christ – right now.

That's what Christian education is all about. Whether you're a first grader or an eighth grader, **we want to provide opportunities to practice discipleship so that students have a firm foundation for life.**

We're definitely not perfect, but we have a deep desire to keep doing our very best.

Each of our employees commit to living, serving, leading, and teaching from a biblical perspective. At SCCS, we use the Teaching for Transformation framework,

which focuses on helping students see God's Story and then Live His Story, with special attention on the concepts of creation, fall, redemption, and restoration.

Why do we do this? We **treasure** each of our students as being created by God. Because of that, we want to **train** them in His Way and help them develop habits of knowing, loving, and living His Story. Our focus remains on treasuring and training God's kids so that they may be **transformed**. **We are teaching for transformation.**

Part of this training includes students being able to understand and defend their faith. It's always been important to defend the Christian faith, but it seems extra important to be able to do that right now, doesn't it? To better train our students to understand and defend their faith, we've implemented **a new Bible curriculum**, the Building on the Rock Bible curriculum (for grades K-5) and the Walking in Truth curriculum (for grades 6-8). Vetted by our curriculum team and area pastors, the curriculum builds a framework for living biblically in all areas of life, teaches children how to defend their faith, applies what kids are learning to today's world, is engaging, and provides questions that connect a student's mind and faith. **Our teachers ensure that all parts of the curriculum stay true to a biblically Reformed perspective.** The **Building on the Rock curriculum** lays the groundwork of worldview education and helps students understand relationships with the Creator, each other, themselves, and creation. The **Walking in Truth curriculum** trains students to defend their faith and respond to counterfeit worldviews.

At Sioux Center Christian School, we **desire to do as much as we can to train students in the Truth and help them share it with others. We want students to see all of life from a biblically Reformed worldview and give them practice and training to do just that** from TK/kindergarten to 8th grade.

YOU join in this training when you pray for us, when you love your children and grandchildren and impart wisdom in your home, when you encourage and lead our kids in your church, and when you give gifts in support of our school. **Together we are working to be obedient to Christ's command to make disciples of all nations, starting with our children.** We praise God for this covenant community that provides for a thriving Christian education!

With you,

Joshua F. Bowar

Head of School



Living God's Story: Our Journey

Each Wednesday at SCCS, we reserve part of our day for worship and fellowship. How we spend our time demonstrates what we value. And if we say that we value worship and a focus on God, we need to set aside time for just that. From 1:35-2:00pm on Wednesdays, students have the opportunity to participate in various forms of worship.

This year, our **school Storyline** is "**Living God's Story: Our Journey**", and each month we will focus on a grade level storyline.

Week 1 of each month: Whole-school Storyline Worship. A grade level shares their storyline and how they live it out each day in their classrooms. **Check out the "Stories from the Hallways" for each classroom's storyline.** Parents, grandparents, and visitors are welcome to attend these Storyline chapels in the gym. Watch online at siouxcenterchristian.com > Student Life > Chapel

Week 2 of each month: Connection Groups. Two homerooms pair up to pray together, sing together, or do other relationship-building activities centered on the storyline focus of the month.

Week 3 of each month: Grades TK-4 Chapel, Grades 5-8 Teacher Choice: Grades TK-4 gather in the gym for a time of praise and worship, while students in grades 5-8 participate in activities chosen by their teachers.

Week 4 of each month: Grades 5-8 Chapel, Grades TK-4 Teacher Choice: Grades 5-8 gather in the gym for a time of praise and worship, while students in grades TK-4 participate in activities chosen by their teachers.

Chapel and connections: two key rhythms that we practice at SCCS, helping us implement our vision of every child treasured and every child trained so that every child may be transformed.



Stories from the Hallways



4Care kids spend the half day they are not in preschool at SCCS. We love seeing these 4-year-olds in the lunchroom, walking down the hallways, and joining us for chapel! They love to learn through playing!

TK storyline: Joy Makers.

