

THE COURIER

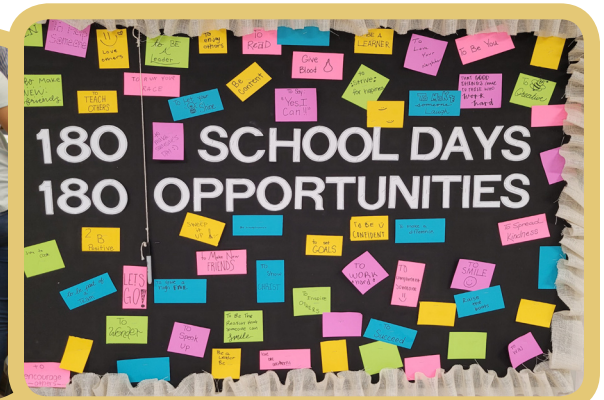
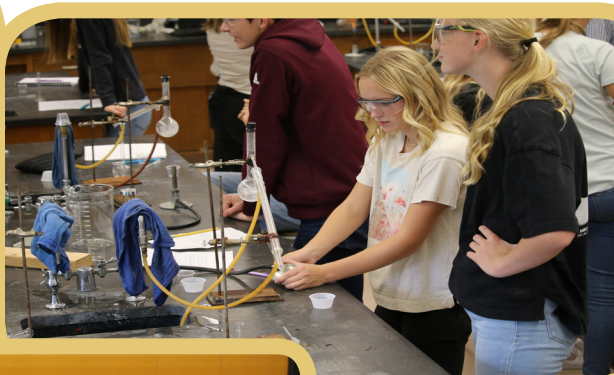
WINTER
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COVENANT CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

1401 Ferndale Ave. SW
Grand Rapids MI 49534
616-453-5048
www.covenantchristianhs.org

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The Lord thy God in the midst of thee
is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice
over thee with joy; he will rest in his
love, he will joy over thee with singing.
Zephaniah 3:17





FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

Rick Noorman



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REJOICING IN THE WORK OF PROTESTANT REFORMED EDUCATION

*“I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live: I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. My mediation of him shall be sweet: I will be glad in the Lord.”
Psalm 104:33-34*

The context of these beautiful verses from Psalm 104 contains an extended description of God’s great work of creation and His providential care of His creation. In the middle of the Psalm, verse 24, we have the exclamation, “O, Lord how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.”

The work of the Christian school and its’ teachers is essentially to bring the children to a greater knowledge and understanding of God and His work. It is the hope of every Christian school teacher that this will lead the students to make the exclamation of verse 24 and lead to the commitment to sing, praise, meditate and be glad all of their days on earth. (vs.33-34)

The Christian school should be a source of much joy in the life of children, parents, grandparents, and teachers. The exclamation, “O Lord how manifold are thy works!” should be heard often in the Christian school classroom. We have so much to be thankful for everyday and our calling is to “Rejoice and be glad” each day. I am often reminded by the parents and grandparents of our students of how grateful they are to have a school like Covenant. “What a great blessing it is for us.”

It is, in fact, a covenant blessing and it is that fact that contributes to our joyful work in the school. Prof C. Griess sheds light on this thought in his wonderful pamphlet, “The Calling of the Reformed Christian School Teacher”, as follows.

“It has been said that good teachers are passionate about their material. But to be good Christian school teachers, you must be passionate about the God of your material. Our own experience of learning God’s world and gifts of wisdom and knowledge as teachers must lead us personally into joy and worship of the God who gives all these things as gifts to His covenant children. And then we will be passionate about our material, and that for the right reasons. Our classrooms will then take on the flavor of joyful worship and celebration as we pursue the knowledge of God and His world. We will take joy in God and in leading students to delight in God and in His gifts. There will be a covenant experience that takes place in the classroom—a substantial aura created by the awareness of the fact that God is delighting in His children by giving them what we are studying. There will be the joy of covenantal life there in the classroom. Teaching and learning are covenantal experiences. They are relational exercises. And that relationship is not only between the teacher and the student, but between God and the teacher and the student. God is personally delighting in our children by giving them the gifts of wisdom and knowledge through our teachers. And the children and teachers are delighting and joying in the God who gives gifts. That relationship must take place in the classroom. There must be reflected in the teaching the delight of the teacher at the reality of what is taking place there. The

teacher must realize that in his classroom, in second grade math, in fifth grade social studies, God is granting us to reach our chief end. Redeemed by Christ we are delighting in Him and His works, that we might live a life of service, joy and worship before Him.”
p.11-12

One of the important qualities for someone who wishes to bring joy to the work in a Christian school is the ability to see things in a positive light. A joyful teacher will be motivated to work from the joy that he or she experiences as a redeemed child of God. But the joyful teacher will also be encouraged by looking for joy in the essential elements that are present in our school. Consider the following:

The Foundations—Sometimes our joy comes from looking back. We see where we came from and what we have gone through to get where we are today. We receive much encouragement and joy in remembering the work that was done many years ago by Godly men who stepped out by faith and organized a high school. They laid the foundations of the organization in the Constitution and By-laws which have endured and given direction since the formation of the school. These documents have endured the test of time, from a very small beginning with five rooms, five teachers, and sixty students, to where we are today. They have given direction and supported the work of school boards, parents, and teachers for 55 years.

