

Zeeland Christian School

www.zcs.org

Telephone: 772-2609 • Absentee Line: 741-0051

Website: www.zcs.org



2016-17
Parent Handbook

November, 2016

Dear Parents and Friends of Zeeland Christian School,

This year we will once again be doing our directory in an electronic format. Please be sure to bookmark it on your computer so you can get to it easily. The purpose of the directory is to connect people in our school family with each other. This year we have about 800 students in grades K-8 and over 300 students in preschool. We also have over 170 students at Holland Christian High School who are part of our school family here at Zeeland Christian. We are thankful for the students and families that are part of our ZCS community.

This year's theme is Selfless from Colossians 3:17.

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The theme for this year presents a challenge for each of us in this community. Our natural inclination is that we do things for the glory that we can get. Because of what Jesus did for us we want to speak and do things that bring the honor and glory to God instead of ourselves. We realize the importance of putting the needs of others before ourselves because of our desire to follow Christ's example of total sacrifice. We pray that this verse and theme drive the actions of the ZCS community throughout this year.

Please join me in praising God for His incredible blessings. Please pray for God's blessings on Zeeland Christian and that we, as a school community, are able to impact our world to the honor of God.

John Buteyn

HOW TO COMMUNICATE CONCERNS

Communication is a vital part of any organization, but it is especially important in a school system that is dealing with the most precious thing in the world, our children. Communication between parents and the school system is vital. As a Christian school, we have a wonderful model that is presented to us in Matthew 18:15-20. Basically, what this model says is that if you have a concern about something or with someone, go to the person that you have the concern with first, sit down with him or her in Christian love, and discuss the concern.

From our experience here at Zeeland Christian, most problems are solved in this way. If that doesn't work, then you bring a witness and try to solve the problem with that person. In the case of a school system, that person would be the school administrator. Please don't ever hesitate to involve the administrator in a situation that you feel has not been resolved to your satisfaction. The next step would be to go to one of the Board committees, most likely the Education Committee. The final step would be to appear before the entire Board with your concern.

As a staff at Zeeland Christian, we dedicate ourselves to educating children to the honor and glory of God. We do that in partnership with the parents and value their comments and concerns. Good communication helps us work together in Christian love.

Zeeland Christian School PARENT HANDBOOK

Zeeland Christian School is a preschool through middle school facility of over 1,100 students. Our curriculum takes the best in recent curriculum studies and adapts it to the needs of this school system. Our program includes physical education, vocal and instrumental music, art, foreign language, and computers. Our Christian beliefs and teachings are at the heart of everything we teach and all our dealings with students.

Society members are defined as families with children attending Zeeland Christian School, grandparents, ZCS graduates, and those who are regular financial and prayer supporters of ZCS.

School Times – Elementary starting time is 8:40 a.m. and school ends at 3:25 p.m. For safety purposes, children who walk to school are dismissed as soon as the buses have left the school grounds. Elementary students will have a short snack break in their classroom in the morning, and outdoor recess will be in the afternoon. Grades K-2 will have lunch from 11:55-12:15 and midday recess from 12:20-12:45. Grades 3-5 will have lunch from 12:00-12:20 and midday recess from 12:20-12:45. Afternoon recess time is 2:05-2:20. **Middle School** begins at 7:35 a.m. and the tardy bell rings at 7:40 a.m. Students are dismissed at 2:30. Lunch is from 11:50-12:20 on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Middle School lunch is from 11:20 - 11:50 on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

School Delays/Cancellations – Zeeland Christian operates on the same schedule as Zeeland Public Schools when there are delays and cancellations. Tune into local radio or TV stations for

updates. When school is delayed for two hours, it means that all buses will run two hours later than scheduled. Hot lunch will be provided as scheduled on delay days. Morning preschool classes will not meet.

Half Days – Throughout the year occasional half days may be scheduled (i.e. Tulip Time). Elementary students are dismissed at 11:50 and middle school at 10:50. There may be times when our half-day schedule does not coincide with Zeeland Public School and transportation will be an issue. Please watch the [Blue Note](#) for important information regarding busing.

Severe Weather – Zeeland Christian has a weather radio that notifies us immediately when a storm watch or warning has been issued. In the event of a tornado watch, children will remain in school with the weather monitored continually. In the event of a tornado warning the children will seek immediate shelter in the school in assigned areas until the warning expires. Parents are allowed to pick up children at any time but students will not be dismissed on their own. In winter, wind chills are taken into consideration and staff will make the decision on how long students go outside. ZCS has a “Sled Shed” housing 300 sleds. Warm winter clothing is a must.

