



Volume 19 Issue 3
Oct. 19, 2007

BRANCHES

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....



Paul Schouten

The Board of CCES invites you to attend the
Credo Christian Elementary School
membership meeting
to be held on
October 24 2007
at 8:00 P.M.
in the school gym.

The agenda includes election of Board members, presentation of the 2006/07 Financial Statements (attached) for approval by the membership and a few short presentations.

Please set the time aside to come to the meeting. No one likes to come twice for the same thing. Let's meet the quorum requirement the first time around. THANKS!

The membership has opportunity to nominate members you find suitable to stand for election. Included in the last issue of Branches was a nomination form which may be submitted no later than 15 minutes prior to the commencement of the meeting.

We thank you for your participation in our school and look forward to seeing you at the meeting on October 24th.

School Calendar Update



Oct.	24	-	School membership meeting	
	30	-	Education Committee Meeting	
Nov.	5	-	Remembrance Day assembly	9 a.m.
	12	-	Remembrance Day holiday	no school
	13	-	Board Meeting	
	14	-	Vancouver Orpheum	
	22	-	Report Cards	
	26	-	Parent-Teacher Conferences	
	28	-	Parent-Teacher Conferences	
	30	-	Professional Development Day	no school

Principal's Report



John A. Roukema

Health Matters

Sometime ago, notices were sent out to parents of grade 6 students informing them of the BC Ministry of Health Hepatitis B Immunization program. While the main reason for these shots may be avoid the risks of contracting the Hep. B virus because of sexual contact, there are several other ways by which this virus can be spread. By participating in this program it does not mean we are condoning promiscuous activity. It does mean, though, that we are concerned about other risk factors and are, therefore, encouraging parents to judge for themselves. The above-mentioned notices contain explanations and a consent form for grade 6 parents to complete. Without the consent of the parent(s) the student will not receive the Hep. B program of immunization shots. This year, the first set of shots was administered last Wednesday (Oct. 17).

Mrs. Corrie DeWit, our janitor, had a foot surgery on Tuesday, Oct. 16. She will need a 6-week "foot-rest" before she is allowed back to work. Nellie Scholtens has been found willing to cover for Corrie during this time of convalescing on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Katie Plantinga will be in on Tuesdays. That means that there is no-one for the Thursday cleaning (as of this time of writing)

This past week the staff was familiarized with the epi-pen by Ms Andrea Leganger of the Langley Health Unit. The epi-pen is used in emergency allergic reactions situations.

With the Leroy and Angela van Spronsen family we thank God for his wondrous blessings over them. Leroy was declared cancer-free. Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Praise God for sparing Leroy's life.

Students/Staff Matters

The staff has been spoiled by several ventures provided us via the Development Committee's Golf-a-Thon (last Spring) proceeds:

- two new VCR/DVD players
- 1 high-standing (on casters) audio-video cart for TV monitor and DVD/VHS player
- one low-standing (on casters) AV cart with VHS/DVD player, speakers, laptop, and power-point projector
- one new digital keyboard
- one riding tray for the music key-board (as crafted by Mr. Fred Bergsma) modified. Thank you, Mr. Bergsma!

As you can imagine, we are very impressed and gratified by these gifts.

Believe it or not, but the Reporting Session is upon us. The first term's Report Cards will be forwarded to the parents on Thursday, Nov. 22, and the subsequent Parent-Teacher Conferences held on Monday, Nov. 26 and Wednesday, Nov. 28. That's only a month from now!

On Nov. 30, the students will be off as the staff will be occupied with Professional Development Day activities.

The Grade 5-7 students are scheduled to observe a performance of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra on Wednesday, Nov. 14 (afternoon). Further details will be forthcoming. The orchestral performance is entitled "Fun with Beethoven". Maestro Bramwell Tovey has a knack for bringing this kind of music to the child's level, offering interesting insights and using some humour. Music, too, is a gift from God. While Beethoven may not always have used that gift to God's glory, we may recognize that gift for writing beautiful music. We

sincerely hope the students will benefit from such presentations and conduct themselves in a respectful manner, and learn from this experience.

