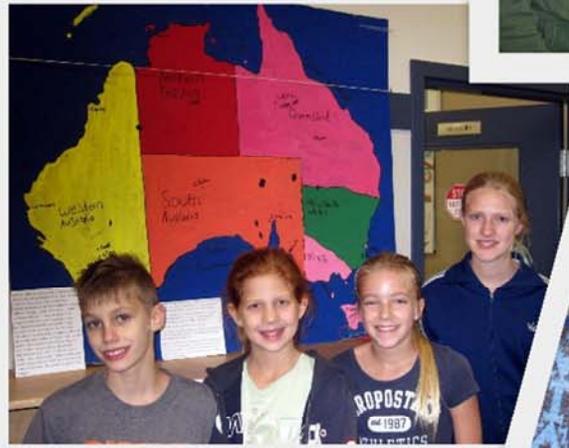
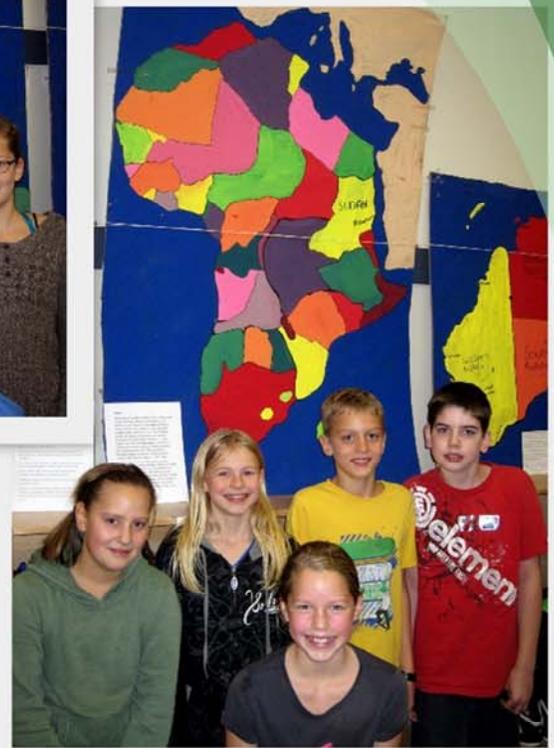




BRANCHES



Around the World



with Grade 6B



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Volume 29
Issue 4
Dec. 2, 2016

CCES Christmas Concert - Dec. 15 ... 7:00 p.m.

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

The October AGM provided us a wonderful time to reflect on the great blessings the Lord has afforded us in Credo Christian Elementary. The annual report delivered by Will VanOene at the meeting provided us all an opportunity to reflect on the many blessing bestowed on us over the past year. The meeting also allowed us the chance to say thank you and goodbye to a number of devoted Board members as well as an opportunity to welcome their replacements.

Thank you again to Chris, Al and Fiona for their time and dedication spent serving CCES as Board members and for their selfless commitment in governing our school. I would like to especially recognize Chris for 7 years of dedicated leadership where he helped to navigate CCES through many items with exemplary professionalism, competency and commitment; keeping Christ the center focus throughout it all. Also many thanks to those who were willing to let their names stand for new Board positions and a note of encouragement to Will, Ron and Erica as they embark on their new terms.

In the Director's Letter of Commitment signed by all

new Board members we acknowledge that "The CCES Board has been entrusted by the membership of the Society to uphold the school's mission and direction." This is a significant responsibility for us and we covet your prayers, support and encouragement as we go about our tasks.

As we look forward with our responsibilities as a Board, we bring our Brother Neil Dykstra forward to you in prayer as he recovers from his recent surgery. Pray that Neil will be provided the spiritual, emotional and physical strength he may need as he continues his recovery and the Lord willing that he may have the ability to serve with us as Board as soon as possible.

December brings many exciting year end activities as well as an abundance of tasks for the teachers, students and parents; whether report cards, tests, or the Christmas program we would like to wish all of them all the best. This will be the last *Branches* for 2016, as such, on behalf of the Board I'd like to wish you all a joyous Christmas as you celebrate the birth of our Saviour. We are looking forward to what 2017 brings!



Please join CCES Staff & Students as they present their

Christmas Program

on Thursday, December 15
at 7:00 pm
in the Langley Canadian Reformed Church.

Following an intermission, the CCHS band will be performing at approximately 8:30 p.m.

From the Principal....