The People—Throughout the history of our school, God has provided men and women to take on the work of the school in many different capacities. This work has proceeded from joyful hearts that have a desire to serve the Lord with their gifts, talents, and time. This participation begins at the broadest level when members of the school society gather at least once a year to conduct the business set before it and elect board members to take on a more active role. These board members serve the greater body during their 3-year term by getting involved in more specific work that is needed. As these men gather each month for committee meetings and board meetings, they do so with a sense of duty that is driven by the realization of the gracious gift that God has given in this school. The daily work of the education of the students is done by faithful teachers and staff who love the Lord and love the students that come into the building each day. They truly enjoy the work that they do and the interaction that they have with those students. They joyfully serve the parents as they stand in their place for this important work.

The extracurricular activities involve coaches and volunteers who work many hours to provide opportunities for students to enjoy and grow in other areas of their life. Finally, we have the greatest source of joy in the school, the students. These are not just any boys and girls. They are God’s children, the covenant seed. They love the Lord. They are diverse in their gifts and talents and in their level of maturity. There are those who may disappoint us for a time, and also those who can simply amaze us with their knowledge, insights, and dedication. But they are all the object of the joyous work that goes on in the classrooms.

The Work—What could lead to greater joy than to be involved in learning more about God, His world, how His hand guides all things for the good of His people and the gathering of His church? There are so many ways that teachers can lead the students to a greater understanding of these marvelous topics. To see a student light up when he or she is able to grasp a difficult concept or to see how they are amazed when basic God ordained principles of the material world can be consistently observed in complex settings is a cause for the teacher to be joyful. The topics are about God and His world, the learners are God’s children, and the future that we are preparing them for is God’s church. and the service in His kingdom. This is joyful work!

Even secular educators testify to the importance of working for joy in the classroom. The reasons for that are certainly different from what Prof. Griess lays out in his booklet but, none the less, they see the importance of finding joy in the school. The most recent issue of “Educational Leadership” magazine, which is a secular publication, is titled “Centering Student Joy.” One of the articles, by Lauren Porosoff, an educational consultant, talks about what it means to “center student joy.” She says, “We should also remember that learning itself presents many opportunities for joy: the joy of discovery, the joy of improvement, the joy of accomplishment, the joy of self-expression... Celebrating these moments—not necessarily with a party of ceremony but by simply noticing and naming them—amplifies students’ sense of satisfaction and increases the likelihood that they’ll work for these joyful moments in the future.” She concludes the article saying, “Joy is intrinsic to learning itself—and centering our students’ joy as we design their experiences can even make our own work more joyful” (Educational Leadership: December 2024/January 2025 p.17-20). As Reformed parents and educators we gladly add, “And brings all glory to the most high God.”

In a Christian school we see evidence of teachers and students working side by side. Teachers design the work to help the students build the necessary basis of knowledge. The students apply what they learn and continually grow to be able to better understand other things in God's world. This is something that we all do together. Everyone in the school uses their various gifts in teaching or learning to benefit those around them. This is another wonderful benefit of a Reformed education that is based on the covenant of grace.

This work of covenant education takes place in many different forms. Each day at Covenant, I see 280 students walking toward a class where they will not have a textbook, probably not have much homework, and they will be asked to make a lot of noise. These young people have chosen to spend part of their school day in Band, Orchestra, or Choir. This is one of their choices in life at school. We can all rejoice in their desire to make a joyful noise and be glad during this time each day.

This same sense of joyful participation can be found in the athletic program with players and fans, the robotics program, our weekly chapels, and many other special events at school. Students also find joy in community and fellowship. Time spent with friends at lunchtime or during school activities is time that helps everyone grow closer together as brothers and sisters in the Lord. These are times that we share His love with one another.

We have to admit that school is a part of our fallen world. There are going to be disappointments, trials, and difficulties that members of the school community face and carry with them into the school. There can be negativity because of things that are going on around us or directly affecting the lives of some. But we must remember that God's covenant blessings include the promise of strength to persevere through trials and wisdom to guide us to understanding. We must have patience and allow the Spirit of Christ to work in the hearts of all involved to bring us into conformity with his will. The students are reminded of this in our weekly chapels when they respond to the phrase, "This is the day that the Lord hath made" with "We will rejoice and be glad in it."