As of July 1, 2007, Bill 21, Teaching Profession

Amendment Act requires independent school authorities to report by Oct. 15, 2007 all independent school certified teachers in their employ for the current school year and during the previous 12 months. This will become an annual requirement.

Short Report of Board Meeting

Short Report of the meeting of the
Board of Directors of Credo Christian Elementary
School
September 11, 2007 @ 7:30

1. Opening: - The Chairman P.J. Schouten called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. He read from John 1 and led in prayer. R. Vandenberg was absent with notification.
2. Approval of Agenda: - The agenda was approved with a minor addition.
3. Approval of minutes and short report of the June 12, 2007 meeting: Motion: "that the Minutes of the June 12, 2007 meeting be approved as presented" was made. Minutes and Short Report were approved.
4. Matters from the Minutes: - SCSBC report tabled until next meeting.
5. Incoming Correspondence:
 - Memo from E. Kuntz that the membership applications of Bryce and Krista Graham, Brad and Jackie VanOene and Oliver and Sarah Hansma have been received
 - Letter from a member cancelling their membership.
6. Outgoing Correspondence: A letter was sent to a Parent.
7. Principal's Report:
 - The principal's report as received prior to the meeting was reviewed.
 - The school theme for the year is from Micah 6:8B "to act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God".
 - There will be a presentation on "Manners" by Mrs. J. Vankevich on September 19, 2007.
8. Chairman's Report:
 - The ICRE is scheduled for Sept. 24 - 26. They will be looking at the challenges of developing Christian schools that will enable students to respond responsibly as Christians in a cultural context as well as developing materials that reflect our Reformed worldview.
 - The RCDC completed the Stage 1 component of the Science curriculum. Staff also completed the revision of the Language Arts Curriculum Linkages.
 - The Maintenance Committee was thanked for all the work that was completed at the school this past summer.
9. Education Committee:
 - A chairman/principal's meeting was held on June 14th .
 - R. Vandenberg and P.J. Schouten reviewed the school policy manual. This will be dealt with at the next board meeting.
 - N. VanRhee was appointed to replace S. Stam on the Edcom.
 - Next meeting is scheduled for Sept 18, 2007.
10. Finance Committee:
 - The Minutes of the Sept 10, 2007 meeting as received prior to the meeting were reviewed.
 - The draft financial statements for 2006/07 were reviewed and approved for presentation. Y. Jacobi and A.

- Deboer will be appointed to review the financial statements for 2006/07.
11. Development Committee:
 - There was discussion regarding the proceeds of the Golf Tournament.
 - Plans for a bowling night in October are still in the works.
 12. Transportation rep Report
 - The minutes of the June 4, 2007 meeting as received prior to the meeting were discussed.
 - We can be thankful for very few accidents this past year as well as no major repairs on the buses.
 - The CCSTA still needs to review their Board policy.
 13. CCHS rep Report: - nothing to report.
 14. Special Education Committee: - The Ruth Vanderpol Memorial Fund money arrived.
 15. Maintenance:
 - M. Stam reported on the work completed by the Maintenance Committee over the summer. A new tile floor was installed, pictures frames for class pictures were made, a new bench for the front foyer was installed and
- many other tasks were completed.
- The Board expressed thankfulness for all the work the Maintenance Committee accomplished over the summer as well as the work that they continue to do.
 - Sister C. Dewit is scheduled for foot surgery in October.
16. Other Committee Reports(RCDC/CB's/CCP/RPDCS/FISA): There was discussion concerning the Combined Boards report.
 17. Other Canadian Reformed Schools: - Nothing to report.
 18. New business: Begin Board nomination process. W. Nordeman and P.J. Schouten will phone eligible nominees.
 19. Items for next board meeting: - General Membership Meeting scheduled for October 24, 2007.
 20. Question Period: - was made use of .
 21. Next Meeting: - October 10th 2007.
 22. Thanksgiving and Prayer: - W. Nordeman closed in prayer.
 23. Adjournment: - P. J. Schouten adjourned the meeting.

2007 Credo Golf Tournament Update

What has been purchased with the proceeds?