Otto Bouwman

As we rush towards the end of another calendar year, it is good to look back and reflect on God's faithfulness to us as a covenant school community. We are about to enter the part of our year where we focus on the Christmas story. When we review the many Old Testament prophecies which pointed to the coming Messiah, and then we see in what way all those prophecies were fulfilled, we are reminded of our Father's faithfulness. We too have been able to experience God's faithful care in our school. It's always good to sing:

*Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided,
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

School Board Changes

Our school has been blessed with a capable board. Our board members are keenly aware of the responsibility they have as they "hold in trust" Credo Christian Elementary School. The concept "holding in trust" is one which suggests something about the school having a purpose which transcends just the immediate present. The school is a gift, passed on from those who established it, to be used by the parents of today, for the generation of tomorrow. Also from this place, it is appropriate to express gratitude for the capable and conscientious leadership that the outgoing board members displayed. Thank you, Chris, Fiona, and Al, for being so deliberate about "holding in trust" the school which you helped to govern. New board members: welcome Tim, Erica, and Ron. And Will: welcome back! I look forward to working with you and pray that the Lord give you joy in your governance roles in the Credo board.

We also give thanks for the Lord's good care in the life of our brother Neil Dykstra. Though Neil had to undergo very serious surgery, he and his family are able to thank God for the care which he has experienced. We thank God with you, brother, and pray for your continued recovery!

Our Students

Often we (inappropriately) take for granted the physical safety of the students in our care. The recent tragic and sudden death of Letisha Reimer, a

student at Abbotsford Senior Secondary School, reminded us we should not make assumptions about life and health. Her death encouraged us to acknowledge our dependence on our Father in heaven, trusting that he providentially cares for each of us and our loved ones and gives us all that we need to serve him in this life. May God supply in abundance to all those who call on him for everything they need!

We thank God for his ongoing care of our students. Though there are many who have to fight temporary illnesses, and there are also numerous who have to contend with difficult conditions, disabilities or situations, all have been spared traumatic changes in their lives. That too is cause for thanksgiving. I am so thankful for the support that is so evidently in place here at CCES - we have our committed EAs, our caring teachers, and a very competent Special Education Coordinator. Continue to provide the helpful care to each of our students, team!

End of First Term

Recently the report cards went home. Admittedly, they were slightly different than last year's reports. It's becoming quite clear that further changes to these report cards can be anticipated. Just last Friday, we had a combined inservice with all Canadian Reformed valley colleagues, where Adam Woelders spoke. Our speaker is very aware of the latest trends from the Ministry, and did his best to help us understand the changing requirements. With the increasing focus on curriculum and core competencies, it seems inevitable that the report cards will more and more deliberately report of how effectively the students are demonstrating mastery of those skills. I'm sure further report card changes will be an on-going topic of discussion.

Accompanying these reports were the recent parent-teacher conferences. Thank you for your attendance and the discussions which were possible. Parent-teacher conferences are a great opportunity for the unity between home and school to become evident.

As the first term wound to a close, it became evident that slight adjustments were needed as a response

to the increased number of students in the third grade classroom. Though the school community was more than happy to welcome additional newcomers to the school during recent months, having 29 students in one classroom has proven to be a very large crowd! Though a few of the details still remain to be worked out at this time, I'm thankful to report that Mrs. Debora Minderhout has been hired to help Mr. Stephen Chase teach grade three students. Beginning in January, Mrs. Minderhout will work with half of the third graders in some subjects; this will allow the teachers to give more personalized attention to the students. Mrs. Minderhout, a long-time member of the URC in Abbotsford, has extensive experience teaching in primary and intermediate grades in a variety of settings, and is looking forward to the opportunity to serve in this role at CCES. Debora, we look forward to you joining our ranks!

Credo Aid Update....

Croquetten Completion: We DID IT! the croquetten fundraiser is finished again, and very successful again. The amount of \$7851 was raised! That works out to about 581 dozen, or about 7000 croquetten sold, and several (numerous :)) eaten by our hard working helpers. Also, several eaten by the CCES staff, since they had to live with the yummy smell wafting through their hallways. This, by the way, is clear profit, since several generous donors covered all of the costs. Thank you so much for that!! From the croquetten team (Joanne DeWit, Debbie Lof, Tanya Pruijm, Rita Schouten, Diane VanderHorst, Ginny VanderHorst and Ang VanSpronsen). The REAL croquetten team is all the willing workers (it takes a lot of workers) who come out to help every year and you, the customers, who buy up all the product before the day is out!