This brings us back to the joyful conclusion of Psalm 104. "I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live: I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. My mediation of him shall be sweet: I will be glad in the Lord."

BOARD PRESIDENT
John Van Uffelen



We have witnessed many races in 2024! This past summer, many of us marveled at the athletes of the Olympic games who had dedicated much of their lives to training and preparation and exhibited great strength and endurance to win medals. We were reminded that Paul, in I Corinthians 9:24 and Philippians 3:14, used races such as these in the track and field events as examples for our Christian lives.

There were also the races by candidates for the offices of President of the United States and many other seats of government in the Senate, House of Representatives and Governorships. We witnessed campaigns of one or two years in the making, observed much money being raised and expended, watched and listened to endless advertising, observed changing and complex strategies, and witnessed painstaking and relentless striving to win the majority vote.

The athletes and candidates mentioned above are examples of those who "do it to obtain a corruptible crown" (I Corinthians 9:25). In contrast, this text continues to describe our crown as "incorruptible", a much better and more worthy prize. Hebrews 12:1,2 and I Timothy 6:11 instruct us further to run "the race set before us, looking unto Jesus" and, as we do, to "follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness."

We can still learn much from these athletes and candidates for office. Their dedication, energy and passion instruct us how we must pursue our own Christian goals. Do we exhibit as much energy, dedication, and passion to live unto Christ as the athletes in the Olympics and candidates for office in the 2024 Election?

In a practical sense, we create many prizes or goals for ourselves as we press toward the high calling of our God. Our students press towards the goals of passing exams; completing classes; growing academically, mastering music, technology, and sports; developing maturity in Christ, and graduating. After they graduate, their goals change, with new responsibilities: higher education achievements, skill training, career selection, and possibly marriage.

Our teachers, administrator and support staff establish their own goals to teach and equip students for their vocations and places within the church. Their running toward goals includes preparing effective lesson plans, growing professionally and spiritually, creating fair exams and grades, nurturing students for spiritual and academic growth, and developing curriculum to effectively prepare students for vocations and higher learning.

The School Board presses towards its primary goal of assuring that the CCHS facilities, teaching staff, administration, and funding are fit and fortified for each year of instruction. We are presently pressing toward this goal with the following activities:

Our Building and Ad Hoc Committees continue work on the three-phase building project that was approved by the society in March 2021. Although some changes from its initial vision developed, such as 1) switching the last two phases to construct the four-classroom addition first and relocating it from the south side to the north side of the west wing, and 2) adding a 1200 seat auditorium to the final phase, thanks to generous donors, the original goal remains intact and enhanced!

Our Capital Campaign Committee presses on to complete its drive to collect all the funds necessary for the building project. The original "\$12 Million in Three Years" campaign started in 2021 collected approximately \$5 million, enough to fund the first two phases. A modified campaign was introduced early in 2024, "\$6.2 Million in Two Years", to match a donor's offer. The original goal of full funding for the project to avoid debt remains the same.

In January 2023, the Board adopted a strategic plan for administrative staffing. We are addressing shortcomings and adapting for growth. We are also preparing for the retirement of our administrator. Work has been accomplished to identify interested and qualified individuals, interviews are ongoing, and adjustments are being made to optimize and distribute responsibilities to align with talents and interests. The Education Committee presses toward implementation of the plan in the 2025-26 school year.

May God give us all, whether School Board, administrator, teaching staff, students, or supporters, grace to run our races with passion and dedication as we "press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."



EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Dave Moelker



During the past 8 months the Education Committee has met multiple times every month. This is not the result of problems within the school. Quite the opposite is true. Covenant is enjoying substantial growth in the number of students and work is being done to provide for the increasing administrative needs of the school. In preparation for this article, I read past Education Committee reports and several commented on the projected growth that we are now experiencing. With this anticipation of growth, the previous Education Committees began the work of developing a vision of splitting up the administrative duties into three positions: Administrator, Director of Student Life, and Director of Instruction. The vision also included adding a business and finance position.

The Board has developed the following brief job description of each of these positions:

The Administrator's main job will be to develop and maintain a God centered vision of Covenant regarding staff, students, and facilities. Where will Covenant be in 3, 5 and 10 years from now? Secondly, the administrator will oversee the other Directors, help and encourage them, and equip them with the tools necessary to do their jobs. The Administrator will have less day-to-day functions and instead focus on how to make the entire management team run well.

The Director of Instruction position will include everything regarding the teachers, their needs, and the curriculum they teach. The job will range from scheduling classes for the coming year to working regularly with teachers. This will include meeting regularly with the new teachers, mentoring them as they begin their work, evaluating the work that all teachers do in the classroom, and giving encouragement. The goal is to help teachers to be effective and successful in the classroom.