TK students joyfully studied God's creation as they explored an ear of corn, pounded golf tees into pumpkins, and took a fall walk, looking for colorful leaves.



Kindergarten storyline: Love to Learn!

Our kindergarten students showed their love of learning as they studied God's amazing design in apples and pumpkins! They visited an apple orchard, did sink or float science experiments, created artwork, and even made pumpkin volcanoes!



First grade storyline: Explorers Discovering God's World Together.

First graders explored the fire trucks and gear of SCFD and learned about fire safety. It was fun to see others live God's Story as Servant Workers and Community Builders!



More Stories from the Hallways



2nd grade storyline: See and "Bee" Seen. In art, 2nd graders have been learning about the different types of lines God has placed in creation. They were Beauty Makers as they "took a line on a walk" using a crayon and water colors.

3rd grade storyline: Learn It, Love It, Live It. 3rd graders are having fun in science! They modeled erosion and deposition on a coastline and observed the impact on beaches and buildings. They "Skyped a Scientist" at Cornell University who shared about her work studying volcanoes and rocks!



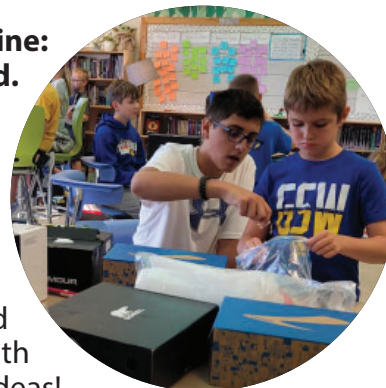
4th grade storyline: Fully Rely On God. 4th graders took science class to Sandy Hollow. Sunday Ford helped them look for the small organisms, rather than just the big things like fish, frogs, and turtles. They were excited to help release a painted turtle back into its natural habitat!



5th grade storyline: Seek and Shine. As part of their studies on Iowa history, 5th graders traveled to Des Moines to visit the Living History Farm and the state capital building. They loved experiencing a little of what life was like in the 1800's and seeing the intricate beauty of our capital building.



7th grade storyline: Walking Closer with God. 7th graders connected with 3rd grade partners to build boxes into existing businesses and businesses they think should be added to Sioux Center. They enjoyed challenging each other with creative ideas!



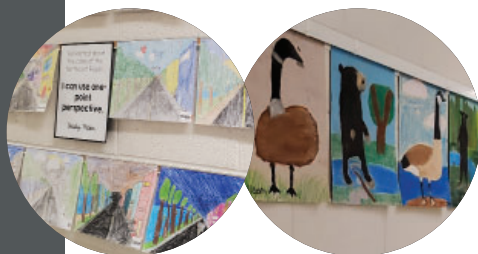
6th grade storyline: Called to be Uncommon. 6th grade is incorporating Oak Grove State Park into some of their classroom learning and they launched this partnership with a campout at Oak Grove. Parents were invited for a cookout on a Thursday evening, and the next day the students participated in activities like hiking, biking, geocaching and canoeing, plus they learned about the ecology of Oak Grove.



8th grade storyline: It's Not About Me, It's About the Cross. In social studies, 8th graders celebrated Constitution Day (Sept. 17) by taking a walk to the Veterans Memorial in Sioux Center and observing and reflecting on the names of those who have served our country.



SCCS students are beauty-making, image-reflecting ARTISTS. Here's just a glimpse of their creations!