Little Coupon Books: Give Kait Scheper a call to get your copy today! This book will be available until the end of the school year. \$10 for the Abbotsford copy, \$15 for the Langley/Cloverdale copy.

Co-Op Receipts: Remember to collect and save your receipts from the Co-op. The school receives gift cards for every receipt submitted, which we in turn use for things like the hot lunches.

Miscellaneous

Elsewhere in this issue you will find a notice about our Christmas concert. We hope to see many of you there - as well as at other special school functions!

Thank you, parents and others, for the many evidences of support for the ongoing work in the school. Your support is evident in your fundraising, in your prayers, in your encouragements to your children to participate in special events going on in and around the school, etc. Please maintain your commitment to Christian education; our children learn a great deal from your continued support for this worthwhile cause.

May God bless each of you with a joyous Christmas celebration and with his indispensable blessings as we transition from one year of our Lord to the next.

Campbell's: Keep collecting and handing in your labels! Every one counts towards 'purchasing' free things for the school.

Eco Cloths: Available through Wenda Sikma for \$5 a piece, this cloth won in a competition against the Norwex cloth. Call Wenda, and get yours today!

Shop Easy: Christmas is coming! Gift cards make great stocking stuffers, or a great gift for that someone who you just don't know what to buy. They are so handy when out shopping for that last minute gift and you just need a coffee to get through the mobs. Shopping for a day? Head for lunch, and pick up a gift card to support the school at the same time! Do you know where you are going shopping? Pre-plan, and purchase a gift card before you head out. They also make great gifts for teens, who love their coffee or who love to shop, or even to give to each other among each other. Give the gift of versatility and get your gift cards today.

From Credo Aid, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas, and the happiest of New Years!

Jen Sikma (president), Renee Leffers (vice president)
Kait Scheper (secretary), Leona Huttema,
Audrey Leyenhorst, Ang VanSpronsen (treasurer)

Short Reports of Board Meetings

Short Report of the Meeting of the
Board of Directors of Credo Christian Elementary
School
September 12, 2016

- **Opening and Welcome:** The Vice Chairman, Bob Huttema, opened the meeting by reading from 1 Corinthians 6 and led in prayer. He welcomed all the Directors and Principal Otto Bouwman to the meeting. Chris Hoff was absent with notice.
- **Agenda Approval:** The agenda for the regular board meeting was approved.
- **Minutes and Short Report:** The Minutes and Short Report of the June 13, 2016 Board meeting were adopted.
- **Incoming/Outgoing Correspondence:** One incoming letter was received from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education providing notification of upcoming changes to the Tobacco Control Act. One incoming letter was received from William of Orange requesting dissolution of the current Special Education Agreement. A reply letter will be sent, acceding to the request.
- **Principal's Report:** Otto Bouwman presented the Principal's Report for September 2016 and provided updates on start of year activities, teacher and EA assignments, delivery of music program, and staff handbook updates. Positive feedback has been received from the staff for the improvements made to the gym over the summer.
- **Chairman's Report:** The Chairman's report for September 2016 was received for information.
- **General Business:** A number of matters were discussed including review of the board staff social, the upcoming October membership meeting, and nominations for new board members. The Ad-Hoc committee for Board nominations was struck. Proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws pursuant to the new BC Societies Act were reviewed. A number of policies were also reviewed.
- **Membership Committee:** Neil Dykstra reported on the activities of the membership committee and outlined committee plans for the upcoming school year. The committee plans to concentrate on promoting the covenantal aspect of Reformed Education.
- **Education Committee:** Bob Huttema reported on the activities of the education committee and outlined committee plans for the upcoming school year. The committee plans to concentrate on in-depth review of the Math curriculum.
- **Finance Committee:** The draft financial statements for the 2015/2016 school year were reviewed.
- **Maintenance Committee:** Al Leyenhorst reported on the activities of the maintenance committee, and work done over the summer. Both the summer work bee and the gym renovation were successful, and many volunteers came out to help. Special mention was made of the janitorial staff who helped to get the school in shape for the new school year.
- **CCSTA:** O. Hansma reported on bus route planning issues that were experienced at the start of the school year.
- **IT Committee:** Tim Rook reported on the activities of the IT committee, and work done over the summer, including repairs to netbooks and teacher computers, installation of new printers and projectors, and adding security filter to the school's router. The FM system installed in one classroom will be assessed during this school year prior to proceeding with further implementation.
- **Next Meetings / Events:** The next regular Board meeting is planned for October 5, 2016.
- **Closing:** Al Leyenhorst offered a prayer of thanksgiving. Bob Huttema closed the meeting and thanked all for coming.



