



BRANCHES

He has told you, O MAN,
what is good;
and what does the *Lord*
require of you but to
do *justice*, and to
love kindness and to
walk *humbly* with your
God?



Micah 6:8

CCES 2018/19 Theme Text
Micah 6:8

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The purpose of our parental Christian School is to educate our children to develop their individual potential and to acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed for a life of responsible stewardship in God's Kingdom.

From the Chairman....

Tim Bontkes

Where does the time go? As I sit down writing this report, welcoming everyone back to the 2018/19 school year I cannot help but contemplate how quickly time goes by and how quickly we see our lives changing at the same time. From a global perspective, look at the changes in weather where floods in the spring and hot summers and forest fires in the summer are becoming the new norm. Then, look closer to home where we see our own families change as time goes by. Our children enter school, they graduate, they get jobs, they find new hobbies and interests. We cannot become complacent, we have to be prepared for change. We need to appreciate that our God is in control of all things; and that all the changes around us are all part of his ultimate plan for us.

Welcome Back!

On behalf of the Board I would like to welcome back all of the staff and students of CCES! A special welcome goes to our new Kindergarten students and those parents enrolling their first child in CCES. Hopefully your adjustment goes smoothly and the new students feel part of the Credo family as quickly as possible. We also look forward to seeing 2 new faces in the staffroom. Welcome back Jerry and welcome Heather! We look forward to your contributions in the Grade 5 and Grade 1 classrooms.

Summer Activities

Speaking of the staff room. A special thanks goes out to the Maintenance Committee and to Harold Leyenhorst for all their efforts in getting the summer renovations complete. Staff and students will find an expanded staff room, a new janitor room (where the old boiler used to sit), removal of the old hot water heating system and even though it can't be

seen, new plumbing and attic insulation in the original building. Rumor also has it that we will be seeing a new Gaga Ball pit for this year. This had not been confirmed at the time of this report but stay tuned...

Also a special thank you to all of you who joined the Maintenance Committee for the summer work bee. It is always a pleasure for all of us to arrive to a nice and tidy school when we return in September and the efforts of all those involved at the work bee is very much appreciated!

School Theme

The words of Micah 8:6 lead us into the 2018/19 school year.

*"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.
And what does the Lord require of you? To
act justly and to love mercy and to walk
humbly with your God."*

This text is a fantastic reminder to all of us as we move through this year to continue to encourage each other, to treat each other fairly with love and respect, showing grace to all those around us whether it be fellow students, staff or community members. We need to continually remind ourselves that in all we do we need to act humbly towards each other and before the Lord our God.

As we move forward into September, on behalf of the Board of CCES I ask you for your prayers, your support and your encouragement for us as Board, for the teachers and staff of CCES and also for all the students. We will all experience many opportunities as well as challenges, celebrations as well as some setbacks. As we all continue to see changes around us and in us we pray for God's continual guidance and that in all we do, we do it for his glory and honor!

Credo Aid Update

Welcome back to another year of Fundraising! The Credo Aid board has met and we are excited to get our fundraisers going!

First up: The Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 12 at 8:00 PM in our elementary school. Details to follow on our Credo Aid Facebook page and leaflets. We encourage you to come out and hear all about what's planned for this year. This is a great way to show your support and be part of the discussion.

From the Principal....

Otto Bouwman

Welcome to another school year! We rejoice in God's provision for us during the past few months. Sometimes we hear of significant accidents which hit close to home; in Lynden this summer several Cornerstone alumni were involved in a serious car wreck; thankfully all are now on the road to recovery. Closer to Credo: on a recent Sunday our school's playground was used as a helicopter landing pad in order to transfer an injured accident victim en route to the hospital. Events like these make us all the more grateful for our providential Father's caring hand in our lives during this past summer. All praise to Creator and Sustainer!

A particular word of welcome is extended to two "new" staff members: Heather Dykstra and Jerry Scholtens. Based on their contributions thus far, I really don't anticipate difficulties having them feel at home and being valuable contributors around the school. There are many things in this new school year that will be like last year - for which we're grateful. However, as always, there also is change: we welcome new students to our Kindergarten program, and hope that these new students quickly become comfortable in their new roles here at school.