This year the proceeds were used to support our music program and for audio-visual upgrades. We are thankful that your generous support has allowed us to do that and more! Those of you that answered the last question on the après golf survey encouraged us to spend the balance of the money wisely where it was most needed. We have certainly attempted to do just as you suggested by working closely with the Principal, Maintenance Committee and Credo Aid. Following is a list of items that have been purchased.

Total Golf Tournament proceeds	\$ 8744
Purchased:	
Yamaha "Clavinova" Digital Piano	2485
Laptop -A/V projector unit	1200
Two A/V carts	450
Toshiba VCR/DVD Player	150
Large Projector Screen for Gym	500
Alumni Picture Frames Project	850
Foyer Bench	525
Available Proceeds	\$ 2584

With the remaining proceeds we plan to upgrade the portable P.A. system, purchase safety approved metal exterior garbage cans and spruce up the school's exterior signage.

We would like to extend a special thank you to Fred Bergsma for converting the piano dolly to fit the new piano and Vincent VanSpronsen for making the alumni picture frames and the foyer bench. All the new items will be in use and/or on display at the membership meeting on October 24th. We look forward to seeing many of you there :)

Please note elsewhere in this edition of Branches information on the 2nd Annual Bowling Bonanza. We look forward to seeing many of you and your children at this CCES community-building event.

The Development Committee and community of CCES thank you for your support!

****Yamaha Electric Piano for Sale****

Yamaha P200-Electronic Piano for sale by silent auction at the October 24th C.C.E.S. Membership Meeting.

If you are interested feel free to try it out in the library.

For more information contact:

Tyler Van Vliet Tel: 604.533.4565 or tjvv@telus.net

Credo Aid Update



As the days get colder, our fundraising efforts heat up! Here are some of the things we are currently working on:



Purdy's Chocolates fundraiser: Hopefully you have had a chance to look through the catalogue featuring many delicious options. Get a jump on your holiday gift-giving -there are no shipping costs and most items come already gift-wrapped for you! Remember to use one order form per customer (more available at the school) and please make cheques payable to Credo Aid. All order forms are due by Wednesday, October 24 (and can be picked up the week of Dec. 5). Any questions? Please contact Yolanda Hoogstra @ 604.888.4698.

Certificates: A reminder that the grocery store certificates are always available (and our best fundraiser!), but that the specialty item orders are only ordered every 3 weeks. So, be sure to plan ahead for the holidays - these make great gifts! Contact Shauna Stam @ 604.514.9805 or use one of the certificate forms.

The next hot lunch scheduled is November 16 (tacos).

Credo Aid Board:

Hilary Vandergugten: 604.856.3375

Wenda Sikma: 604.534.7875

Marijke Ezinga: 604.514.9414

Jean VanSpronsen: 604.882.1663

Michelle Vandeburgt: 604.514.8076

ICRE 2007 Reflections

J. A. Roukema

Judging from the reactions received from its participants, the International Conference for Reformed Education, 2007 was a smashing success. The many hours spent in planning and organizing made it all worthwhile. We thank the Cedar Springs Christian Retreat staff for its excellent hospitality. Especially the Dutch participants were enthralled by the surroundings of this center. To them it seemed like a fairyland setting.

The setting, no doubt, complimented the ambience and collegiality that we experienced during the days of the conference (Sept. 24-26). Americans, Australians, Canadians, and Dutch educators all agreed that the conference theme and its supporting workshops were steps forward in coming to terms with the difficult task of providing frameworks for teaching Christianly. This is an international concern that kept everyone's attention and involvement. We learned much from each other. We learned especially that we need each other in grappling with a common theme.

That common theme has been around for some time. You may remember that a similar conference was held in the Netherlands three years ago (May, 2004). At that time we (American, Australian, Canadian, Dutch, South African, and South Korean educators) reviewed and explored our Reformed identity as that relates to educating our students. This year's conference intended to pick up where ICRE 2004 had left off. The time and age presents us with a challenge to develop Christian schools that will enable students to respond responsibly as Christians in the cultural context in which we live.