Short Report of the Meeting of the
Board of Directors of
Credo Christian Elementary School
October 5th, 2016

- **Opening and Welcome:** The Chairman, Chris Hoff, opened the meeting by reading from Galatians 5 and prayer. He welcomed all the Directors and Principal Otto Bouwman to the meeting.
- **Agenda Approval:** The agenda for the regular board meeting was approved.
- **Minutes and Short Report:** The Minutes and Short Report of the September 12, 2016 Board meeting were adopted.
- **Incoming/Outgoing Correspondence:** One outgoing letter was sent to a member. A letter to William of Orange, acceding to their request to dissolve the special education agreement effective the end of June 2019, was approved.
- **Principal's Report:** Otto Bouwman presented the Principal's Report for October 2016 and provided updates on student enrollment, class size considerations, and staffing matters.
- **Chairman's Report:** The Chairman's report for October 2016 was received for information. Chris Hoff reported on his activities as chairman.
- **General Business:** A number of matters were discussed including the upcoming SCSBC conference and Charities Seminar. A number of

policies were reviewed and amended. Presentations for the proposed revisions to the Constitution and Bylaws, and the 5-year maintenance plan were approved for presentation to the membership. Roger Aikema, Tim Bontkes, Erica Feunekes, Ron Scheper, Kevin Vandergaag, Aaron VanDyke and Will VanOene were nominated for Board positions. The agenda for the annual general meeting was finalized.

- **Membership Committee:** Membership Committee minutes were submitted and reviewed. Neil Dykstra reported on the activities of the Membership Committee.
- **Education Committee:** Education Committee minutes were submitted and reviewed. Bob Huttema reported on the activities of the Membership Committee.
- **Finance Committee:** Finance Committee minutes were submitted and reviewed. The financial statements for 2015/16 were reviewed and approved for presentation to the membership.
- **Next Meetings / Events:** The next regular Board meeting is planned for November 14, 2016. The fall membership meeting is planned for October 26, 2016.
- **Closing:** Bob Huttema offered a prayer of thanksgiving. Chris Hoff closed the meeting and thanked all for coming.

Minutes of the AGM

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
of Credo Christian Elementary School
with the Membership
October 26th, 2016 CCES Gymnasium

Opening and Welcome: The Chairman, Chris Hoff, welcomed all those present and opened the meeting. He requested the membership to sing Psalm 128, and followed with prayer. A quorum of members was present. The Chairman thanked all members who helped out with the recent gym renovation, and also welcomed new staff member, Jenn Harink.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the CCES membership meeting held May 25th, 2016 were distributed prior to the meeting and adopted as presented.

Matters from the Minutes: There were no matters from the minutes.

Board Elections: Four new directors were required (retiring were Chris Hoff, Fiona Jansen, Al Leyenhorst and Will VanOene). Nominees were: Roger Aikema, Tim Bontkes, Erica Feunekes, Ron Scheper, Kevin Vandergaag, Aren VanDyke and Will VanOene.

Elected were Tim Bontkes, Erica Feunekes, Ron Scheper and Will VanOene. A motion to destroy the ballots was carried.

Annual Report: The Chairman gave the floor to board Secretary Will VanOene who presented the secretary's annual report for the 2015/16 school year.

Proposed Changes to Constitution and Bylaws: The Chairman gave the floor to board members Neil Dykstra and Will VanOene to present the proposed Constitution and Bylaw amendments. These proposed amendments were circulated to membership on September 30, 2016. The proposed changes are largely in response to changes to the BC Societies Act. An opportunity for questions from the floor was given.

- Why do we not allow proxy voting? Our current bylaws do not specify either way, so the addition of this prohibition simply clarifies and maintains current practice.

The Proposal was read to the membership: *"That the Constitution and Bylaws of the Canadian Reformed School Association of Langley B.C., pursuant to the new BC Societies Act, be amended to reflect the changes as proposed by the Board, effective November 28, 2016."* Since there was no further discussion, the membership proceeded to vote by ballot on the proposal. The Proposal carried with 100% of the vote in favour. A motion to destroy the ballots was carried by the membership.