Recent CCES Events

Last weekend there was another Work Bee at the school, the purpose of which was to freshen the building up and make it an attractive and practical place to work in for students and teachers alike. Already before that there had been a flurry of activity in the building during the summer renovation project; the finished product is great to see! Thanks so much to all who contributed to the many different stages and aspects of work during the summer! Thank you, Board and Building Committee, for your provision and coordination for the physical building in which we work. The teachers will do everything we can to ensure that the building remains in inspiring condition.

During the summer, teachers also a great deal of preparatory work for this school year. It was interesting as we sat together last week; each teacher and EA shared a deliberate professional development experience during the summer. Some teachers took formal professional courses; some went to workshops; some explored new ideas on their own. I'm so thankful for the evidence that was evident: everyone enjoys being part of a learning community!

Throughout the past week, the place was a beehive of activity. Readings, discussions, and other activities were geared to help us all be "on the same page" in terms of our goals, expectations, and strategies for this school year. We consider it a privilege to work cooperatively and enjoyably together. I'm so thankful for the good camaraderie that is evident.

Looking Ahead

At the outset of another school year, I'd also like to share a reminder about how we live together as school in community. Unfortunately, in this broken world, the human tendency is not always to build up and support. Our school is, in many ways, a community undertaking. Think of this school as an organization in which believing parents - all of whom brought their precious children to the baptismal font - pool their resources and work collectively and deliberately, engaging in the gradual sharing of knowledge, skills, and perspectives from the one generation to the next. It is my hope and prayer that all participants feel ownership in this communal undertaking. We demonstrate ownership of the process by being supportive of the institution and its activities. As parents, we show love for the institution by volunteering when we have the opportunity - and there are countless opportunities for volunteerism at the classroom, field trip, committee, and board levels! We demonstrate respect for the school when we are deliberate about what we do when we identify a concern: we maintain proper communication protocols by engaging first with the teacher involved, and then, if necessary, follow up with the school's administration; we avoid gossip and other forms of public criticism. As teaching staff, we show love for our students and our supporting community by fulfilling our professional responsibilities to the best of our ability, with a cheerful attitude. May God help each one of us again this year work together joyfully in community alongside each other, for the well-being of the children in our care and for the glory of our Father's Name.

As we embark on another year, please remain in prayer that the work that is done at your school be a blessing in the lives of all those who work here - students and adults alike. May we all help each other as we journey down the path of life God gives it to us. May each of us walk humbly with our God and humbly with each other - to the praise of our glorious God.

Not a Day Care: *The Devastating Consequences of Abandoning Truth*

Otto Bouwman

by Dr. Everett Piper

Dr. Everett Piper is the President of Oklahoma Wesleyan University, an evangelical Christian college whose goal is to enable students to impact culture with the lordship of Jesus Christ. Dr. Piper is a courageous leader who makes the case that institutions of higher learning need to help their students become thought leaders in our society. In his book he laments that "we are quickly becoming a culture of Peter Pans, believing we can avoid reality in a Neverland of our own making. We're encouraging students to embrace their selfish fantasies and to expect everyone around them to bend and submit to their narcissistic whims and personal prejudices. We have created a generation that expects to receive affirmation for every feeling they have and every emotion they feel. Objective reality doesn't matter. Subjective opinions are king." (page 16) In response, the author articulates a powerful argument in favor of a classic liberal education, in which students are encouraged to explore and engage with ideas that have been articulated through the ages.

I found the book to be a troubling read, because it seems to accurately capture much of what goes on in our secular (including many independent and ostensibly Christian) institutions of higher learning across North America. So often in public institutions students are indoctrinated with anti-Western and anti-faith rhetoric, being told what ideas they are allowed to embrace and believe and what our society's thought leaders (and by extension students themselves must) consider anathema. When Piper first began to publicly articulate his observations and sentiments, many media outlets soundly condemned him (thus ironically validating his assessments).

Admittedly, Credo Christian Elementary School is not an institution of higher learning. However, the book was a helpful one to read during this past summer. It inspired me to be more determined than ever to be deliberately attentive to the overall trajectory being articulated by our "educational thought leaders." While university professors and students are clamoring today that their educational

experiences all must be affirming and deliberately aligned with a socialist worldview, it needs to be acknowledged that secondary and even elementary institutions have also been successfully infiltrated. As an example, consider the sexual revolution; the institution of marriage has been attacked and an entirely new curriculum has been developed regarding gender identity and sexual orientation. Institutions which "celebrate" traditional understandings of marriage and sexuality are reviled - think of Trinity Western as a recent national example.