New Faculty at SCCS



Mrs. Anna Bootsma
3rd grade teacher



Mr. Nate Breen
6th/7th grade
social studies



Dr. Allegra Fisher
Music, choir,
and band



Mrs. Teresa Taylor
7th/8th grade
writing



Mrs. Angela Veenstra
7th/8th grade
math

New Staff at SCCS



Mrs. Jolene Bandstra
Part-time 2nd grade
Paraprofessional



Mrs. Jillian De Hoog
Part-time 2nd grade
Paraprofessional



Mrs. Amy Feekes
Outlet 75
Assistant Manager



Mrs. Linda Feekes
1st grade
Paraprofessional



Mrs. Chris Geleynse
3rd grade Para-
professional and music



Mr. Ken Geleynse
5th - 8th grade
Paraprofessional



Mrs. Krista Sikkema
Part-time 2nd grade
Paraprofessional



**Mr. Rod
Van Ravenswaay**
Assistant custodian



Ms. Betsy Wagner
4th grade
Paraprofessional



Mrs. Sami White
4Care Specialist,
Aftercare Coordinator

New babies!

Avery Jo is the first child welcomed into the home of Marissa (1st grade teacher) and Kyle Westra on August 12.

Ridley Ruth joined the home of Kyle (PE teacher) and Rachel Brummel and big brother, Ryker, on September 15.

Jamison Jay was welcomed on November 2 into the family of Dan (7th/8th science teacher) and Jina Tinklenberg, and siblings Daylea, Case, Quin, Bryer, and Silas.

Year Long Student Teachers from Dordt University



Ms. Annika Brands
6th grade



Ms. Annmarie Stuit
Kindergarten



Ms. Marissa Peel
Kindergarten



Avery



Ridley



Jamison

*WELCOME to the SCCS family,
little ones!*

SCCS Legacy Plan: An Overview of the 21-22 Changes

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

Starting with this current school year, **churches now decide each school year what their total gift to SCCS will be**, based on the amount they want to give in support of each SCCS student who attends their church (up to 36% of tuition). With this new model, churches can set a goal they know they can reach, families are re-energized to help their church raise funds, and Sioux Center Christian can expect to receive 100% of the commitments made. Families in those churches receive a per child "Legacy discount" on their tuition statement at the beginning of the school year.

Total Legacy Commitments for 2021-22 from fifteen churches: \$1,134,500

Note: The total Legacy gifts received for 2020-21 was \$1,152,195!

God's faithfulness through His people, from generation to generation, has kept and will continue to keep this biblically Reformed education thriving until Christ comes again. **THANK YOU for being THIS generation of faithful givers** who invest earthly treasures into the lives of God's kids, so that it can be transformed to eternal treasure!



GIVE, then Receive 75% of your Donation BACK

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 taxes next April?

We are so grateful for the **over \$170,000** in contributions received, and **hope to reach our full goal of \$316,242!**

We encourage you to **give by December 1** OR contact Mrs. Amy Vander Berg, Director of Development, if you plan to give later in December. *If it looks like we won't reach our goal, part of our tuition grant goal is given to other Christian schools in NICSTO.*

To learn more about this unique giving opportunity, go to siouxcenterchristian.com > Support SCCS > NICSTO or scan the code to the left. Forms are also available by the TRIP window and at the school office.



PLEASE JOIN
IN THIS
OPPORTUNITY TO

**IMPACT
OUR
TREASURED
STUDENTS**

WITH \$316,242
IN TUITION GRANTS
AT A NET COST OF
\$79,060 TO DONORS!

RECEIVE 75% BACK
AS AN IOWA TAX CREDIT



SIoux CENTER CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
FOUNDATION

Exciting fact: for every \$100,000 increase in the Foundation's value, \$3,000-\$5,000 more will be granted annually to school - year after year after year!

One of the most lasting ways you can help Christian education endure at SCCS for generations to come is to include the SCCS Foundation in your estate plans. Your lawyer or financial planner can help you with those plans, or the Barnabas Foundation offers free estate planning services to SCCS supporters. (barnabasfoundation.com 888.448.3040)

If you would like to include our Foundation in your year-end giving, you may mail or drop off your gift to school or give online at siouxcenterchristian.com > Support SCCS > Donate to SCCS. Choose "Foundation" as the fund.

Did you know that the Sioux Center Christian School Foundation is giving \$97,000 to SCCS for the 2021-22 school year?