Review of Financial Statements: The Chairman gave the floor to board Treasurer Oliver Hansma who presented the general and special education financial statements for the 2015/16 school year along with the review report completed by Angela deBoer, Deanna VanDyke. An opportunity for questions was given.

- Why do we not budget for asset replacement? Capital items are always dealt without outside of the regular budget. As well, our current bylaws and policies require the board to secure membership approval for all expenditures greater than \$25,000 for capital purchases.
- Is the Special Education surplus used for special education or is it put into general reserve? The surplus remains in the special education fund and is passed on from year to year.

A motion to accept the general and special education financial statements as presented was carried by a show of hands.

Five Year Plan: The Chairman gave the floor to board member Oliver Hansma who presented the proposed five-year plan for building renewal. The five year plan is based on enrolment data showing that portables will not be required in the immediate future. The five year plan includes gym, HVAC, parking lot and IT upgrades with a budgeting cost of \$375,000. Due to existing funding sources, a total fundraising goal of \$60,000 is proposed to deliver the plan. An opportunity for questions from the floor was given.

- Why are we not using our internal reserves before approaching membership for fundraising? We are trying to be conservative by only using a portion of our reserves.

The Proposal was read to the membership: *"That the Board be directed to deliver the building renewal plan proposed in the CCES 5-Year Plan Report including the use of \$25,000 from the Restricted for capital repairs and replacements fund and \$75,000 from the Unrestricted fund."* Since there was no further discussion, the membership proceeded to vote by ballot on the proposal. The Proposal carried with 99% of the vote in favour. A motion to destroy the ballots was carried by the membership.

Presentation on Credo Aid Shop Easy Program: The chairman gave the floor to community member Shawn Meints who delivered a presentation on the Credo Aid Shop Easy program. The presentation included information on how the program works, the history of the program, the potential earnings of the program, common objections and philosophical, logical and religious reasons for members to make use of the program. The membership was encouraged to continue to support the school through the use of the program.

Question Period: An opportunity for general questions was given. There were no further questions.

Thanksgiving Prayer: Community member Norm Vanderhorst led in thanksgiving prayer.

Closing: The Chairman, Chris Hoff closed the meeting and thanked all for coming.

Secretary's Annual Report

Will VanOene

The theme for the 2015/16 school year was Psalm 46 verse 10, "Be still and know that I am God." This text provided a foundational statement for our society - for our students, our staff, and also for the board and membership. It allowed us to carry out the task of educating our covenant children at Credo Elementary with a great calm in our hearts, knowing that in all things, our covenant God and Father was in control, and that the work of our hands was ultimately blessed by Him. And indeed, our God is a covenant God and our children are covenant children. When we speak of covenant, we speak of promises. Parents have made promises at the baptism of their children, to instruct them in God's word to the utmost of their power. But more importantly, our Heavenly Father has made promises to the parents and their children. God has claimed them as his own. They are HIS children, and therefore it is the responsibility of parents to pass on the Lord's great deeds to their children, so that they may embrace these promises and make them their own; to grow to be instruments in his hands to witness to the world. The covenantal nature of Credo Christian Elementary defines who they are and who they belong to. In a world where the very foundations of society are being shaken, we rest secure in the promises of God. We go forward, knowing that all things are in His Fatherly hand.

As we reflect on the past school year, we again see evidence of this truth in all aspects of school life at Credo, and we can say that we have been richly blest. We enjoy peace and security in Canada, and a supportive government and ministry in British Columbia. We do not however take for granted our continued grant support, and acknowledge that many work behind the scenes to help maintain this reality. We have a full complement of dedicated staff members, and administration, dedicated board and committee volunteers, and a supportive membership. We have been provided financial resources, human resources, talents and abilities that have all worked in harmony toward the furtherance of our purpose. This year we have again enjoyed growth in enrolment and membership, which is reflected in a positive financial picture for the society. In all these things, we give all the praise to God, who is the source of Credo's blessings.