Bus transportation is provided to our students by Zeeland Public Schools. This includes transporting high school students to Holland Christian High School. Questions should be directed to the ZPS Transportation Department at 748-3425.

Pick up/drop off – Parents who drive their children to school may either use the drop off zone in front of the school or park on the street or in the west parking lot and walk their child(ren) into school. Please avoid using the bus drives to pick up or drop off your students.

Student Absentees/Tardys/Vacations and Sign Out Policy – Parents are requested to call the Absentee Line (741-0051) to report students who will be absent or late and the reason for the event. Elementary calls should be received before 9:00 and middle school calls before 8:00. When there is no call in, the office will make a call to your home or work to confirm why a student is not in school. Please let the office know if your family is taking a scheduled vacation. Elementary students leaving the school grounds need to have permission from their teachers. Middle school students are required to sign in and sign out in the school office and should have a note if leaving with someone other than a parent.

Dress Code - The guidelines are very simple: moderation and appropriateness. Some popular styles do not comply with these guidelines so please be thoughtful when buying school clothes.

Hot lunch – Hot lunch is provided by Zeeland Public Schools. Hot lunch envelopes are available in the office. One envelope can be used for each family, listing student names, grades, and the amount of money to be credited to each individual account. There is a green “Lunch Envelope” box on the counter in the office to collect completed envelopes. All checks should be written to [Zeeland Public School](#). Please call ZPS Food Service at 748-3128 if you have questions about your account. You can also add funds to an account using a credit card by going to [Sendmoneytoschool.com](#). There is a \$2 convenience fee for this service. You will need your student’s ID number to set up an account. These are available from ZCS office staff. The link for a monthly menu can be accessed on our [Blue Note](#) or at [zps.org](#).

Support Services-Coordinated by Janelle Sievert and Stacy Deters

- The **Resource Room** program serves many of our students in both elementary and middle school. The program meets the needs of students in many ways: by direct intervention, tutoring, and testing services provided by the Christian Learning Center.
- The **Reading Recovery** program provides first grade students with reading support when needed. It is a very intentional one-on-one program that helps students determine what strategies to use so that they can become lifelong readers. In addition to Reading Recovery, we offer reading support for students in 2nd-5th grade as needed in all of our programs-Spanish, Mandarin, and English.
- **Inclusive Education** is a vital part of our culture here at Zeeland Christian as we desire to be a fully inclusive community for students of all abilities. Zeeland Christian has truly been blessed by this program which works to meet the physical, emotional, social, and academic needs of several students.
- **Psychological Educational Services** can be arranged upon request and are administered by the Christian Learning Center.
- A **counselor** is available to our students one half day per week. She also provides support for students or families who are involved in adoption or foster care.
- A **speech pathologist** is on site several days a week to work with preschool and elementary students who are having difficulty.

Health Services are provided by the Ottawa County Health Department. These include vision screening for students in grades 1, 3, 5, and 7, hearing screening for students in grades K, 2, and 4.

Extracurricular activities – We have a number of programs that are set up for our students. Some of the examples of these programs are Destination ImagiNation, Spelling Bee, and Math Pentathlon.

The **ZCMS athletic program** is an extension of our overall middle school philosophy. The focus of athletics centers on the needs and development of our middle school students spiritually, relationally, and physically. The athletic program allows for a maximum level of student participation in seventh grade, and works as a springboard into high school in eighth grade providing the opportunity for development of basic athletic skills. Both boys and girls have the opportunity to participate in cross-country, tennis, swimming and diving, track, basketball, and soccer. Baseball, football, and lacrosse are offered for boys and softball, volleyball, and competitive cheer for girls. Some sports are offered directly by ZCS and some sports are offered through a co-op with Holland Christian. Joel Nagelkirk is our athletic director.

Voice Mail/E-Mail – All teachers and some assistants at ZCS have voice mail. During school hours, calls to teachers are routed through the main switchboard or go directly to voicemail if the teacher has chosen to give out her/his direct number. After school hours, a menu is available.

E-mail is an easy and efficient way to contact staff members. These addresses are published in this directory.

Bus Passes – Bus passes are not available from teachers or the ZCS office. An arrangement for students to ride buses other than their own requires permission from Zeeland Transportation at 748-3425.