Half of this gift will be applied to operations and half will help provide for the new math curriculum that is currently being researched. The annual grant provided by the Foundation is part of our Alternate Revenue Income.

The value of the Foundation as of September 30, 2021 is \$3,049,900.

SCCS Calendar

Our calendar is also at www.siouxcenterchristian.com

Wednesday, Nov 24 - Friday, Nov 26: Thanksgiving Break

Monday, Nov 29: Instrumental & Choral Concert @ Dordt

Includes 6th-8th Band, 5th-8th Choir, 5th-8th Orchestra

Thursday, Dec 2: First Grade Parent Visit Day 10:15-11:45am

Thursday, Dec 9: Second Grade Parent Visit Day 10:30-Noon

Friday, Dec 17: Christmas Chapel 8:20am in the gym, normal dismissal

Monday, Dec 20 - Friday, Dec 31: Christmas Break

Classes resume Monday, January 3

Thursday, Jan 13: Third Grade Parent Visit Day 10:30-Noon

Thursday, Jan 20: Fourth Grade Parent Visit Day 10:45-12:15

Friday, Jan 28 & Saturday, Jan 29: Mystery at Shady Acres

7th/8th grade play at TePaske Theater at 7pm

Position Openings

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

Part-time K-4th Grade Art Teacher:

Instill a love of God's creation, design, and beauty by teaching art classes for K-4th graders. This position is 0.4FTE and can be combined with other potential positions at SCCS to make a full-time position.

Food Service Specialist position:

Provide leadership for our school lunch program, working Monday-Friday from 7:30am-2pm.

Go to siouxcenterchristian.com > **About SCCS** > **Employment** for more details on the positions and the application packages.



Outlet 75

Outlet 75 is a retail store in Sioux Center that **supports the mission of our school** by selling overstock clothing for women, men, children, and furniture, decor, bedding, and kitchen items. ***It's like a little Marshall's or TJ Maxx right in Sioux Center!***

Outlet 75 recently granted \$25,000 to SCCS!

How has O75 impacted kids and made a Christ-filled



Preschool Families

Around the **3rd week of January**, info about TK/Kindergarten Round Up will be sent home with preschool students in Stepping Stones and Little Warriors Preschools. If your preschooler attends another preschool or home preschool, contact us so we can send you an SCCS info packet!



Parent information meetings will be held at the beginning of March, with **TK/K Round Up on Thursday and Friday, March 24 & 25.**

If you would like to learn more about SCCS before Round Up, **we invite you to tour** Sioux Center Christian, meet our teachers, and get a first-hand look at a typical school day in the TK/K environment.

To schedule a tour or receive an SCCS info packet, call the school office (712.722.0777) or Dr. Josh Bowar (320.979.9598) or scan the code to complete an online form.



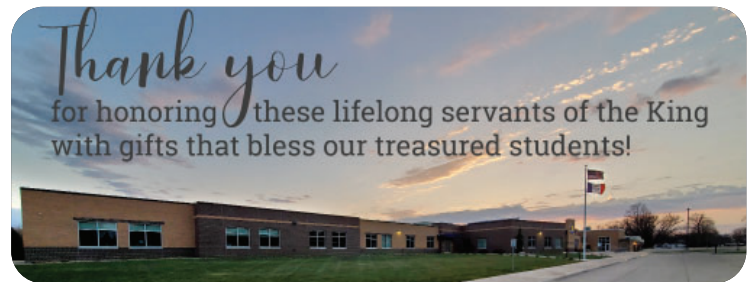
A child must be 5 years old by September 15 for enrollment in either TK or Kindergarten.

In Memory of God's Faithful Servants

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

Myna Nyhof – SCCS Foundation

Lorraine Groeneweg – SCCS Foundation



education possible since opening in February 2019?

2019 Grants: \$30,000 (after completely paying all startup costs)

2020 Grants: \$75,000 (and they were closed for 6 weeks!)

2021 Grants: \$44,000 (plus paid for carpet updates and other interior improvements...and there is still a year-end grant expected!)