We are most thankful for the students who attend Credo, for without them the school would not exist. The children transform the school grounds into a hub of bustling activity, laughter and energy. Walk the halls of Credo on any given school day and you will witness a genuine atmosphere of learning and respect for others, which is clearly seen in the daily routines inside and beyond the classroom. Special events and school spirit days were promoted by a staff motivated by a genuine love for their students. Awareness days, assemblies and fieldtrips all helped to extend the learning beyond the classroom. Some high-lights of the year included the quad-school public speaking contest, the Peter and the Wolf play put on by Grade 6, the wonderful spring performance, and the Grade 7 graduation program. In all, the students are truly the best evidence of Credo's prosperity.

Last year we were again blessed with a full complement of dedicated teachers and educational assistants. Our staff members performed their duties with enthusiasm, and worked together in harmony. Extra-curricular activities and professional development continued to be embraced by the staff members. Our Kindergarten classes were again taught by Leslie and Jennifer, who provided these new students with an enthusiastic start to their education journey. At the primary level, our teaching staff included Mary in Grade 1, Alyson in Grade 2 and Stephen in Grade 3. At the intermediate level, Amy taught Grade 4, the two Grade 5 classes were taught by Mark, Linda and Natasja, and James and Jerry managed the two Grade 6 classes. This year we welcomed Diana from Ontario who took her place in front of the Grade 7 class and helped prepare these students for their graduation. Our team of educational assistants also provided crucial support to our teachers - Ang, Jac, Katelyn, Lisa, Paige & Wilma as well as Sarah who joined us at the start of the year, and Lisa some time later as the needs increased. We also said farewell to Ang and Paige near the end of the school year and we welcomed Stephanie to fill in. Karin joined the staff at the beginning of the year to deliver the music program and we also said farewell to her again at the end of the year. Finally, we could benefit from the volunteer services of Marcelle and Rose who helped us out with our French program. As a Board we are extremely thankful that the needs of the school could be met with competent and energetic teaching

staff, and we thank them for their efforts. We are aware of the many hours, rigorous days, and sometimes long nights, often going well beyond the call of duty. We thank you for your dedication to the parents and children of the school.

Last year marked a change to Credo's administrative team as we welcomed Otto as Principal. Otto took his place at the helm with much enthusiasm, and brought years of educational and administrative experience to this position. This resulted in a smooth transition in the front office. Otto provided strong leadership to the staff and direction for the school, and advised the board on matters relevant to the operation of the school. Jennifer continued her role as Vice-Principal for the third year, and was responsible for a multitude of day-to-day administrative tasks and provided invaluable assistance to the staff. Jennifer also took the lead on navigating the new BC curriculum.

Deb, as head of the Special Education Department, ensured the learning needs of all students were being met, and provided advice and encouragement to the teachers.

Elma maintained the front office and kept close tabs on the flow of money, student records and correspondence to membership and parents. We thank you all for your commitment to the school and we pray that God may continue to supply you with the wisdom and energy you need for your work at CCES.

While the teaching and administrative staff are the face of the school, there are also many moving parts that operate behind the scenes. We acknowledge the faithful work of all of our support staff, volunteers and many others that contribute to CCES, who help to make the school so vibrant and functional. This includes our library staff, class-moms, bus drivers, janitors and maintenance men. The efforts of our parent support committee, Credo Aid, continued to supply students and teachers with special items for school, hot lunches, field trips and special event funds. Once again, the Mother's Day Fair hosted by Credo Aid was a resounding success. To all those who contributed time, effort and finances - thank you!

The governing of the society by the Board of Directors could continue unabated. Throughout the year we met as a Board ten times. At the AGM one year ago, the membership re-elected Chris Hoff and Oliver Hansma. The Board responsibilities continued unchanged, and each board member was busy in their respective tasks and committees. While it may be said that the past year was relatively routine from a governance standpoint, it was also a year that required much work in response to outside pressures from our government. Our staff spent much time navigating the requirements

of the new BC curriculum, a curriculum which seeks to shift education from the 'what' of teaching, to the 'how' of teaching, and emphasize the individualization and personalization of learning. As well, the board spent much time reviewing and updating our foundational documents in response to the changes to BC legislation surrounding societies. In addition, the board was confronted with the ever increasing public pressure to redefine human societal foundations as evidenced by government mandated bullying policies that reflect the acceptance of gender identity expression. All of these realities attest to the fact that we do not operate this school in seclusion.

Chris Hoff continued to lead the Board as Chairman, and also in this final year was fully committed to the task. As chairman, he maintained ongoing contact with administration, met with principals and board chairs of other schools, prepared meeting agendas and provided direction for the Board. His reports for Board meetings and *Branches* were always well thought out and informative. Chris has decided to step down after seven years of service to CCES, and we thank him for his insight, commitment and hard work. We wish you the Lord's blessing as you find new ways to serve in His Kingdom.