Though the book heightened my appreciation for working in an independent context, we do well to communally be on guard, so that we continue to provide, in an elementary context, the necessary building blocks for our students to develop a distinctively Christian worldview. Our young students need to be able to master the skills associated with reading, writing, thinking, and living life to its fullest, so that later in life they will be able to identify what others are saying and critically evaluate others' thoughts on the basis of Scriptures.

Thankfully, we have Reformed teachers who are entrusted with teaching our children from a distinctively Christian perspective. Thankfully, we have an Education Committee which is mandated to engage in the verification process of curriculum review. Thankfully, we have an organization like the Reformed Curriculum Development Committee which has been given the mandate to be actively engaged in the development of Christian curriculum materials. However, as Dr. Piper's book also reminds us: many institutions of learning began with wonderful intentions, but as time went on, they veered dramatically from their founders' vision. I encourage parents and colleagues to read *Not a Day Care* and other books like that to become increasingly aware of the cultural context in which we do our work. That is likely to inspire us to continue to build on the foundations of those who have gone before us. May God bless us in these efforts again this school year.

Temple Grandin: Developing Individuals who have Different Minds

Katelyn Mostert & Deborah Huttema

Summer is over and the school routine starts. For some families, a summer can introduce a big change, while other families continue with the life that God has given them. Maybe a child is born, someone passes away, or a family member gets diagnosed with a condition or different ability.

This past summer we had the wonderful opportunity to meet Dr. Temple Grandin and listen to her speak. Dr. Grandin is 71 years old, an autistic woman who has become one of the top scientists in the humane livestock handling industry, and a spokesperson for autism awareness. She has a very unfiltered blunt and real style of speaking which is refreshing and encouraging. Temple is passionate about helping others understand and better the lives of those on the spectrum. She is also a very good salesperson--the CCES Resource Room also has some of her books now.

Grandin has worked through many different situations both as a child and as an adult. Getting a 'label' (eg. Autism Spectrum Disorder, ADHD, etc) can be difficult to wrap one's head around whether you are a parent or the person with the 'label'. Sometimes it is easy to get caught up on the 'label' and use this Autism label as a crutch. However, as Dr. Temple Grandin says, we shouldn't focus on the 'label'; "Autism is an important part of an individual but it doesn't define them." The label should be a lens through which we look to see the person. Every individual is a child of God and we need to see them for who God made them - individuals!

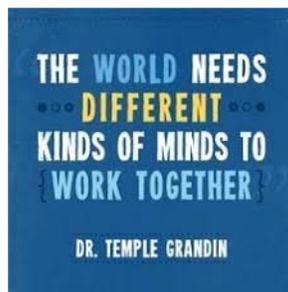
Generalization of 'labels' can be easy to fall back on. However, what works for one individual may not work for another. Each person has different areas they need to develop and areas that they are strong in. It is important to think about what a person can do. When we look at their strengths, we can use that to develop other areas. Teaching things in a variety of different ways can be helpful for the individual to grasp an idea. It is also important to use teachable moments and lots of specific examples when teaching others. Be specific rather than general.

Sometimes it is tempting to 'throw' an individual into the deep end when we want them to learn something. However, this cause the individual anxiety and make them unsure about what we are trying to teach them. Nevertheless, Dr. Grandin says it is important to stretch them. Start with small steps and ideas and then expand on it. In addition, give exposure to things that might happen in different situations. This will take time, lots of time, but it is an important step to guiding and helping individuals with different needs. Different people think and learn differently. 'Bottom up Thinking' is a great strategy to use when teaching new ideas. This is when you start at the bottom, working upwards using what they've already learned as stepping blocks.

If you are thinking about trying a therapy or enrolling your son or daughter in something, Dr. Grandin was definitive--don't just think about it, do it!! Give your child lots of exposure to different opportunities and experiences as that is the only way for them to find out if they might like to expand on it.