Hilltop Prayer Service – Usually held the first Wednesday after school starts. This is an informal evening where families come early for supper and fellowship. After the supper, a worship service of song and prayer is held on the hill behind school. Lawn chairs or blankets are the seating of choice. There is a brief time to visit classrooms following the service.

PaperGator – Zeeland Christian has a PaperGator in the preschool parking lot. Supporters are welcome to place newspapers, catalogs, magazines, junk mail, phone books, and office or school paper in the container. Please, no plastic, metal, trash, glass, or cardboard (includes cereal boxes).

Tuition Reduction Incentive Program (TRIP) – The purpose of the TRIP program is to provide current and future families of Zeeland Christian School an opportunity to reduce their tuition. Through the TRIP program, gift/merchandise certificates are purchased from participating businesses at a discount. These certificates are sold at face value to families who participate in the program. The discount, or credit, that is earned by TRIP is passed on to the families registered to participate in the program in the form of tuition credit. TRIP registration meetings are held several times a year. These meetings take approximately 30-40 minutes and are required for participation in the TRIP program. Meeting information and any TRIP updates or changes are published in the Blue Note in the “TRIP News” section.

On-line Report Cards and Student Information – Parents can view student progress on-line using Infinite Campus. It is necessary to set up this procedure through the school office. Once you are set up, your account will show you information on all your enrolled children Middle school students also have access to the on-line report card through their own account.

Where can I get more information or information specific to my situation? Our interim principal, Mr. John Buteyn, would be glad to schedule time to talk with you. Please contact the office at 772-2609 to make an appointment. You can also visit our web site at www.zcs.org or e-mail us at zcsinfo@zcs.org.

ZEELAND CHRISTIAN SCHOOL CALENDAR – 2016-17

August 28	Mr. VanDyk Retirement Celebration 1-3p.m. / Staff Worship Service 4 p.m.
August 29	Staff In-Service Day a.m.
August 29	K-8 Open House 1:00-2:00 p.m.
August 29	Band Instrument Rental Meeting 5:30-6:30 p.m.
August 29	Parent Information Meetings 6:30-7:30 p.m. – 1 st -8 th
August 29	Bus Night and Parent Info Meetings – Young Fives & Kindergarten
August 30	K-8 Students Begin – Full Day
August 31	Hilltop Prayer and Praise Service –6:00 p.m. Family Supper; 7:00 p.m.Service
September 2-5	Labor Day Vacation
September 6, 8	Preschool Parent Information Meetings 7:00 p.m.
September 7-9	Sixth Grade Camp
September 10	ZCS Golf Outing
September 12, 13, 16	Threeschool/Preschool/Young Fives Classes Begin
September 12-13	8 th Grade Leadership Camp
September 14-16	7 th Grade Camp
September 15	TRIP Registration Meeting 7:00 p.m.
September 23	Middle School Small Group Activity Day
October 3-5, 7	School Pictures
October 8	Pumpkin Parade
October 11	TRIP Registration Meeting 7:00 p.m.
October 20-21	CEA/MANS Convention – No School
October 25	Fall Festival of Music (5-8 bands and choirs) 7:00 p.m. – ZCS Gym
November 4	Grandparents' Day (Preschool Grandparents' Day also 2 & 3, depending on class schedule)
November 4	End of Marking Period – K-8
November 10	School Picture Retakes
November 15	Elementary Music Program - Community Reformed Church 7:00 p.m.
November 21-22	Parent Teacher Conferences – Evening – K-8 School in session
November 21-22	Preschool Parent Teacher Conferences – NO Preschool – conf. times vary
November 23-25	Thanksgiving Vacation
November 28	Students Return
December 13	Middle School Geography Bee
December 19,21	Jingle Jogs
December 20	Middle School Christmas Concert 7:00 p.m. – ZCS Gym
December 23	Middle School Serve 'n' Skate Day
Dec. 24 – Jan. 8	Christmas Vacation
January 9	Students Return
January 16	Spelling Bee – 9:30 a.m. - ZCS gym
January 16	Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Day – School in session