Director of Student Life will be a position that focuses entirely on the students and their well-being. The focus will be encouraging the students in their life at school, motivating them in their work, and helping them to be respectfully engaged in a God-centered way. This position will handle the discipline of students and the enforcement of the school handbook.

Business/Finance Manager will become a new full-time position. Covenant has grown to a size that warrants this position. A growing student population

and larger facilities means additional activities with expenses, revenue, payroll, and benefits, and more financial reporting. This position will help consolidate the business aspect of the school and will allow the office staff to focus more on student needs.

One main function of the Education Committee is to interview for these new positions at Covenant along with interviewing for vacant staff positions. This year the Academic Support Program added Mrs. Rochelle Heyboer, Mrs. Leah Smidstra and Mrs. Heidi Mowery. Mr. Terry Stevens will be joining our staff in the second semester to teach the Computer Programming classes. Miss Jenna Hoving was hired as the new Librarian and Mrs. Jen Kalsbeek was hired as the Guidance Counselor Assistant. We welcome them all and commend them on the great work that they are doing.

We would like to thank those that have moved on from Covenant this past year. We thank Mr. and Mrs. Tom Bergman for their many years of dedicated service at Covenant. We thank Mrs. Elle Koole for her work in the library last year. We also thank Mrs. Caitlyn Miedema for her work for several years in the Academic Support Program, along with Miss Aubrey Langerak who worked in the program last year.

The Education Committee acknowledges the extra work that teachers put in during the summer to develop their curriculum and teaching materials. This is a discretionary decision they make as they continue in the calling to educate our children. There is a long list of projects, but it is worth noting them as we continue to encourage this extra work outside of the classroom. These projects include Mr. Jared Noorman with Algebra 1, Mrs. Kristen VanDyke with Geometry, Mr. Rick DeVries with Modern World History, Mr. Joel Minderhoud with Physics, and finally Mr. Brantley VanOverloop with Precalculus. We also had teachers collaborating on projects for classes that they both teach. Mr. Joel Minderhoud and Mr. Jared Noorman did a joint project for Chemistry and Mrs. Jori Yeong and Mrs. Mary Burchett collaborated on a project for English 10.

When organizations experience growth, personal relationships between the teachers, staff, and School

Board can easily get lost. Small schools often function on a more personal level between the teachers and the Board. The Education Committee feels very compelled to address this challenge to keep the communication lines open.

As chairman of the Education Committee, I have made it a goal to walk the hallways every Wednesday after school dismisses for the day and spend a couple minutes talking to teachers. We want teachers to have opportunity to ask questions and voice concerns as they arise. This practice may help to streamline the communication process. This is our "small" way to keep Covenant small. If you have concerns regarding the education of our children, feel free to reach out. My contact information is 616-340-1442 or dmoelker9@gmail.com

As we continue into our 57th year, we are humbled and thankful to our Heavenly Father for the many blessings He has shown towards us. We look forward to the completion of the expansion project and, the Lord willing, to the continued growth of our school. We look forward to many generations benefiting from the decisions we make today. We continue to covet your prayers.

COVENANT CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL
FOUNDATION

By Jason Kregel, President

What a wonderful blessing we have in our Covenant Christian High School. It is nothing short of amazing to walk the halls today and see the difference in our school from 10, 20, 30 and more years ago! Not only is there a difference in the physical size of the school, but more importantly the organization continues to strive to refine the art of teaching subject material from a Christian viewpoint, while connecting with our covenant youth.

All of this comes at a cost. As CCHS continues to budget year after year it becomes increasingly obvious that tuition has to continue to rise to meet the demands of the school. But, we have a wonderful solution before us that, with a little extra effort, can make a large impact on the tuition increases for our children and grandchildren.

The CCHS Foundation currently manages around \$1.65 million and has been steadily giving more and more to the school each year. For the current school year, the foundation was able to grant a total of \$86,900 to our school.

But, the Foundation wants to do more. A lot more. The Foundation is dedicated to granting around 6% of it's assets to the school each year. Just imagine what a fund balance of \$10 million could do. Or, why not a fund balance of \$20 million? A \$20 million fund balance would kick off a grant of around 1.2 million dollars directly to the school budget each year! This is the kind of dent in school tuition the Foundation wants to make. Sounds like a dream, right? Not really. Other schools are doing it, and we can too.

One of the greatest meetings of the year is the annual Society meeting held in the spring. We walk into the CCHS gym, and take a seat in the middle of a group of 300-400 other men with an identical goal: to provide a sustainable, Christ-centered education for generations to come. Just think if every single one of those 300-400 men decided to walk out of that society meeting and have another child. Yes, what if every single one of those 300-400 men met with their attorney the very next day and added "baby CCHS Foundation" to their estate plan. You had 4 children? Now you have 5. Had 6? Now you have 7. Large or small estate, it doesn't matter. We can hit that \$20 million Foundation goal just by the sheer volume of participants. The Foundation is urging you to be one of them.