The conference was opened by Mr. Apko Nap, a participant at the first ICRE (Netherlands, 2004)). He gave a brief introduction to the conference relating it to the outcomes of that Netherlands conference. Our first key-note speaker, Daniel

VanderArk, formerly executive director of Christian Schools International, Grand Rapids, Mich., set the tone in a spirit-lifting address on integrating our faith with learning. The afternoon session featured Dr. Freda Oosterhoff lecturing us on integrating Science and faith in learning. Both key-noters challenged us to develop materials that reflect our Reformed worldview. Both key-notes were followed up by responses from participants representing the various regions present. Not all respondents were in agreement with what each speaker opined, but the context of dialogue was, nevertheless, uplifting.

The Tuesday and Wednesday agendas featured a series of workshops, each 75 minutes in duration. These workshops were presented by persons from among our participants who were deemed to be knowledgeable and visionary in their respective fields. Dr. John Van Dyke, emeritus professor at Dordt College, Sioux Center, Iowa, presented a workshop on teaching Christianly in the Christian school. This is also the topic of a book he wrote several years ago, a book that has been studied by many Canadian Reformed Schools teachers, and with much appreciation. He provided us with many examples and scenarios of using pedagogical approaches that demonstrate Biblical views of the child as well as of the methods of teaching. Mr. Hans VanDooren, principal at Guido de Bres Highschool, Hamilton, ON, walked us through his study of excellent (quality)schools ("Bright Minds, Faithful Hearts"), as commissioned by the Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools during his 3-month sabbatical. The primary factors supporting school excellence that have a powerful impact on students are a clear school vision, dedicated teachers, and an exceptional principal. Dr. Arnold Sikkema challenged us with teaching Science within the Biblical framework. Science is possible because of God's covenant faithfulness to creation. Science is a cultural

activity, being a response to our cultural mandate. A. Nap and P. Torenvliet presented their Narrative Approach to teaching Bible and Church History. Christine Van Halen dealt with the challenges of teaching prospective teachers in Reformed pedagogics, while Tamme Spoelstra and Jan Bollemaat did the same in another workshop for their (PA) school in Zwolle, the Netherlands. Huib van Leeuwen and Kees van der Vloed led us through their attempts to enhance Reformed identity at Reformed schools in the Netherlands. John Roukema presented an introduction to the Understanding by Design model of curriculum development and its application to the RCDC Social Studies Curriculum. Indeed, this was a content-filled conference with much food for thought, discussion, and follow-up.

Follow-up is a key concept. We all agreed that much was learned from each other, and that the times warrant further contact and dialogue. That much was decided as we wrapped up the conference on Wednesday. Follow-up implies keeping the momentum going. Will we get together again? The conclusion was that we certainly must. When will we do that? The consensus was that we not wait too long; otherwise, we would lose the momentum and the urgency. The Canadian principals would like to maintain their bi-annual National Principals Conferences. At the same time, however, the contents and contexts of the ICREs can easily be made to be the same as for the NPCs. In any case, for now, we will hold the regularly scheduled NPC in Sept/Oct. of 2009 and plan for the next ICRE in May of 2010. It was agreed that the best venue for the next ICRE would be the Netherlands, where they have people of planning and organizational capabilities in abundance ---- and the financial resources.

An additional method of keeping the momentum going is the inclusion of placing all our "ground-breaking" work on the web. Both here and in the Netherlands such plans are now underway. The ICRE 2007 speeches and

workshops products will form a significant portion of those web pages.

The elementary educators of the Dutch group made use of their flight and accommodations preparations by staying a few days longer. These people were involved as a study group to research inclusive (integrated) education in British Columbia and Ontario. They were interested in how we do Special Education in our schools. Loaded with a series of questions and concerns, they visited CCES, Langley Christian Elementary and Simonds Public school (on Thursday, Sept. 27. On Friday (Sept. 28), they visited Abbotsford Christian Elementary and the JCS. From their oral reports they seemed to be overwhelmed by, not only what we do here in terms of Special education, but also by our curriculum work and our parental and board governance involvement --- valuable lessons for them. On the other hand, we learned some interesting facts from them about quality supervision. They were very pleased by what they observed and learned, an obvious indication that their research project was very well worthwhile.

