



February 1, 2012

ZCS Blue Note

For more information, please visit our website at www.zcs.org.
334 W. Central Ave. • Ph. (616) 772-2609 • Fax (616) 772-2706 • E-mail zcsinfo@zcs.org

Zeeland Christian is blessed with a great facility. One of the most unique of our facility is the sledding hill which has gotten a lot of use so far this week. I am amazed at the foresight that people in this community had when there were two Zeeland Christian School buildings; the one on Cherry Street and the one here on Central. At that time, they purchased the property at the top of the hill on Central, but also purchased the property at the bottom of the hill. I praise God for the vision and foresight of our parents and grandparents who helped provide such a wonderful facility and property for our students to enjoy. *Bill Van Dyk*

**Blessed to
be a
Blessing**

Calendar

Feb. 2	Threeschool/ Preschool/Young Fives Registration-7:00
Feb. 9	Kindergarten Info. Meeting-7:00
Feb. 13	Kindergarten Registration Begins On-Line-7:00 Current ZCS Preschool Families only
Feb. 16	Kindergarten Registration Begins On-Line-7:00

Athletic Schedule

Go to www.zcs.org/school/activities/team-athletics/ and then scroll down to zcs athletics website to find announcements, dates, and locations of sporting events!

Hot Lunch

Thurs.	A-Hot dog, B-French bread cheese pizza
Fri.	A-Yogurt,cheese,cereal, B-Turkey on bun
Mon.	A-Taco to go, B-Cheesy breadsticks
Tues.	A-Hamburger, B-Jumbo waffle with ham slice
Wed.	A-Roast turkey, B-Chicken nuggets

The cost for hot lunch is \$2 for K-5;
\$2.25 for 6-8; milk is \$.50.

ZCS-A Special Community Mr. and Mrs. Rog Sneller stopped by the office last week. They would like to express their heartfelt thanks for the incredible support that the Zeeland Christian community has provided for their daughter Sarah Vellenga during this very difficult time after her husband's Jim's death over Christmas vacation. I praise God for a community like the one we have and would like to challenge all of us to continue to remember the people in our school family who have faced difficult times and are working through their grief. Please join me in praying that they experience God's grace and our support during these difficult times.

Mandarin Meeting We had a meeting about Mandarin Tuesday night. We will let you know what kind of turn out we had in next week's Blue Note. Please continue to pray for the Board as they make decisions regarding many of our programs here at Zeeland Christian.

Open Registration for Threeschool, Preschool, and Young Fives classes will held on Thursday, February 2 at 7:00 pm in the preschool commons. A non-refundable \$50 deposit is required with the registration. The schedule information is available on our school web site or in the office. This registration is for all programs and all locations. Please help us promote our preschool program by sharing this date with your family, friends, and neighbors who have children of preschool age. In the past, parents have chosen to line up well in advance of the beginning of registration. If you choose to do so, we ask that you sit in the front entryway by the standing stone until school has been dismissed at 3:35 pm and students have cleared the building.

Kindergarten Information Meeting

will be held on Thursday, February 9 at 7:00 pm in the media center. This is an important meeting for parents of students who will be attending kindergarten at ZCS next year and for parents looking for more information on our kindergarten program. We plan to offer an all day/every day option, an all day/alternate day option (2 1/2 days per week), a half-day/every day option and both a morning and an afternoon Spanish immersion option based on interest. Signing up for program preference will be done online, and information for that will be provided at this meeting. If you know of anyone who is thinking of attending Zeeland Christian School, this meeting would be very helpful for them. Information packets will also be available in the office beginning on February 10.

Kindergarten Registration will happen online this year. We **strongly** encourage you to attend the information meeting on Feb. 9 to ensure that you understand this new process. Current preschool families will be able to register beginning at 7:00 pm on February 13. Registration will open to everyone at 7:00 pm on February 16.

University Model Program Update:

We thank God for the success of the program this year due in large part to the incredibly supportive parents and their strong commitment to partnering with the University Model teachers. We are excited to make preparations for the 2012/13 school year and will continue to offer families the one-to-one laptop program, as well as a combination of online and traditional ZCS curriculum. The new 3-day format for all grades will provide families more consistent teaching time both at school and at home. If a family you know is considering his

educational option for their children next year, please encourage them to contact program coordinator Julie Walters (jwaltrs@zcs.org) for additional information or to set up a time to visit the UM classes. The next parent information meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 28 at 7:00 pm in the media center. Anyone interested in learning more about the program is encouraged to attend.

Family Games A special word of thanks to Jan De Jonge and Stacy Deters for organizing our Family Groups. We had game day last week Friday. It was lots of fun to see students in first through eighth grade sharing lunch together and then playing a unique version of Outburst Jr.

Tuition Assistance Once again you may apply for tuition assistance online at www.factstuitionaid.com. You will need to provide information from your 2011 tax return. The deadline to apply is March 15. Families who participate in the Milt Kuyers plan through their church are not eligible for assistance.

FACTS Payments Adjustments If you have any TRIP or church gift credits outstanding, and you want your FACTS payments adjusted, call Linda at 879-0302.

Important Parent Point Information: Attention Parents: If you enjoyed the fundraiser that you received Parent Club Points for this school year and would like to do the same thing next year, please email Jennifer Schafer at jschafer@zcs.org by the end of the school day on Tuesday, Feb. 8. If we do not hear from you before that date, we will assume you do not want to do that activity again, and that spot will become available for open registration. Please note, this is to keep your current spot only, not open sign-up. Sign-up for new spots will happen later in the spring.