You should know that the Foundation Board is doing their part to achieve this goal as well. After reviewing the past 15 years of Foundation returns and seeing a return of a little over 5% while still participating in a fair amount of market risk, we decided it was time to make a change for the benefit of the society.

We are excited to introduce Curtis Lehnert from Cedar Ridge Investment Management as the new fund manager for the Foundation. We are maintaining a very similar portfolio risk level as before, but plan to see much better growth which tracks closer to the overall market with the goal of increasing risk-adjusted returns. Curtis is a member of Byron Center PRC and comes to us with over 17 years of investment experience. He holds the designation of Chartered Financial Analyst® (CFA) and Certified Financial Planner™ (CFP®) We look forward to working with Curtis in the future.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Josh Lubbers



The place was Covenant Christian High School. The year was 1995. Over the sound of faxes being sent and typewriters clicking, a few students could be heard discussing relatively new things called “surfing the web” and “email”. Some thought it was a fad that would soon pass. The Internet was indeed a growing trend. What started in 1991 with 1 website, by 1995 it had grown to around 23,000 websites. Fast forward to 2024. Estimates now show that worldwide there are around 1,100,000,000 websites and 17,000,000,000 internet connected devices!

Most of us experience how fast technology changes and updates. Computers and operating systems become outdated quickly and need to be updated. The CCHS Technology Committee works hard to ensure that our computer systems stay current in software, hardware, and security. We have partnered again this year with Information Technology Systems (ITS). They have been doing a fine job for CCHS since 2017. They help with day-to-day tech support for the staff and the cyber security needs for the devices.

Some of the recent work at CCHS includes purchasing and configuring an additional 30 Chromebooks with a mobile cart, replacing 8 computers, installation and set up an interactive classroom TV screen, and repurposing 10 of our older Chromebooks to be used when the demand for devices is high. A couple of future projects the committee is working on are an upgrade to our server and the yearly purchase of 30 new Chromebooks with another cart.

Technology can be dangerous, and we should hold each other accountable for the use of it. One of the ways we implement safeguards of internet usage is through the use of the GoGuardian program. This software allows us to track usage of all activity on the Chromebooks and has special guidelines to flag and block questionable sites. The reports are also monitored and assessed for inappropriate internet use.

Thanks are in order to the following members of the Technology Committee: to Mr. Rick DeVries and Mr. Matt Elzinga who have been helping for years, and for our newest member, Mr. Mark Meulenberg, who has once again agreed to join the committee. Technology is like many things in this world. It can be used for good but can also be used for much sin. In the ever-

changing world of technology, may God bestow on us wisdom and discretion so that we use it to glorify our Father in heaven.

Malachi 3:6 “For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.”

ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE

David Bouwkamp



The Enrollment Committee met with 19 new families this past spring in anticipation of the parents enrolling their first child into Covenant. This has been the practice of the Enrollment Committee for a long time. The parents fill out application forms and then meet with us. This process ensures that the families agree with our mission statement, basis of belief and admission policy and makes for a seamless entry into Covenant for the new students.

We also contact and meet with, if necessary, any parents whose church and/or family status may have changed. This ensures that they continue to agree with the terms under which they originally enrolled.

The Board appreciates the cooperation and support of all the families that enroll here at Covenant and welcomes these new families and students into our school community.

- Mike and Katie Boverhof (Alexis)
- Matt and Stephanie DeBoer (Jacob)
- David and Michelle DeBoer (Paige)
- Lance and Chris DeVries (Emma)
- Christian and Julie Flikkema (Greyson)
- Jared and Stacy Hekstra (Joshua)
- Craig and Amy Horvat (Elijah)
- Tom and Kristin Huizinga (Colton)
- Matthew and Chelsea Kamps (Malaya)
- Garth and Stephanie McKinney (Graylynn)
- Joseph and Audra Ophoff (Isaac)
- Russ and Lisa Potjer (Carter)
- Nathan and Marie Schipper (Bryce)
- Brad and Sara Schipper (Caleb)
- Steven and Shannon Vander Zwaag (Ashlyn)
- Michael and Lisa Van Til (Dylan)
- Jordan and Bethany Whiteley (James)
- Tim and Shealagh Wigger (Brendan)
- Rockford and Andrea Wigger (Olivia)



It is very important for teachers to continue to maintain and further develop their ability to provide effective classroom instruction. To maintain their state certification, all teachers must complete 150 hours of continuing education every five years. This professional development is carried on in many ways. There are opportunities for teachers to gain credits by working on school projects, participating in workshops, attending seminars, and taking graduate classes. Many of these programs are funded through the Teacher Educational Development fund which is part of our budget every year. We also receive some funding through Grandville Public Schools who share some of their state professional development funding with all the private schools in the district.