Bob Huttema served as Vice Chairman to the Board and also led the Education Committee, which was very active in matters such as class visits, staffing discussion, curriculum review, and program delivery. Being a former teacher, Bob continued to bring much experience to this committee, and provided solid direction to the committee members.

The Finance Committee continued to be led by Oliver Hansma who also served as Board Treasurer. Oliver worked closely with the book keeper, and managed many other important tasks, such as participating in the Salary Review Committee, and producing budgets and financial statements. Oliver's accounting experience helped to ensure the financial aspects of the society were managed. We can see yet again that God has graciously provided for our school with the ability to meet our financial obligations.

Neil Dykstra led the Membership Committee, where they continued the work of promoting the vision of the school through visits with prospective members, and presentations to membership. The committee also provided oversight to the Golf Tournament committee who delivered another successful fundraiser and provided funds for the gym renovation.

Fiona Jansen worked diligently on the Special Education Committee and also kept up in the loop at

the high school Board table. As well Fiona continued to serve as our public relations liaison helping to keep us in tune with the celebrations and milestones experienced in the lives of our staff members. Fiona's term on the board has come to an end and we thank her for her efforts and service over the last 3 years.

In addition to serving on the Finance Committee, Tim Rook also provided leadership for the IT committee. Tim's technical abilities along with the help of capable staff members ensured that the IT needs of the school were met throughout the year, and for the future.

Al Leyenhorst served on the Maintenance Committee which continued to maintain and support our building infrastructure and property. Over the summer the committee managed and executed renovations to the gym. The committee organized the annual work bee in August where much work was completed with the help of membership. Al also spent much time and energy as our representative to the CCSTA where he also served as chair. Al's term on the board has come to an end and we thank him for his efforts and service over the last 3 years.

As a Board, we extend a special thank you to all committee members who volunteered their time and effort in preparing and executing the mandates of the respective Board committees. We are truly blessed with capable members and functional facilities at Credo.

Alongside the regular Board meetings, our Board also met twice with the Boards of William of Orange, John Calvin, and the Credo Christian High School campuses. We also met twice as the Legal Authority for Credo Christian Schools. These meetings provided a forum to share ideas and allowed opportunities to assist each other. We continue to enjoy strong relationships with

the other schools, and collaborated often on matters dealing with school governance.

While we experienced many blessings, we must acknowledge that there were difficult issues during the last year as well. We could hear of members suffering the loss of loved ones, and many had to struggle with pain, illness and accidents. We live in a broken world, and sometimes illness and hardship affect members of our community as well as our children. We were especially saddened to hear of the diagnosis of cancer for our Board member Neil. We pray along with his family for strength, and a full recovery, and wisdom and success for the medical professionals involved. In all these matters, we trust in God's promises and we also ask membership to hold these matters up in prayer.

Having concluded the final year of my term as Board member and secretary, I have developed a deep appreciation for the work involved in operating this school, and I am encouraged by the unity of purpose between parents, Board, staff, and administration. It has been a joy to serve in this capacity. For all of us on the Board, we consider it a privilege to serve, and we thank you for the confidence you place in us. We welcome new Board members, to help carry out the mandate of school governance. For those who do not get elected, we thank you for your willingness to let your name stand, and we encourage you to seek other opportunities to serve. This school truly is a gift from the Lord and we must not take it for granted. May we continue to reflect on the covenantal nature of our Reformed Christian School, as we equip our children to be shining lights in this dark world. Let us continue, in the words of Psalm 78, to "tell the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done."



Calendar Update

December	5	Opening Assembly	8:45 am - gym
	15	Christmas Program	7:00 pm - church
	16	Skating K-3 9:30-10:30; 4-7 10:45-11:45	Twin Rinks
	16	Last day before Christmas Break	
	19–Jan 2	Christmas Vacation	
January	3	School reopens	
	3	Awareness Raiser: Hope for Women	8:45 am - gym

Gift Card Order

Name:

Phone:

Date:

email:

Grocery Stores (always available)				
Name	%	\$	#	Total
IGA	5	50.00		
Safeway	8	50.00		
		100.00		
Save-on-Foods (Pricesmart)	8	50.00		
		100.00		
Superstore	5	50.00		
		100.00		
		250.00		