The Middle School Band Trip originally scheduled to go to Pella on May 3 and 4 has been changed. Please make note of April 19 and 20 as new dates, and Chicago as the new band trip destination. Details will be coming soon!

Advanced Bussing/Hot Lunch Info Zeeland Public does not have school on Friday, Feb. 17, so we will not have bussing or hot lunch that day. Also, mark your calendars that there will be **no school** on Monday, February 20.

ZCS' Small Talk for Kids A new session for parent and tot Spanish classes through ZCS' immersion program for 0-5 year olds called Small Talk has begun. Spanish classes run every Tuesday from 9:30-10:20 and 10:40-11:30 for 8 weeks beginning January 31 for \$95. Classes are held at ZCS. If you would like to register, please contact Sara Holwerda at sholwerda@charter.net.

Box Top Tips Congratulations! In the month of January you turned in over \$2,000 in box tops for a total of \$3,900 in December and January. Keep collecting during the month of February so we can reach our goal of \$5,500.

Little Caesars order forms will be coming home this week. Check out the yummy choices and stock up! The forms need to be returned on February 14.

Magazine Sale The magazine sale will be starting on February 7. Make sure you hold onto your subscription forms until then!

Lost and Found Please come and check the lost and found. There are several boxes of found hats and mittens. We also have many coats and sweatshirts, and they will all be donated soon!

Volunteers Needed for Tuesday, February 7 for making pig in the blankets. We are looking for 3-4 people to help in the am shift from 8:30-10:45 and also the pm shift from 1:00-3:30. If you can help, please contact Kris DenBleyker at Krisdb@egl.net or 772-4713.

For Sale: Apple dumplings (\$6 per 1/2 dozen), and banket (\$5 per stick) are in the hallway freezer. Please pay the office. Pigs are not available at this time, but will be after Feb. 7.

The 2012 CHAMPS books cost \$25 and are available in the office.

3 on 3 Basketball Tournament will be held Sat., March 24 at Zeeland East High School. Forms are due Feb. 25, and can be found on the ZCS website, in the ZCS or HCS school offices and at the Zeeland Rec. office. Cost is \$80 per team. Questions? Call Hundermans at 875-3713, Mokmas at 875-2253 or Riemersmas at 772-1624.

Question of the Week

What is the history of the sledding hill at Zeeland Christian?

Zeeland Christian purchased the property at the bottom of the hill many years ago. When the property was originally purchased, the hill was full of trees, and made sledding dangerous. In the early 80's the trees were cleared, and the sledding hill opened up so that students could use the hill during school hours. In the late 80's, Zeeland Christian purchased over 200 sleds so that students would not have to bring sleds on the busses and in cars. Today we still supply sleds for the students to use at noon hour and recess and the hill gets a lot of use. The hill is open to the public, and when school is not in session, the city of Zeeland has an insurance policy on the hill which makes it possible for the general public to use, which is a benefit for everyone in town.

TRIP NEWS

To get info for signing up for online ordering of TRIP, go to the ZCS webpage, click on Enrollment, and then click on Tuition Assistance. Next and final TRIP Registration meeting is March 22 at 7:00 pm.

ZCS Shopper

- Mom-2-Mom Sale, Sat. Feb. 4, at Central Wesleyan Church, 8-12. Arranged as a consignment sale so you can shop specifically for what you need. Children's clothing sizes 0-6, toys, equipment, maternity clothes, etc.
- Lakefront cottage for rent on all sports Long Lake, 20 min. east of Ludington. 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, sleeps 12. \$800/wk. 748-0566.
- Free for Pick-up: Piano combined with organ, spinet style. Organ has 15 stops and foot pedals. Piano part needs to be tuned. Call 741-1138.
- Must Sell: 2 bedroom time-share condo in Branson. 5 Star Marriott, week 39. Can be "locked off" into 2 weeks, or trade for a week or 2 elsewhere. Make offer. Call Carolyn at 772-8272.
- House for Rent: The Zuidema's, currently working at Appalachia Reach Out in Inez, KY, are looking for great renters. 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath ranch in Zeeland with finished basement and office. Email: janazuidema@yahoo.com.
- Singer/songwriter Matt Maher in concert Sunday, Feb. 12 at Community Ref. Church at 6 pm. Tickets available at www.communityreformed.org. \$10 advance/\$15 at door.
- Condo for Rent: Crestwood Village, Zeeland. 2 bedroom, 1 stall garage, 55 or older. \$600. Call (616)283-3407.

HELPFUL LINKS:

- To gain valuable ZCS information, go to www.zcs.org
- To view the Blue Note on line, go to ZCS's web site, click on News & Events at the top of the page.
- To subscribe to the Blue Note via email, email your request to bringer@zcs.org
- For a hot lunch menu, go to www.zps.org and click on the Lunch Menu tab at the top of the page.
- For free and reduced cost lunch information and to access your student's lunch account, go to www.zps.org, click on Serving Parents at the left side on the page, and click on Food Service.
- To receive a cell phone or email alert if school is delayed or closed, go to <http://closings.woodtv.com/>
- To access your student's grades, go to www.zcs.org and click on Parent Portal under click links
- To join us on facebook, go to www.facebook.com and search for Zeeland Christian School.