Completion of a Master's Degree is one avenue that many teachers will use to grow in the work of teaching and to maintain their certification. We are happy to report that we have 17 teachers who have earned Master's degrees. These programs usually involve taking 10 or 11 graduate level classes. We congratulate Mrs. Jori Yeong who completed her Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction at Calvin University last spring. We currently have several teachers who are in various stages of completion for their degree. Mr. Ethan Mingerink will be taking his final class in his Master's program at GVSU focusing on Educational Technology. He has also taken graduate classes to assist in his work in the Spanish classes. Mr. Jared Noorman continues to work on his program in Sports Leadership through online classes with Dordt University. Mr. Brantley Van Overloop is working online through Grand Canyon University for his degree in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). Miss Alyssa DeVries has completed 2 classes in her Master's program in Curriculum Development at GVSU. Mr. Dylan Van Dyke is working towards a Master's degree in History through Northwestern University in Orange City, Iowa. Mr. Rick DeVries is taking classes in the Christian Counseling Certificate Program through Grand Canyon University. We encourage those who are presently involved in these

programs and pray that God will continue to help them to apply what they learn to their work in the classroom.

Our teachers also receive credit for attending the PRTI Teachers' Convention and other educational conferences that deal with the teaching of specific subjects. We have had many of our teachers attend the MACUL (Michigan Association of Computer Users in Learning) conferences. These conferences are oriented to the use of current technology but also showcase many other good educational practices. For the past three years members of the faculty were able to receive credit by participating in a book study focusing on professional development. Mr. Kyle Bruinooge, our Curriculum Director, has capably led this work. Credits can also be earned with participation in our own PR Federation sponsored mentoring program.

It is encouraging to see our teachers spending time developing expertise in educational theory and practice. We appreciate the commitment and professional approach that shows their desire to give our students a great educational experience.



As we close out the 2024 year, the Finance Committee is grateful to be given the opportunity to work for the continued funding of CCHS. With a budget of just over \$3.7 million, please continue to pray for us and the Board as we manage the finances of the school.

We ask that parents keep up on their monthly tuition payments to ensure that funds are available for the operations of the school. At the end of December, families should have 50% of their tuition balance paid. If you are having trouble staying current with your tuition, please be in consistent contact with the committee. We also ask for all those who are able to prayerfully consider giving towards the Support Drive. We have collected just over \$200k of the \$510k budgeted amount. The purpose of the drive is to supplement the tuition as another source of revenue for the school in order to keep the costs down for tuition paying families. Please keep CCHS in mind when considering your giving.

The Phase III building project is moving along nicely and we are seeing regular progress. This project financially had a total estimated cost of \$28.65 million which was passed at a Society meeting last December.

Working with GDK Construction, who is the contractor for this project, we are paying monthly invoices, keeping this project current and on schedule. Donors for the auditorium are giving monthly to cover costs for this portion of the project and will continue until project completion. The Capital Campaign Committee has been working on collecting funds and securing 2-year pledges that will all be matched to work towards the goal of having this project completely paid for at the completion. Please prayerfully consider giving towards this building project that will, the Lord willing, benefit our young people for decades to come.

Included in these pages is a financial report for the latest fiscal school year (July '23 – June '24). This report shows the difference between the actual income and expenses versus the budgeted amounts that were passed by the Society back in the spring of 2023. Ending the year with a surplus of 87k was accomplished by getting 99.5% of the income in that was budgeted for and keeping expenses down at an overall budgeted 97%. We will continue to strive to watch the expenses and budget accordingly to work to keep tuition down. We thank you and our Heavenly Father for your continued covenant support.

