

CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL CHRONICLE

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May God Himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and He will do it. ~ I Thessalonians 5:23-24

CCS School Board 2014-2015

Bryan Bartels, President
Kelby Deese, Vice President
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Tony Boex
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Cornerstone Christian School



Elementary School

3704 370 Plaza
Bellevue, NE 68123
(402) 292-1030

Middle School & High School

16405 Clay Street
Bellevue, NE 68123
(402) 291-2260

Administrator

Mrs. Teri Lynn Schrag

Assistant Principal

Mr. Jon Hood

Administrator's News

During this holiday season, we often make a list of the many things that we have to be thankful for. I was blessed this week as I walked through one of our first grade classrooms. Passing by a student, he had a question for me. "Mrs. Schrag, how do you spell 'spirit'?" I leaned over to whisper, S-P-I-R-I-T. He got back to work on his assignment. Looking down, I read his journal entry in first grade penmanship. "I am thankful for God, my family, and the Holy Spirit." How beautiful! The Lord used a child to remind me of His presence and my need to be thankful for the gift of His Spirit.

In Ephesians 1:15-17, the Apostle Paul prays for the early church. "For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better."

Paul is celebrating the faith and love of the early church and his prayer is also a request for the blessing of the Holy Spirit so that they would know Christ better. The teachers and staff at CCS can also celebrate the faith and love that we see in the students. And just as the Apostle Paul prayed for the early church to be

blessed by the gift of the Holy Spirit, it is my prayer for the Cornerstone students that they would know the Lord better—that they would be known for their love of the Lord and their love of others.

But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. I want to know Christ. (Philippians 3:7-10)

Yes, we truly want to know Christ—to know Him better!



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DECEMBER CALENDAR

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| <p>3 Elem Chapel, Hugh Smith, Voice of the Martyrs</p> <p>4 MS/HS Chapel, Hugh Smith, Voice of the Martyrs</p> <p>5 Spirit Day</p> <p>5 Family Night Out – Culvers 4-10 PM</p> <p>10 Elem Chapel, Rich Rudd</p> | <p>11 MS/HS Chapel, Jordan Reese (Girls), Matthew Anderson (Guys)</p> <p>12 CCS Christmas Program</p> <p>15 School Board Meeting, MS/HS Campus, 6 PM</p> <p>17 Elem Chapel, Christmas Chapel</p> <p>18-19 High School Finals</p> | <p>19 2nd Quarter Ends</p> <p>19 Classroom Christmas Parties (K-8)</p> <p>Dec 22 – Jan 2
No School
Christmas Break</p> <p>Jan 5 School Resumes</p> |
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Hot Lunch Menu

- Dec. 3 – Pizza
- Dec. 10 – Chick-fil-A
- Dec. 17 - Hamburgers



Events & Info

Absences and Tardies – If your child will be absent or more than 15 minutes late for school, please notify the office before 9 a.m. Class begins at 8:15 a.m. for Middle & High School and 8:30 a.m. for K – 5. If your child is late you will need to sign him/her in at the office before they are able to go to class. This prevents unnecessary phone calls from us inquiring if he/she is home ill. Notices will be sent home from the office for students who have excessive absences. Thank you for your help!

Inclement Weather – School snow days and school closings will be announced on television stations KMTV (Channel 3), WOWT (Channel 6), and KETV (Channel 7.). Cornerstone Christian School follows the Bellevue Public School District in the closing of school due to inclement weather and icy roads. Whenever the weather is questionable, tune in to one of these stations.



Family Night Out

Up Coming Dates

<p style="text-align: center;">Friday, Dec. 5th at Culvers in Bellevue</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Monday, January 12th at Fazoli's in Bellevue</p>
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School Board Meeting

Monday, December 15 at 6:00 p.m.
at our MS/HS campus
16405 Clay Street
Bellevue, NE

Parents are invited to attend.

Medication Information –

According to the Nebraska State Medication Act and school policy, written parental permission is required for any medication given at school, **including** non-prescription medication such as Tylenol, etc. All medication must be in the original container or prescription bottle.