Total Grants: \$149,000 in just over two and a half years!! These grants are part of our Alternate Revenue Income.

THANK YOU to our amazing managers and volunteers who give their time and talent to this business!

www.shopoutlet75.com

ANNUAL REPORT

The **DETAILS & IMPACT** your gifts have on daily fulfilling our mission at SCCS

ENERGIZING NUMBERS

Established in **1905** (school society formed in 1903)

511 students (growth of 92 students in the past 10 years)

52 disciples graduated in May and began their next step within God's Story

261 families are choosing to partner with SCCS in their child's education

\$9,190 full cost for a Christ-filled education for one student

\$460 discount per child thanks to profits from alternate revenue efforts...

\$235,060 total (Foundation, Outlet 75, Tales & Trails, 4Care, Aftercare, Kindercare)

\$1,152,195 given in 2020-21 by our church & family partnerships through the Legacy Plan

\$1,134,500 committed by churches to the Legacy Plan for 2021-22

27 churches attended by SCCS families

365 families participate in the Tuition Reduction Incentive Program (TRIP)

\$5,500,000 purchased through the TRIP office, with **\$115,372** given back to SCCS tuition and **\$56,574** to Christian schools nationwide (2020-21)

\$224,807 total tuition grants received by 120 families through NICSTO in 2020-21. **\$316,242** goal amount for NICSTO donations in 2021

\$4,754,387 total budget for training God's children in 2021-22 school year

ZERO debt remaining on our \$6.8 million 2015 building expansion project

\$3,113,900 is the asset balance of the SCCS Foundation; **\$75,000** granted to school by Foundation in 2020-21; **\$97,000** committed for 2021-22

97 students being served through support plans as part of the inclusive education framework

92 employees (49 full-time and 43 part-time)

62 kids participated in Tales and Trails Summer Camp this summer (up 20 kids from 2020)

Parents in Action for Christian Education (PACE) concluded their fundraising function in 2020-21, providing **\$16,370** to SCCS for the last school year and directing their accumulated reserves to the Building Fund (\$15,000) and the Foundation (\$30,000). PACE now focuses on encouragement to faculty & staff and fellowship among parents and students.



Every child

TREASURED

As God's unique design, with a one-of-a-kind role in His Story

TRAINED

In the deep soil of God's Word and in the wonder of His creation

TRANSFORMED

By the truth and grace revealed in learning and living God's Story



PROGRAMS & RESOURCES WE OFFER AS WE TRAIN GOD'S KIDS

Bible, math, language arts, science, art, social studies, reading
Music (*orchestra, band, choir*)
Physical education
Trailblazer Time (*life skills training*)
Minimester exploratories (*5th-8th grades*)
Technology
Storyline chapels and chapel groups
4Care (*half-day childcare for preschoolers*)
Inclusive education
Kindercare
Aftercare
Destination Imagination
Tales & Trails summer camp (*available for all 5-11 year olds in the community*)
Drama
Academic support
Behavior support
Musicals/plays
Team sports (*7th/8th grade: volleyball, basketball, soccer, & track*)
Spanish Club
School counselor
School nurse
Library
Talented and gifted program
School lunch
Busing
Parent visit days
PACE (parent group)

Sioux Center Christian School is accredited through the Iowa Department of Education by Christian Schools International.

ACADEMIC STRENGTH

SCCS Iowa Assessments Indicates what students were testing like in certain grades. Example: 3rd grade students, on the 3rd grade level test, tested as if they were a student in their 4th grade, 7th month

Grade	Reading	Written Expression	Math	Composite Score
3	5.0	5.3	4.7	4.7
4	5.7	7.3	5.6	5.9
5	6.9	8.0	6.4	6.7
6	8.3	10.2	6.7	7.7
7	9.5	12.0	8.8	9.2
8	8.7	10.5	9.5	9.5