Making decisions can be challenging for individuals with different abilities. Giving choices (2 or 3 at a time) is a great way for individuals to feel like they are in control without having control of the situation. An example of this can be doing chores at home. If your child has a list of things they must do but don't want to, start with giving them 2 options of what they can do first. They can either empty the dishwasher or clean their bedroom. When their choice is completed, they move on to their next chore. They still complete the tasks they are required to do but they do it in a way which makes them feel in control.

Assisting individuals with different abilities can be challenging but it is also rewarding. God has made each one of us in His image, and for that we are very thankful. You are not alone in the path that God has led you down. As a Christian community, we offer our support and assistance in any situation.



Supplies and Personal Items for September 2018

Primary Personal Items List for 2018-19	K	gr. 1	gr. 2	gr. 3
indoor shoes (NO LACES)	✓	✓	✓	✓
towel or blanket (no larger than a beach towel)	✓			
box of tissues	✓	✓	✓	✓
Intermediate School Supplies List for 2018-19	gr.4	gr.5	gr. 6	gr. 7
good quality 3 ring binder 1 1/2"	1	2	2	2
looseleaf paper	✓	✓	✓	✓
binder dividers (pkgs)	✓	2	2	2
HB pencils	✓	✓	✓	✓
pencil sharpener, scissors	✓	✓	✓	✓
erasers	✓	✓	✓	✓
pencil crayons	✓	✓	✓	✓
blue or black pens, red pen	✓	✓	✓	✓
highlighter	✓	✓	✓	✓
white board markers	✓	✓		
glue stick	✓	✓	✓	✓
pencil case -no magnetic pencil holders	✓	✓	✓	✓
Math notebooks/quad ruled/spiral back (+ .5 cm squares)			✓	✓
basic calculator			✓	✓
METRIC ruler	✓	✓	✓	✓
indoor (gym) shoes	✓	✓	✓	✓
box of tissues	✓	✓	✓	✓

Ball Hockey Battle in the Big Tent! Saturday September 15

To help break in the new outdoor sports arena at Credo High School, Credo Aid invites young and old to join us for a day of ball hockey under the "Big Tent"! We would love to have a day of friendly competition and fellowship with our school community, and try to raise some funds for supporting our schools.

Adult teams (\$500 team registration) and High School teams (\$300 team registration): build your teams (we suggest 6 - 9 players including goalie), make a catchy name, and attempt to be champions of this inaugural event!

Elementary individuals: come with your \$20 registration, and we will build teams based on who comes out to ensure everyone has fun!

We will be doing a 3-on-3 or 4-on-4 format, 24 minutes games with a break between, and hope to have the winners crowned by early afternoon.



Please email BallHockeyBattle@gmail.com or comment on our Facebook page to register your team now or for more information. You can also contact Steve Leyenhorst, Ryan Sikma or Leroy Vanspronsen.

We are thankful to hear that many people are considering participation, but we would appreciate if you could please let us know if you (your adult, high school, corporate or kids team) do plan to participate. Even if your plans are not finalized yet, please let us know if you do hope to be there, so we can plan our event accordingly.

We also invite the support of the business community to sponsor what we hope to make an annual event! It could be financial/advertising on the boards, or gifts such as equipment donations, t-shirts, or water/snack sponsors.

CCES SCHOOL CALENDAR 2018-19

September	4	First day of school, Opening Assembly	10 am -church
	11	School photos Kindergarten B	
	12	School photos	
October	3	Thanksgiving Assembly (Gr. 2 & 6)	2 pm -church
	4, 5	Teachers' Convention	no school
	8	Thanksgiving Day	no school
	9	Awareness Raiser (Brazil)	10:30 -gym
	29	Reformation Assembly	8:45 -gym
	24	School membership meeting	
November	8	Remembrance Day Assembly (Gr. 4 & 7)	2 pm -church
	9	ProD Day	no school
	12	Remembrance Day holiday	no school
December	7	Report Cards	
	11, 13	Parent-Teacher Conferences	
	21	Last day before Christmas Break	
January	24–Jan 4	Christmas Vacation	no school
	7	School reopens	
February	14	Awareness Raiser (Christ for All)	8:45 -gym
	4	Opening Assembly	8:45 -gym
	25	ProD Day	no school
March	4	Opening Assembly	8:45 -gym
	18	Family Day	no school
	12	Report Cards	
	14	Student-Led Conferences	
	15	Student-Led Conferences	no school
	18-29	March Break	no school
April	1	School reopens	
	3	Awareness Raiser -Camp "Yak"	8:45 -gym
	18	Easter Assembly (Gr. 3)	2 pm -church
	19	Good Friday	no school
	21	Easter Sunday	
	22	Easter Monday	no school
May	2	Public Speaking Contest	
	6	Opening Assembly	8:45 -gym
		Sports Day	
	16	Grade 8 Day	
	17	ProD Day	no school
	20	Victoria Day	no school
	29	School membership meeting	
	30	Ascension/Pentecost Assembly (K/Music)	2 pm -church
	3	Track & Field Day Gr. 6 & 7	
	9	Pentecost	
June	21	Last day, Report Cards, Closing Assembly	11 am -church
	24	Gr. 7 grad	7 pm -church