January 19	Preschool Information Meeting 7:00 p.m.
January 23	End of Semester – No School (Preschool-8 th) – Teacher In-service
January 24	Second Semester Begins
January 26	TRIP registration meeting 7:00 p.m.
January 30	HCHS Showcase 7:00 - 8:15
February 7	Preschool Pre-registration 7:00 p.m.
February 9	Preschool Registration 7:00 p.m.
February 16	Kindergarten Information Meeting 7:00 p.m.
February 20	President’s Day break – No School (Preschool-8 th)
February 21	Music Dept. Solo/Ensemble Night – ZCS Gym
February 23	Kindergarten Registration 7:00 p.m.
March 9-10	Eighth grade play
March 14	2 nd -4 th Grade Musical - Community Reformed 7:00 p.m.
March 16	Society Meeting 7:00 p.m.
March 17	End of Marking Period – K-8
March 18	3 on 3 Basket Breakers - tentative
March 20	Parent/Teacher Conferences – No School (Preschool-8 th)
March 21	Parent/Teacher Conferences – K-8 School in session (No Preschool)
March 21	TRIP registration meeting 7:00 p.m.
March 31- April 9	Spring Vacation
April 10	Students Return
April 18	Middle School Info Meeting
April 21	Auction
April 24	Spring Band & Choir – 7 th -8 th 7:00 p.m. - ZCS Gym
April 25	7 th /8 th Grade Band Trip
April 29	7 th Grade Car Wash to Benefit Grace Christian School
May 5	Fun Night
May 10	Tulip Time, Half day school wide (No a.m. or p.m. Preschool)
May 11	Tulip Time – Half day for 7 th /8 th Grade Band only
May 12	Market Day
May 15	Transition Meetings – No fieldtrips
May 16	Transition Meetings – No fieldtrips
May 16	5 th /6 th grade Band & Choir Concert – ZCS Gym
May 20	ZCS Zip
May 22-25	Preschool (4s)/Young Fives Graduations
May 24-26	Last Day of Threeschool/Preschool/Young Fives (Park Parties)
May 29	Memorial Day Vacation/Parade
May 30	Students Return
May 31	Eighth Grade Class Trip
June 2	8 th Grade Banquet (Faith CRC)
June 5	Family Games (June 7 rain date)
June 8	Sixth and Seventh Grade Class Trips
June 8	End of Semester/School Year – Full Day K-5

June 9

Teacher In-Service

Zeeland Christian School

Enrollment Statistics

Grade	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
Threeschool	94	118	98
Preschool	197	163	208
Young Fives	15	20	22
Kindergarten	91	105	85
First Grade	80	95	104
Second Grade	79	85	95
Third Grade	74	81	88
Fourth Grade	84	77	84
Fifth Grade	65	86	81
Sixth Grade	81	71	88
Seventh Grade	69	83	71
Eighth Grade	62	71	84
School/Home Collaborative	23	15	15
Totals	1,014	1,070	1,123

Zeeland Christian School

Voluntary Enrichment and Extension Activities

The following is a list of voluntary enrichment and extension activities that are available to Zeeland Christian School students during the school year.

Language Arts/Social Studies

Young Author's Celebration – 1-5

Spelling Bee – 5-8

March is Reading Month – K-5

Book-It – K-5

Geography Bee – 6-8

Math

Math Pentathlon – 2-7

Art

Royal Park Art Show – 3-8

Zeeland Hospital Show – 3-8

Office Display – 4-5

Performing Arts

Elementary Musical

Eighth Grade Play (March)

Music

8th Grade Worship Team-by audition

Choir – Choir is a weekly part of the curriculum for grades 1-8. All choir students perform at different concerts throughout the year.

Band – Cadet Band is an elective for beginning students in fifth grade. Cadet Band meets early mornings before the start of the elementary school day.

Concert Band is an elective for sixth grade students who have some playing experience.

Both of these bands perform at several concerts during the year. In addition, they combine to march in the annual Memorial Day parade in Zeeland. Students in sixth grade may audition to become majorettes for this event.

Symphonic Band is open to seventh and eighth grade students with playing experience. They perform several concerts throughout the school year. They also participate in several parades. (Pumpkinfest, Tulip Festival, Memorial Day). Seventh and eighth grade students may audition to become a majorette or color guard.

Physical Activities

Girls Running Club and Boys Running Club – 3-6

Intramurals – 5-8

100 Miler Club – 6-8

After school athletic program – 7-8

Track and field – boys and girls – 7-8

Basketball – boys and girls – 7-8

Soccer – boys and girls – 7-8

Volleyball – girls – 7-8

Baseball – boys – 7-8 (combined)

Softball – girls – 7-8 (combined)

Cooperative programs with Holland Christian Middle – football, lacrosse, swimming, cross country, tennis – 7-8

There are no cuts for seventh grade teams or track and field. There are cuts for the combined seventh and eighth grade teams for baseball and softball. There are cuts for the eighth grade team.