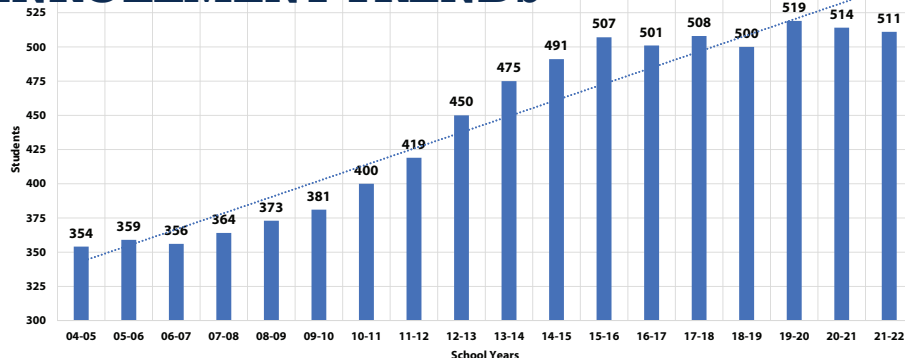


Iowa Dept of Education: SCCS Spring 2021 Iowa Assessments

2021-22 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- » Ensure **effective**, visionary governance.
- » Remain **accessible** to all families seeking to enroll their children at SCCS.
- » Provide **additional space** for faculty and staff to collaborate with each other, parents, and students.
- » **Support teachers** in their professional calling.
- » **Strengthen curriculum** scope and sequence.

ENROLLMENT TRENDS



FINANCIAL INFORMATION

2020-2021 REPORT

Total Revenue \$3,981,247

Total Expenses \$3,824,625

Excess funding was placed into these accounts:

Trailblazer Fund \$13,000

Tuition Grants \$100,000

Building Fund \$43,622

Legacy Plan Gifts \$1,152,195

(Legacy Plan Goal was \$1,338,339)

FUND BALANCES

as of July 31, 2021

Tuition Grants \$211,684

Building Depreciation \$101,502

Earmarked for capital improvements and maintenance

Bus \$64,536

Earmarked for bus needs

Trailblazer Fund \$808,190

Cash reserves, building toward three months of operating expenses, as suggested through CSI accreditation

2021-2022 BUDGET

INCOME

Tuition \$3,015,587

Legacy Plan \$1,100,000

Foundation Grant \$97,000

Other Revenue \$541,800

EXPENSES

Educational Supplies \$126,000

Fine Arts & Athletics \$40,950

Transportation \$72,304

Relations \$604,081

Salary and Benefits \$3,495,497

Facility Operations & Maintenance \$313,305

Technology \$65,000

Other \$37,250

Total 2021-22 Budget

\$4,754,387

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Greg Van Dyke, President

Joe Bakker, Vice President

Lori Walstra, Secretary

Michael De Boer, Treasurer

Dennis Vander Plaats, Vicar

Renae Calkhoven

Jay Dekkers

Kelly Franken

Darren Raih



THANK YOU

What a blessing it is to be able to report to you all this information about Sioux Center Christian School! Behind every number are **Kingdom servants who work to make these numbers possible.**

Please continue to pray for our students, faculty, staff, trustees, and parents - that the **Holy Spirit may work mightily in all of us, as we learn and live God's Story!**

SIoux CENTER
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



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

Mystery at Shady Acres: 7th/8th Grade play

Fifty-two 7th and 8th graders are practicing two mornings a week in preparation for their performances of ***Mystery at Shady Acres*** on **Friday, January 28** and **Saturday, January 29** at 7pm.

Mystery at Shady Acres is a lighthearted "whodunit" that needs the audience's help to solve a baffling theft.

Shady Acres is a cozy hotel tucked away in the remote English countryside in the late 1920s. Their most esteemed guest's valuable diamond necklace is stolen! Who could it be? The police discover that practically everyone at the hotel has a motive. Having a flamboyant but ineffective detective and his assistant arrive on the scene competing to solve the case first only makes matters worse. Good thing the audience is there to spot clues and analyze characters' motives!