If your child needs to take any medication while at school for longer than one week, or carries an inhaler at school, parental permission and a physician's signature is required to be on file at the school office. A medication permission form is available at the office. If you have any questions, please call the office (292-1030).

Lost & Found



Is your child missing a jacket, gloves, water bottle or other item?

Have him or her check the lost and found box. You may be surprised what will be found.



Please join us for the
Cornerstone Christian School Christmas Concert

Friday, December 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Hosted at Salem Baptist Church, 3131 Lake Street, Omaha



Mrs. Dawn Burkett

We are privileged to have Mrs. Dawn Burkett on staff at Cornerstone. She has been part of the Cornerstone family for many years. Before coming to Cornerstone, she taught 3rd grade for 3 years with Bellevue Public Schools and then an additional year as a sub for Bellevue. Then she taught one year for CCS in a 3rd & 4th grade teaching position, when CCS was at Calvary Christian Church. Dawn took several years off to raise her children and then came back to Cornerstone for the last 9 years as a 2nd grade teacher. Mrs. Burkett has enjoyed having a second grade co-teacher, Amy Pfortmiller, working with her for the past 3 years. She feels God really had his hand in picking out the perfect grade level partner for her because they are so much alike in many ways!



Mrs. Burkett holds a B.A. in Elementary Education from Wayne State and a B.S. in Biblical Studies from Nebraska Christian College.

Her husband, Matthew, is a computer programmer for West Corp. They have a daughter Erin, age 22, in law school at UNL; and a son, Mark, age 16, a high school sophomore.

Fun Tidbit:

Mrs. Burkett is an identical twin. Her twin lives in Blair, Nebraska. They used to LOVE playing piano duets or piano/organ duets together at church.

Favorite Bible Verse:

Isaiah 40:30-31 *“Even youths will become weak and tired, and young men will fall in exhaustion. But those who trust in the LORD will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.”*



Missions

Each spring semester, the Cornerstone high school students take a missions trip. For the past several years, we have divided into two teams, one to Haiti and the other to serve locally. This year, we are taking the entire high school to Minneapolis to serve at Engage Global, February 12-15. Please be in prayer for our students and staff as they serve the Asian communities with Engage Global. The trip will cost \$200 per student and prayer and financial support is needed.

Currently almost 3 billion people living in over 7000 people groups are beyond access to the gospel. A majority of these unreached peoples are found in the 10/40 window, a stronghold of five major world religions; Tribal Animist, Hindus, Unreligious, Muslims, Buddhists (T.H.U.M.B.).

Plan: During EXPLORE trips, teams will learn of God’s heart for the nations through His word, explore the THUMB communities and discover ways to get involved in reaching the nations.

Purpose: To cultivate a passion for God’s global glory.

Product: Engage Global desires that those who leave after an EXPLORE trip will take steps to align themselves with God’s global agenda.

Read more about this ministry at <http://engageglobal.net> .

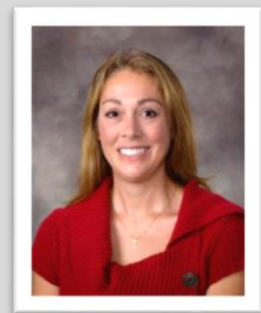
Missions

Greetings of Shalom unto you all.
It was a very exciting experience for me to spend time sharing our missionary ministry with your students on the 13th. I thank you, students and the staff, very much for all your prayers and your prayerful donations for the ministry in India. May the Lord bless you all.
I am already on my way back home to India. I assure you that we continue to uphold you in our prayers from the other part of the globe.
Blessings, Vijay

We were blessed to have Pastor Vijay from the Shalom Home as our guest at the elementary on November 13. Each week, the students collect offering for this orphanage and to date they have given \$374.58. Thank you for your prayers and gifts for the Lord's work In India!

Staff Spotlight

Mrs. Jenny Cook



Mrs. Jenny Cook joined us this year teaching middle school Language Arts and Bible and also high school Family Consumer Science. This fall, the staff and students at our Clay Street campus have enjoyed wonderful aromas as her students are practicing their culinary skills.