They were also extremely pleased with the hospitality provided to them during their two week-end stays at host-families. This, too, was a learning experience for them as it gave them an opportunity to interact with our church people and to get them to know what it is that makes us as a Reformed community click here. Personally, I thank the many host-families for so graciously and willingly offering their homes in such a hospitable manner and for being so cooperative with me. Such deeds too attest to the communion of the saints we have in Christ Jesus as this was very evident.

It is with gratitude to God that this could be a rewarding conference and it is our prayer that we can continue to be a hand and foot to each other. The Body of Christ consists of many parts, but all serve the one Head.

CCES Membership Meeting
Wednesday, October 24, 2007
8:00 P.M. in the CCES gym

Agenda

1. Opening
2. Welcome
3. Approval of Minutes of the May 29th, 2007 meeting
4. Business arising from the minutes
5. Secretary's Annual Report
6. Election of three board members
 - The terms of Mike Stam and Tyler VanVliet have been completed
 - Nominated by the Board are:
 - ▶ Geoff Hoogstra
 - ▶ Mike Scholtens
 - ▶ Valerie Sikkema
 - ▶ Mike Stam
 - ▶ Will VanOene
 - ▶ Ed Visscher
7. Presentation of the Financial Statements for 2006/07: Verne Stel
8. Question period
9. Closing

Minutes of the CCES Annual General Membership Meeting



May 28, 2007

1. Opening and Welcome: The Chairman P.J. Schouten called the meeting to order after a slight delay to allow some late arriving members to sign in. We sang from Psalm 147: 1 and 2. He read a portion of scripture from Acts 2: 14. Everyone was welcomed to the meeting and the chairman announced that there was a quorum.
2. Minutes of the October 25, 2006 AGM: A motion: "To approve the Minutes of the membership meeting held October 25, 2006" was made by J. Scholtens, seconded by B. Onderwater and carried by the membership.
3. Business arising from the minutes: None.
4. CCES Budget 2007/08: The treasurer V.Stel presented the Budget to the membership. A question was asked regarding the salary increase. The increases were based on the Ad-hoc salary committee's recommendations. A question was also asked regarding the increase in insurance costs. The board had a replacement cost appraisal done last year. It was discovered that we were insufficiently insured. The board increased the coverage, which is reflected in the higher insurance cost on the budget. Motion: "to approve the CCES budget for 2007/08" was made by V.Stel and seconded by C. Vandergugten and carried by the membership.
5. Question Period: There was a question

asked regarding the quorum. As the meeting tonight was delayed in order to reach the current quorum requirement, would the board look at reducing this? P.J. Schouten responded that prior to this we have been meeting the quorum requirements and stressed the need for members to attend general membership meetings, as this is a parent run school and needs parental involvement. A question was asked concerning the fundraising for the Golf Tournament. How does the committee decide what to raise funds for? The Staff submitted a "wish list" and the Development Committee took this into consideration. M.Stam reminded the membership of the "Summer Work Bee" scheduled for Aug 11, 2007. He applauded the wonderful turnout from last summer, and said how delighted he was to see such enthusiasm

from the membership. Please mark the date on your calendar, as the cost savings on the maintenance budget is substantial. Many hands make light work. T.Vanvliet also reminded the membership of the Golf Tournament scheduled for June 16, 2007. P.J.Schouten noted with thankfulness, the work of all those in the community who help out at the school and expressed his desire that their many volunteer efforts continue to be blessed. He also reported that the Legal Authority met and reviewed the EEC report. The EEC report commended our school especially for our Special Education program.

6. Closing: The membership sang Hymn 36: 1, 2 & 3 and J.Marissen offered a closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Review Report

October 1, 2007

To: Credo Christian Elementary School Board

We, the undersigned, have reviewed the 2006/07 financial records for the Canadian Reformed School Association of Langley, BC.. Our review was comprised of the examination of bank statements, invoices and the general ledger for the year 2006/07. We have also checked and verified the deposits, receipts and disbursements.

We report that we have found the books and records to be in good order.

signed:

Y. Jacobi, (reviewer)

A. Deboer, (reviewer)

CANADIAN REFORMED SCHOOL ASSOCIATION OF LANGLEY
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Unaudited)
JUNE 30,2007

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Bowling Bonanza

Please return sign up sheet
to C.C.E.S by Friday, October 26.