Welcome to CCES, Kindergarten 2018/19

Mason Bisschop
Holly Broersma
Weston Deboer
Hadley Dehaas
Madilyn Faber
Kari Hofsink
Kaylee Hofsink
Allison Huttema
Violet Koat
Emery Leffers
Cason Leyenhorst
Jake Meerstra
Simon Meerstra
Michael Meints
Jenica Moes
Liam Mostert
Isla Noort



Jayden Scheper
Carly Schouten
Shayla Sikma
Aiden Togerez
Ethan Vandeburgt
Randy VanDelft
Ellie Vanderhorst
Joe Vanderhorst
Adam Vanderpol
Scarlett Vanderpol
Amie VanOene
Nico VanPopta
Brett VanSeters
Teagan VanVliet
Luke Voorhorst
Acsah Wildeboer
Levi Wildeboer



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Board of Directors

Tim Bontkes (2019)	Chairman
Ron Scheper (2019)	Vice Chair/Maint.
Will VanOene (2019)	Secretary
Oliver Hansma (2018)	Treasurer
Erica Feunekes (2019)	CCHS/SpEd
Tim Rook (2020)	CCSTA/IT
Deanna VanDyke (2020)	Ed. Com/Memb.

Education Committee

Deanna VanDyke	Mindert Deboer
Mandy Dewit	Pearl Hoff
Wenda Sikma	Kelly VanSeters
Otto Bouwman	Jennifer Onderwater

Membership Committee

Deanna VanDyke	Bryce Graham
Karin Louwerse	Ryan Sikma
Shelley Sikma	

Special Education Committee

Erica Feunekes	Deborah Huttema
	Otto Bouwman

Finance Committee

Oliver Hansma	Will VanOene
	Elma Kuntz

Maintenance Committee

Ron Scheper	Rob Bisschop
Darryl Hofsink	Kevin Leyenhorst
Dave Vandeburgt	James Vandeburgt
	Dan Warkentin

Staff

Otto Bouwman	Principal
Jennifer Onderwater	VP, Kindergarten B
Leslie Scholtens	Kindergarten A
Mary MacDougal	Grade 1
Heather Dykstra	Grade 1
Alyson Winkelaar	Grade 2
Stephen Chase	Grade 3
Debora Minderhoud	Grade 2 & 3
Nadine Krikke	Grade 4
Jerry Scholtens	Grade 5
Linda VanSpronsen	Grade 5
Jenn Harink	Grade 6
Diana Nobel	Grade 7
Deborah Huttema	SpEd, LA
Yvonne Jacobi	Music 4,5
Mekayla Knol	Music 6,7
Sarah Beintema	Educational Ass't
Wilma Deleeuw	Educational Ass't
Lisa Devries	Educational Ass't
Yolanda Hoogstra	Educational Ass't
Katelyn Mostert	Educational Ass't
Jacqueline Spoor	Educational Ass't
Lisa Vandervyn	Educational Ass't
Jackie VanOene	Librarian
Elma Kuntz	Office Administrator

Credo Aid

Leona Huttema	
Renee Leffers	Audrey Leyenhorst
Kait Scheper	Jen Sikma

Fee Structure 2018-2019

Membership	125.00	Kindergarten	320.00
Elem. (1-3)	530.00	Elem (4-7)	550.00
Junior High	695.00	Senior High	745.00

Please join us for our

Opening Assembly

Tuesday, September 4 at 10 a.m.
in the Langley Canadian Reformed Church