Mrs. Cook has 8 years of teaching experience. She holds a Bachelor's of Science in Family Consumer Science, and MAT in Early Childhood and an Elementary Endorsement.

Mrs. Cook has 2 daughters – a 1st grader and an 8th grader. Her husband is active duty Navy, stationed at STRATCOM. They have lived on an acreage in Murray, NE for 8 years.



Fun Tidbit: The Cook family has 14 chickens.

Favorite Bible Verse: Psalm 147: 3-5 *"He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. He determines the number of stars and calls them by name. Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit."*



CORNERSTONE BASKETBALL SCHEDULES



Cornerstone Christian Middle School Girls Basketball Schedule

Coach – Mr. McClain



Date & Time	Teams	Location
December 6th 1:10 pm	CCS vs. Good Shepherd	St. Bernard
December 13th 10:50 am	CCS vs. St. Vincent	Holy Spirit
December 16th 6:00 pm	CCS vs. Mary Our Queen	Mary Our Queen
January 10th 3:30 pm	CCS vs. Holy	Holy Name
January 17th 12:00 pm	CCS vs. OHS Warriors	St. Bernard
January 24th 12:15 pm	CCS vs. St. Margaret Mary	Christ the King
January 31st 12:00 pm	CCS vs. Concordia Junior	Concordia Academy
February 7th 10:50 am	CCS vs. Holy Spirit	Holy Name
February 14th 9:40 am	CCS vs. St. Cecilia	St. Cecilia



Cornerstone Christian 6th Boys Basketball Schedule

Coach – Mr. Kozak



Date & Time	Teams	Location
December 6th 10:50 am	CCS vs. Holy Spirit	Holy Spirit
December 9th 7:50 pm	CCS vs. Good Shepherd	Holy Ghost
January 6th 6:40 pm	CCS vs. St. Robert	Holy Ghost
January 17th 10:05 am	CCS vs. St. James Seton	Roncalli
January 24th 9:40 am	CCS vs. St. Margaret Mary	Holy Spirit
January 31st 9:40 am	CCS vs. Good Shepard	Holy Spirit
February 3rd 6:40 pm	CCS vs. Holy Cross	Holy Ghost



Cornerstone Christian 7th & 8th Boys Basketball Schedule

Coach – Mr. Doetzler



Date & Time	Teams	Location
December 4th 7:50 pm	CCS vs. Brownell Talbot	Brownell Talbot
December 13th 10:50 am	CCS vs. St. Stephen	St. Cecilia
December 20th 12 pm	CCS vs. St. Robert	Holy Spirit
January 8th 7:15 pm	CCS vs. Boystown	Boystown Palrang Fieldhouse
Leo January 10th 2:40 pm	CCS vs. St. Pius	Holy Name
January 17th 11:10 am	CCS vs. St. James Seton	Roncalli
January 24th 10 am	CCS vs. Brownell Talbot	St. Paul Lutheran
January 29th 5:30 pm	CCS vs. Our Lady of Lourdes	Our Lady of Lourdes
February 9th 6:30 pm	CCS vs. St. Margaret Mary	St. Margaret Mary



Cornerstone Christian High School Boys Basketball Schedule

Coach – Mr. Jon Hood



Date & Time	Teams	Location
Thursday, December 4, 6:00 pm	CCS vs. Archbishop Bergan High	Archbishop Bergan High
Saturday, December 6, 7:00 pm	CCS vs. College View Academy	Conestoga Elementary School
Monday, December 8, 6:00 pm	CCS vs. Brownell-Talbot High School	Brownell-Talbot High School
Tuesday, December 16, 5:30 pm	CCS vs. Conestoga High School	Conestoga High School
Saturday, December 20, 10:00 am	CCS vs. Lincoln Lutheran High School	Lourdes Central Catholic High School
Saturday, December 20, 11:00 am	CCS vs. Lourdes Central Catholic High School	Lourdes Central Catholic High School
Saturday, January 10, 3:00 pm	CCS vs. Nebraska Lutheran High School	Conestoga Elementary School
Friday, January 16, 7:30 pm	CCS vs. Mead High School	Conestoga Elementary School
Tuesday, January 20, 7:30 pm	CCS vs. Omaha Roadrunners	Northstar Gym
Tuesday, February 3, 6:30 pm	CCS vs. Nebraska Lutheran School	Nebraska Lutheran School
Tuesday, February 5, 6:00 pm	CCS vs. Omaha Street School	TBA
Tuesday, February 10, 5:00 pm	CCS vs. Cedar Bluffs High School	Cedar Bluffs High School