Profit & Loss Budget Performance

June 2024

	Jun 24	Budget	Jul 23 - Jun 24	YTD Budget	Annual Budget	%
BUILDING EXPENSES						
5020 · Custodial services	21,615	7,500	64,497	90,000	90,000	71.7
5110.1 · Payroll taxes - custodial	1,787	583	6,046	7,000	7,000	86.4
6000 · Utilities	5,408	6,250	73,156	75,000	75,000	97.5
6025 · Water improvements assessment	-	-	-	4,000	4,000	0.0
6050 · Janitorial supplies	3,896	600	12,357	10,000	10,000	123.6
6060 · Snow removal	-	-	6,305	6,000	6,000	105.1
6062 · Trash removal	770	266	4,340	3,200	3,200	135.6
6065 · Grounds maintenance	10,391	4,325	52,443	53,000	53,000	98.9
6070 · General maintenance	(20,221)	5,333	57,260	64,000	64,000	89.5
6080 · Major maintenance program	1,000	1,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	100.0
6090 · Building furnishings	-	380	2,429	5,000	5,000	48.6
	24,647	26,237	290,832	329,200	329,200	88.3
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES						
6030 · Telephone	405	510	6,112	7,000	7,000	87.3
6145 · Copier replacement	-	-	2,000	2,000	2,000	100.0
6160 · Equipment repair & replacement	-	250	117	3,000	3,000	3.9
6210 · Transportation expenses	-	75	4,962	2,000	2,000	248.1
6220 · Office supplies	387	500	6,524	6,500	6,500	100.4
6222 · Equipment service contracts	1,302	1,000	17,687	12,000	12,000	147.4
6225 · Publicity & printing cost	-	-	2,810	3,000	3,000	93.7
6230 · Postage	300	200	3,980	3,500	3,500	113.7
6240 · Federation dues	-	-	13,293	13,000	13,000	102.3
6245 · Graduation expenses	1,878	1,500	4,222	4,000	4,000	105.6
6250 · Accounting fees	825	825	13,425	13,000	13,000	103.3
6260 · Miscellaneous expenses	(475)	795	8,242	10,255	10,255	80.4
	4,622	5,655	83,374	79,255	79,255	105.2
TOTAL EXPENSES	304,120	285,582	3,423,352	3,528,855	3,528,855	97.0
NET INCOME	\$ (214,566)	\$ (187,642)	\$ 87,360	\$ -	\$ -	

Covenant Christian High School
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
June 2024

	Jun 24	Budget	Jul 23 - Jun 24	YTD Budget	Annual Budget	%
INCOME						
4110 · Tuition	\$ 59,947	\$ 83,855	\$ 2,820,510	\$ 2,844,855	\$ 2,844,855	99.1
4200 · Church Collections	6,248	6,400	98,880	105,000	105,000	94.2
4300 · Pledges & gifts	20,325	6,500	506,690	495,000	495,000	102.4
4350 · CCHS Foundation Receipts	-	-	65,000	65,000	65,000	100.0
4450 · Special Education Receipts	2,011	1,185	14,826	14,000	14,000	105.9
4600 · Miscellaneous Receipts	650	-	1,574	5,000	5,000	31.5
4604 · Interest Income	372	-	3,232	-	-	
TOTAL INCOME	89,553	97,940	3,510,712	3,528,855	3,528,855	99.5
EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES						
5010 · Teaching & administration	175,832	157,000	1,975,706	2,042,000	2,042,000	96.8
5030 · Substitute Teachers	-	-	5,743	5,000	5,000	114.9
5035 · Support Staff	1,038	7,700	125,467	142,000	142,000	88.4
5040 · Office Staff	3,934	2,825	70,485	68,000	68,000	103.7
5050 · Athletic Director & Coaches	26,423	24,150	84,063	82,000	82,000	102.5
5110 · Payroll Taxes	13,945	15,400	159,125	170,000	170,000	93.6
5125 · Teachers' Retirement expense	6,765	4,600	57,176	60,000	60,000	95.3
5135 · Special Ed & Academic Support	-	-	-	-	-	0.0
6110 · Teaching aids & supplies	1,143	1,015	23,608	20,000	20,000	118.0
6120 · Technology operating expense	2,314	2,700	33,500	33,500	33,500	100.0
6122 · Technology fund	836	833	10,000	10,000	10,000	100.0
6125 · Applied Arts Operating Expenses	2,491	1,400	10,822	15,000	15,000	72.1
6130 · Physical education equipment	-	-	689	2,000	2,000	34.4
6140 · Library	-	-	4,100	4,100	4,100	100.0
6150 · Science lab supplies	706	450	6,366	8,000	8,000	79.6
6170 · Teachers' development	70	1,250	24,247	15,000	15,000	161.6
6180 · Music	-	530	8,609	6,800	6,800	126.6
6190 · Band instruments	2,003	-	4,036	3,500	3,500	115.3
	237,499	219,853	2,603,740	2,686,900	2,686,900	96.9
INSURANCE EXPENSES						
5120 · Group insurance coverage	37,352	33,837	413,650	406,000	406,000	101.9
5130 · Workers' compensation insurance	-	-	7,792	7,500	7,500	103.9
6040 · General insurance	-	-	23,963	20,000	20,000	119.8
	37,352	33,837	445,405	433,500	433,500	102.7

Welcome New Staff!



Mrs. Rochelle Heyboer
Academic Support

I was raised in West Michigan where I attended Heritage Christian and Covenant Christian Schools. I earned my Bachelor of Science from GVSU where I majored in Biology emphasizing in aquatic plants and fisheries and minoring in Chemistry. I was blessed to spend 18 years working at home raising my six children. When my youngest was in school full time, I began working again outside the home with some substitute teaching and aiding at Heritage and Covenant. Seeing the need for teachers and enjoying being back in the school atmosphere, I decided to begin teaching Bible, Math, and Science to 8th graders at Heritage. After 3 years of teaching at Heritage, God opened the door to the opportunity of working in the Academic Support program at Covenant. I am blessed to be here at Covenant and am thankful to my Maker for my loving husband and supportive family.