Save the date so you can be a part of this mystery-solving drama!



7th & 8th Grade Girls' Volleyball Season

This year in volleyball, we had 34 students represent our 7th and 8th grade teams.

Mrs. Amy Feekes and Mrs. Becky Postma did a great job leading these girls to another fun and successful volleyball season. These coaches spent time in practices and games developing an understanding, appreciation, and love for the game and for their teammates.



7th grade girls team with Coach Amy Feekes



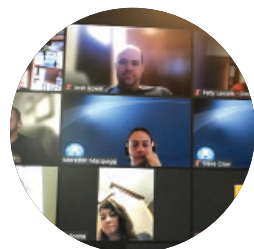
8th grade girls team with Coach Becky Postma

We thank our coaches and students for all the hard work they put in throughout the season!

Professional Involvement and Growth

Students aren't the only ones learning and growing at SCCS!

Mrs. Lisa Mouw, director of learning, is currently participating in the **Leadership Sioux Center** program. Mrs. Mouw will be spending time each month with community leaders to learn more about and continue to improve Sioux Center. Lisa also serves as **president of the Iowa Association of Christian Schools**, which is the public policy voice of Iowa's Protestant, Christ-centered schools.



Dr. Josh Bowar, head of school, has been serving on the state's **Nonpublic School Advisory board for the Iowa Department of Education** where he advocates for the needs of Iowa Christian schools and also participates in a nationwide school choice advocacy group for EdChoice.

Mrs. Autumn Den Boer, 7/8 Language Arts and Reading teacher, has been recently appointed to the **Iowa Reading Research Center Advisory Council** and will join their efforts in connecting Iowa educators and families with evidence-based practices to support literacy development.

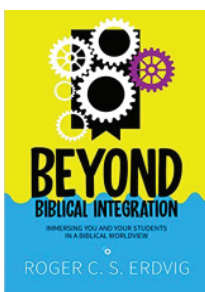
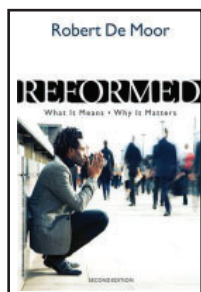


All faculty members are actively studying two books this year, one for use during faculty devotion time and the other as discussion material for professional development.

Reformed: What It Means, Why It Matters by Robert De Moor (all new faculty and trustees also read and study this book every year).

Beyond Biblical Integration: Immersing You and Your Students in a Biblical Worldview by Roger C.S. Erdvig (he is coming to work with SCCS faculty in February).

It's impossible to list all the ways our faculty and staff are growing in professional and leadership skills, but **encouraging and supporting our employees in spiritual, personal, and professional growth is a priority for our school.**



From the Board of Trustees

The school year at SCCS is off to a great start, with students being treasured, trained, and transformed for God's glory. Thank you for your support in the mission of SCCS by praying for the school and with your financial gifts. **I am pleased to share that there's no doubt that God is working in and through the school!**

Every summer, the board of trustees goes through an exercise to **set 2-3 goals for the upcoming year**. A couple of examples of the goals from the past few years included contacting every SCCS family during the school year and reviewing the board policy manual every year. **One of the new goals for this year is to provide regular communication between the board and the constituency and board updates at faculty/staff meetings.** I had the honor of joining the SCCS faculty/staff meeting in August, and there was a lot of excitement for the upcoming year! I thoroughly enjoyed my time with them and I'm so thankful for the work they do.

I would like to share with the constituency some of **what I shared at the faculty/staff meeting**. We spent a little bit of time **covering some of the major board decisions** that have been made over the past year. Those decisions included changes to the Legacy Plan, restructuring the tuition grant process, updating sections of the west wing of our building, paying off the building debt (exciting!), adjusting PACE's role to focus solely on encouragement and fellowship, and reviewing and adopting the CSI accreditation plan. As a board, we understand some of these decisions were easier to work through than others, and we are thankful for the support of this community and the passion the constituency has for the mission of SCCS.