It's not always about raising money. Sometimes it's just about enjoying each other's company. Sometimes it's about getting to know the other people in the church and school community. Sometimes it's just about getting out there and having FUN! So, staff, students, volunteers, parents, grandparents and members of Credo Christian Elementary are invited to a community building FUN-raiser.

When: Saturday, November 10th

Time: Saturday afternoon, 4:45 PM. - 7:00 PM.

Where: Willowbrook Lanes, 6350 - 196th St., Langley. B.C.

Costs: \$6.00 per person
includes shoe rental & all the games you can bowl.

Teams or not: Unless you indicate otherwise, we will make up the teams. If you prefer to make your own team please indicate that clearly.

Bowlers - Names as you would like them to appear on the score screen/sheet

1	2
3	4
5	6

Dinner: Veggie platters and a quick dessert will be complimentary.

Pizza - Large Slices	Total # of slices	@ \$2 per slice	
Deluxe		x 2.00	
Ham & Pineapple		x 2.00	
Pepperoni		x 2.00	
Cheese		x 2.00	
Beverages			
Milk		x.50	
Chocolate Milk		x.50	
Juice Box		x.50	
		Total	\$

Please pay by cheque at the bowling alley. Do NOT send \$\$ to school

For more info. please contact
Joy Van Vliet: Tel:604-533-4560 email: tjvv@telus.net
or Fiona Jansen: 604-888-2820 email: fjansen@darvonda.com



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Board of Directors

Mr. P. Schouten (2009)	Chairman
Mr. M. Stam (2007)	Vice Chair/Maint.
Mr. V. Stel (2008)	Treasurer
Mr. Paul Sikma (2009)	Secretary
Mr. W. Nordeman (2008)	SpEd
Mr. R. Onderwater (2008)	CCSTA
Mrs. R. Vandenberg (2009)	CCHS
Mr. T. VanVliet (2007)	Development

Education Committee

Mr. W. Nordeman	Mrs. M. Aikema
Mrs. J. Onderwater	Mrs. W. Sikma
Mrs. C. VanDelft	Mrs. C. Visscher
Mr. J. Roukema	Mrs. N. VanRhee

Development Committee

Mr. T. VanVliet	Mr. Paul Sikma
Mr. D. Huttema	Mrs. F. Jansen
	Mr. D. Mackay

Special Education Committee

Mr. W. Nordeman	Mrs. T. Visscher
Mrs. W. VanderHoek	Mr. J. Roukema

Finance Committee

Mr. V. Stel	Mr. M. Stam
Mrs. E. Kuntz	

Maintenance Committee

Mr. M. Stam	Mr. R. Wieggers
Mr. J. Roukema	Mr. C. Vanderhorst
Mr. D. MacKay	Mr. Phil Sikma

Staff

Mr. J. Roukema	Principal, Gr. 5
Mrs. J. Onderwater	Kindergarten
Ms. L. Scholtens	Kindergarten
Mrs. M. MacDougal	Grade 1
Mrs. D. Vanderboom	Grade 2
Mr. G. Scholtens	Grade 3
Mr. M. Van	Grade 4
Miss R. Vanderhorst	Grade 6/7
Mrs. T. Visscher	SpEd, LA
Mrs. D. Huttema	SpEd, LA
Mrs. S. Allison	Grade 5/6,7 PE
Mrs. J. Deglint	Music
Mrs. L. Vanspronsen	Grade 5
Miss A. Dekker	TA
Mrs. A. Devries	SEA
Mrs. M. Meyer	SEA
Mrs. E. Kuntz	Secretary
Mr. & Mrs. J. Dewit	Custodians

Credo Aid

Mrs. H. Vandergugten	Mrs. M. Ezinga
Mrs. W. Sikma	Mrs. M. Vandeburgt
Mrs. J. VanSpronsen	

Fee Structure 2007-2008

Membership	100.00
Kindergarten	220.00
Elementary (1-3)	400.00
Elementary (4-7)	420.00
Junior High	540.00
Senior High	590.00

CCSTA office	604-543-0890
Dave Champ (cell)	604-603-0890