After graduating from CCHS in 2021, Mrs. Smidsra attended Calvin University to begin studies to be a teacher. The great need for teachers at Faith Christian School in Randolph led her to leave her studies and take up the work to help meet this need. After returning to West Michigan she accepted a position in our Academic Support program. She and her husband, Michael Smidstra were married this fall. Micheal and Leah attend Holland PRC. Micheal is studying to be a teacher through Western Governor's University.



Mrs. Leah Smidstra
Academic Support



Mrs. Heidi Mowery
Academic Support

Mrs. Mowery graduated from CCHS with the class of 1999 and continued her studies at GVSU majoring in Accounting. Heidi works part-time in the Academic Support program and enjoys being able to assist students as they navigate the CCHS curriculum. She is married to Eric Mowery. They along with their 5 children attend Faith PRC.

I graduated from Covenant in 2019 and went on to attend Grand Valley for a degree in English Literature and Language. I've been an avid reader since my time at Adams and cannot wait to share my love of books with the next generation of the covenant community. Throughout my time at Covenant and GVSU, I worked as a lead at Hall Street Bakery and later took on coaching middle school volleyball in the GRPS school system. I grew up at Southeast PRC and continue to attend there today. In my time off work I enjoy reading, traveling, thrift shopping and spending time with my friends and family. I'm so excited to join the educators and staff at Covenant and help them with the task of preparing the youth to go out into the world beyond these walls.



Ms. Jenna Hoving
Librarian



Mr. Terry Stevens
Computer Programming

Mr. Stevens grew up in Grand Valley, Michigan and graduated from Grandville Public High School. He attended the University of Michigan and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering.

He had a long career in industry, focused primarily on automating machines – using computers to program industrial computers (PLCs & CNCs). His industrial career included employment at Rockwell Automation (Allen-Bradley), the Square D Company, and two of his own machine automation system integration businesses. Fun fact: In 1983, he designed and programmed the “modern” control system for the Grand Haven Musical Fountain.

Mr. Stevens has spent the last nine years sharing his experience teaching full-time at GVSU School of Engineering including Manufacturing Controls, Computer Programming, and Engineering Design.

Mr. Stevens and his wife Brenda attend Byron Center PRC.

I graduated from Central Michigan University in 1996 with a B.S. degree in Psychology and a minor in Child Development. I have had the opportunity to work with my degree at Pine Rest; I then continued on to work for many years in the Discovery Room at Hope School as well as aiding in special ways there. Currently, I am also a school bus driver and the transportation supervisor for Hope School. I began working in the CCHS guidance counseling office in the 2024/25 school year as the assistant to the counselor, Brian Kalsbeek (who I happen to be married to). Brian and I have coached the CCHS Cross Country team for the past 16 years. I am also a photographer on the side. Brian and I have 4 children, who have all graduated from CCHS, with the exception of our last child who is a senior this year. We are members of Hope Protestant Reformed Church and we enjoy living in the Hope ghetto, where school, work, and church are within walking distance. It is my goal to be a servant of God by serving the members in our community in as many ways as I am able.

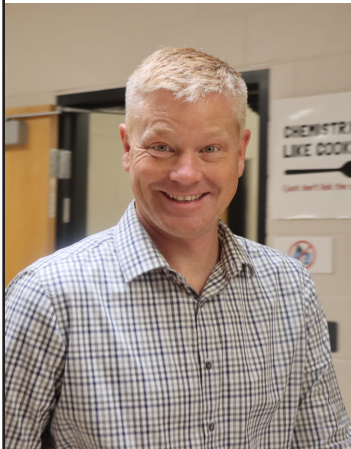


Mrs. Jennifer Kalsbeek
Counselor Assistant



*Student Life at
Covenant Christian
High School*





The beginning of a new school year has been another testament to God's eternal faithfulness and unchanging grace. The Student Council has put a lot of effort into organizing events and encouraging students to get involved in supporting our community. This included donating blood at our Red Cross Blood Drives and raising money for Paradise Bound Ministries through a schoolwide donut sale. Students also continued to grow in their relationships with one another as they participated in our school's annual Powder Puff flag football game.





Students, teachers, faculty, and staff dedicate themselves daily to the work of glorifying our Lord through teaching, schoolwork, and extracurricular activities. Every fall we are blessed with the opportunity to begin another school year, and are reminded of God's covenant faithfulness and abiding love as we go forward into another year of humbly serving Him.