I also shared **how we spend our time at board meetings**. We ask trustees to do their homework ahead of time so they come prepared to participate at meetings, and we do a pretty good job of being efficient with our time.

We cover the following topics every month:

Above and Beyond – Josh and Lisa ask faculty and staff to join us so they can highlight the great work they are doing at SCCS. This is always one of my favorite parts of the meeting!

Spotlight Reports – We spend time learning about current or potential new programs at SCCS. A few examples include: Spanish language, Outlet 75, and the counseling/guidance program.

Visionary Work – One of the main goals of the board is to **spend 85% of our time on visionary work**. Yes, we want/need to know what is happening at school right now, but it is **our task to look 5-15 years down the road to keep faithfully fulfilling our mission statement**. We just completed our latest strategic plan, and we are partnering with CACE this year to develop a new strategic plan. The constituency will have the opportunity to be involved with that process. During our focus on visionary work, we use many methods of gathering information and invite people to share during board meetings.

Head of School Report – Josh gives a detailed report every month of his work, and he has specific measurements and goals for which we hold him accountable. The board also provides regular support and encouragement, as Josh serves as the board's sole employee. I am thankful we have a very strategic and hardworking head of school!

Board Reports – The finance, Legacy, nominations, and executive teams all report.

One other item I reported at the meeting is **the board has made a strategic decision to shift some of Josh's responsibilities to development, connecting with school supporters, promoting the school in the community, and strategic initiatives**. As the head of school, he is uniquely positioned to share the story of what God is doing through SCCS, and the board desires to continue advancing the mission of the school through communication, facility improvements, and strategic planning. We are excited for Josh to carry out our vision through having the time and space to be actively involved in the **important role of head storyteller and chief promoter**.

Lastly, I would like to say **thank you to the entire SCCS community for your support**. It truly is a blessing and a joy to serve on the board because we know how much this community cares for the mission of SCCS!

Greg Van Dyke, Board President



Igniting the Vision for SCCS

At Sioux Center Christian School, we are eager to continue down the path God has planned for our school and **our deep desire is to be here until Christ returns... discipling, treasuring, and training as many children as God sends our way, until His Day of ultimate transformation!**

To be a school that endures, we are working in the coming years to:

- o **Keep creating an environment** where students, faculty, and staff learn and thrive, providing spaces for academic, physical, and creative pursuits that **foster joy and glorify God.**
- o Continue to **attract, retain, and equip high caliber faculty and staff** who love the Lord and deeply desire to train God's treasured children in His Way.
- o Continue to **creatively provide classroom experiences** in which students can **practice being a disciple under the direction of a master teacher.** Just as we have piano practice, basketball practice, and play practice, our kids need to practice being disciples so they can be **lifelong agents of transformation and restoration.**



A key milestone in our plans to endure is **expanding our campus to include a new flexible gym/chapel/performance space, with ten additional classrooms, plus expanded student work areas.**

This expansion plan is south of our current gym and will include renovations to existing spaces.

Watch for open houses coming in January and February, with a society meeting in March in which our society will vote on the campus improvement. It is an **exciting privilege to dream** of this next step that will be vital to the educational experience of our students for decades to come!

Would you prayerfully consider
helping IGNITE the giving for this next milestone with a year-end gift?

You may mail or drop off your donation at school, give online at siouxcenterchristian.com >Support SCCS

We hope to see you at an Open House!



scan the code to give online

Speaking of Vision and Faithfulness...



Each year, retired faculty and staff gather together on the first day of school to reminisce. On Tuesday, August 24, 20 former SCCS teachers, staff, and a principal met at Children's Park to celebrate their **combined 461 years of service to SCCS!** Our journey as a school has been impacted and BLESSED by these visionary, faithful servants of God! **THANK YOU!!!**

**SIOUX CENTER
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**



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