Is It Worth It?

By Josh Cumpston, Superintendent of Nebraska Christian Schools, Central City, Nebraska

I recently re-read the book "Worth It" by Brian Simmons. In it, he makes a case for Christian education. He believes that there is a real battle for the hearts and minds of children and that the home, the church, and the school need to work together to support children's growth and development. Below I have italicized several points that stuck out to me.

1. *Christian schools are committed to helping students achieve their full, God-given potential.*

I believe that if teachers do not start with the premise that children are knitted together in their mothers' wombs and are fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:13-14), they will not be able to see them as God's children. They will not recognize that God has given different talents, bents, and purposes to be used for Him. There are some wonderful Christian teachers in public schools who do view children in this way, but they are still hampered by the restrictions placed on Christianity in public schools.

Christian schools are able to provide a Christ-centered education. The integration of Biblical principals throughout all disciplines allows students to know and realize God's design in science, his order in mathematics, and his sovereignty and plan through history. It also changes the way we approach music, art, sports, and other activities and classes.

2. *There is a distinctive, faith-based Christian dimension in Christian schools. "Christian schools, in partnership with the home and the church, are best equipped to prepare your children for living out their faith in our challenging and demanding world" (pg XIII).*

Christian schools can partner with parents and churches to help build the faith in students. There are many great disciples making churches and strong families that place teaching their children Biblical truths as a top priority, but not even the best public schools can strength or encourage their walk with Christ.

3. *Christian teachers in Christian schools are able to "mentor and disciple students, combine a concern for academics, for spiritual growth, and for involvement in all aspects of student life."*

I enjoyed my time as a teacher, coach, and principal in public school, but I was at times frustrated that I was not able to teach a child's "heart." I could improve behavior and study habits at school through rewards, consequences, and relationship, but I was not able to share Biblical truth that might impact the whole child. We could not share prayer requests in class or pray with a student in times of need or anxiety. We were not able to use scripture as the inerrant word of God. This is a big advantage of Christian schools. We are able to teach spiritual, academic, and social lessons by using scripture and prayer.

4. *Christian schools are a "worthwhile investment that keeps on giving throughout your children's lives." It costs money for the privilege of sending kids to private Christian schools. Parents are paying tuition, and they also pay taxes to support the public school.*

I think many people ask the question, "Is it worth it?" when it comes to the financial decisions that have to be made to send children to Christian school. Society and culture are not friendly to a Christian worldview, and the number of hours a student spends in school each year are staggering and formational. Kids often adopt the values and habits of their classmates and teachers. Having peers and role models that seek the Lord helps to encourage kids' own walks with Christ.

Many people invest financially and partner to provide Christian education. Parents invest financially by paying tuition to send their children to Nebraska Christian. The staff invest in the school by being paid lower salaries than their public school counterparts. Finally, a great many others sacrifice financially to try to ensure that the cost for students and families to attend NC does not increase significantly. Through these supporters' financial gifts, students are granted scholarships, staff is paid, and books and supplies are purchased.

5. *Christian schools are "our hope for the future."*

One of the pieces of our mission statement is that we want to teach our students a Biblical worldview. You do not have to watch the news on TV very long or read much of a newspaper to know that society and the world need Christ. Christians need to be willing and able to lead. I agree with Simmons: we need to be training up our young people to make a difference for Christ in their spheres of influence.

"Is it worth it" Are students worth it? Is influencing the world for Christ worth it? YES!