World Language Learning

Small Talk – ages 0-5

Other

Destination Imagination – 4 and up

Yearbook – eighth grade

Athletic Director – Joel Nagelkirk

Boys:

7th soccer - Samantha Snellink

8th soccer - Vince Hutt

7th boys basketball - Zachary Steffen, Alex Nienhuis, and Tyler Dykstra

8th basketball - Mark VanDenBerg

7th baseball - TBD

8th baseball - Chris Lowe

7th/8th track - TBD

Girls:

7th soccer - Brittany Van Byssum

8th soccer - Vince Hutt

7th basketball - TBD

8th basketball - Joel Nagelkirk

7th volleyball - Kendra Dozeman/Lisa VandeVorde

8th volleyball - Susan Miller

Track - TBD

**Zeeland Christian School
Parents' Club
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2016**

Beginning Balance, July 1, 2015 **\$23,309.52**

Fundraising Receipts:

3 on 3 Basketball	10028.71
Auction	100422.30
Box Tops for Education	6914.09
Catering	5428.97
Flower Sale - Walters	748.00
HMI Picnic	1150.00
Magazine Sale	5644.92
Christmas Home Tour	2171.53
Parent Club Dues	2150.00
Pigs/Apple Dumplings/Banquet	4373.23
Wrapping Paper Sale	1720.49
Target (Take Charge of Education)	1710.02
ZCS Zip	3488.85

Total Fundraising Receipts: **\$148,951.11**

Total Balance and Receipts **\$172,260.63**

Expenses:

Check to ZCS General Fund 6/10/16	\$135,000.00
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Total Expenses: **\$135,000.00**

Ending Balance, June 30, 2016 **\$37,260.63**

Submitted by Jennifer Schafer, Volunteer Coordinator

Zeeland Christian School

Parents' Club

Calendar 2016-2017

SEPTEMBER

Golf Outing

Nick and Sarah Terpstra, Jim and Kelli Huisenga
Nate and Claire Baumann

OCTOBER

Wrapping Paper Sale Jennifer Schafer

DECEMBER, JANUARY

FEBRUARY

Box Tops

Jennifer Schafer

FEBRUARY

Magazine Sale

Jennifer Schafer

MARCH

3-on-3 Basketball
Tournament

Chad and Marianne Hunderman
Mitch and Kate Machiela, Ted and Kristi Patrick

APRIL

Auction

Chris and Laurie Wierda, Dan and Tonya Mannes,
Natalie Huizenga, Steve and Kathy Langeland

JUNE

Herman Miller Picnic Val Snoeyink, Brenda Van Dyke

ONGOING

Baked Goods

Allison Kruithof, Marcie Leegwater

Hospitality

Mary Van Dam

Zeeland Christian School - Church Representation

All Saint's Episcopal	LaGrave CRC
Bauer CRC	Lakeshore Vineyard
Beaverdam CRC	Life Quest
Beaverdam Reformed	Macedonia Baptist
Beechwood Reformed	Maple Ave. Ministries
Bethany CRC	Maranatha CRC
Borculo CRC	Mars Hill Bible
Calvary Baptist	Messiah's Indep. Reformed
Calvary CRC	Moran Park
Calvary Reformed	New Community 4th Reformed
Cedar Church OPC	New Life Fellowship OPC
Central Ave. CRC	Niekerk CRC
Central Wesleyan	Noordeloos CRC
Christ Memorial	North Holland Reformed
Christ Our Redeemer	North Street CRC
Christ Our Savior	Oakland CRC
Community Reformed	Our Lady of the Lake
Corner Bible Church	Overisel Reformed
Cornerstone United Reformed	Parc CRC
Covenant United Reformed	Pillar
Daybreak Community	Providence CRC
Drenthe CRC	Resurrection Life
Eagle's Wings Church	Ridge Point Community
East Saugatuck CRC	River of God
Ebenezer Reformed	Searchlight Ministries
Engedi	South Olive CRC
Evergreen Ministries	Southside Church of Christ
Faith CRC	St. Francis de Sales
Faith Reformed	St. Mary's
Faith United Reformed	St. James
Fellowship Reformed - Hudsonville	The Foundry
First Allendale CRC	The Point
First Baptist	Third CRC
First CRC	Third Reformed
First Reformed - Byron Center	Trinity Reformed
First Reformed - Zeeland	Trinity URC
First United Methodist	Victory Point Ministries
Gateway Community	Vriesland Reformed
Georgetown CRC	
Harvest Bible Chapel - West Olive	
La Casa de mi Padre	