Coffee & Treats				
Name	%	\$	#	Total
Esquires	10	25.00		
Starbucks	5	10.00		
		25.00		
Tim Hortons	5	10.00		
		25.00		

Restaurants				
Name	%	\$	#	Total
Boathouse	5	25.00		
Boston Pizza	5	25.00		
Cactus Club	10	25.00		
Earl's	7	25.00		
Keg	5	25.00		
Kelsey, Milestones, Montana's, Second Cup	3	25.00		
Moxie's	10	25.00		
Old Spaghetti Factory	5	25.00		
Olive Garden	5	25.00		
Red Robin	5	25.00		
Subway	5	10.00		
White Spot	5	25.00		

Department Stores				
Name	%	\$	#	Total
HBC	3	25.00		
		100.00		
Sears	2	25.00		
		100.00		
Walmart	2	25.00		
		100.00		

Home Improvement				
Name	%	\$	#	Total
Home Depot	2	25.00		
		100.00		
Home Hardware	3	25.00		
		100.00		
Rona	5	25.00		
		100.00		

Specialty Stores				
Name	%	\$	#	Total
American Eagle	5	25.00		
Best Buy	2	25.00		
Canadian Tire	3	25.00		
Chapters	5	25.00		
Chevron	2	25.00		
Children's Place	5	25.00		
iTunes	4	25.00		
LaSenza	7	25.00		
M&M Meat Shops	3	25.00		
Mark's Workwearhouse	5	25.00		
Old Navy	5	25.00		
Petro Canada	2	25.00		
Shopper's Drug Mart	3	25.00		
Spa Utopia	5	50.00		
Sport Chek	4	25.00		
Staples	3	25.00		
Winners	5	25.00		

Send your form to the school (marked Credo Aid)



Credo Christian Elementary School
 21919 52 Ave. Langley BC V2Y 2M7
 Phone: 604-530-1131 Fax: 604 530-4268
 e-mail cces@telus.net
 web site: www.credoces.org

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Mrs. Erica Feunekes (2019)	CCHS/SpEd
Mr. Tim Rook (2017)	CCSTA/IT

Education Committee

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Mrs. Mandy Dewit	Mr. Ivan Scheper
Mrs. Wenda Sikma	Mrs. Melissa VanPopta
Mr. Otto Bouwman	Mrs. Jennifer Onderwater

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Mrs. Karin Louwerse	Mr. Ryan Sikma
Mrs. Shelley Sikma	

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Mr. Dave Vandeburgt	Mr. James Vandeburgt
Mr. Dan Warkentin	

Staff

Mr. Otto Bouwman	Principal
Mrs. Jennifer Onderwater	VP, Kindergarten B
Ms. Leslie Scholtens	Kindergarten A
Mrs. Mary MacDougal	Grade 1A
Mrs. Alyson Winkelaar	Grade 1B
Mr. Mark Hoogerdijk	Grade 2
Mr. Stephen Chase	Grade 3
Miss Amy Vanderhoek	Grade 4
Mrs. Linda VanSpronsen	Grade 5
Mrs. Natasja VanRhee	Grade 5
Mr. James Kanis	Grade 6A
Mr. Jerry Scholtens	Grade 6B
Miss Diana Nobel	Grade 7A
Miss Jenn Harink	Grade 7B
Mrs. Deborah Huttema	SpEd, LA
Mrs. Yvonne Jacobi	Music 4,5
Mrs. Tamara Jansen	Music 6,7
Mrs. Sarah Beintema	Educational Ass't
Mrs. Wilma Deleeuw	Educational Ass't
Miss Katelyn Mostert	Educational Ass't
Mrs. Jacqueline Spoor	Educational Ass't
Miss Freda Struik	Educational Ass't
Mrs. Lisa Vandervan	Educational Ass't
Mrs. Elma Kuntz	Office Administrator

Credo Aid

Mrs. Jen Sikma	Mrs. Leona Huttema
Mrs. Renee Leffers	Mrs. Audrey Leyenhorst
Mrs. Kait Scheper	Mrs. Ang VanSpronsen

Fee Structure 2016-2017

Membership	125.00	Kindergarten	305.00
Elem. (1-3)	515.00	Elem (4-7)	535.00
Junior High	680.00	Senior High	730.00



Wacky Hair Day at Credo!