



ZEELAND
CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL

Annual Society Meeting

March 15, 2018

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**Annual Society Meeting
Thursday, March 15, 2017 - 7:00 P.M.**

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| I. | Opening Prayer and Devotions | Chad Geenen
Board President |
| II. | Minutes of the 2016 Annual Society Meeting
(Presented for information only, page 3) | Lori Slenk
Board Secretary |
| III. | President's Report
(Presented for information only, page 4) | Chad Geenen
Board President |
| IV. | Finance Committee Report
(Presented for information only, page 5-6) | Chris Lamer
Board Treasurer |
| V. | Report on which nominees received at least 50 percent of the vote
(See pages 7-10) | |
| | 2018 Nominees: Geoffrey Bremer, Krista Brower, Ann Hemmeke, Steve Langeland, Travis Senik, and Lisa Timmer | |
| VI. | Select new Board members | |
| VII. | Report on number of votes for and/or against budget proposal
(See pages 11-13) | Chris Lamer
Finance Committee |
| VIII. | Fundraising and Planned Giving Report
(Presented for information only, see page 14) | Peter Jenkins
Dir. of Adv. and Communication |
| IX. | Head of School Report
(Presented for information only, see pages 15-22) | Tim McAboy
Head of School |

2017 Society Meeting
March 9, 2017
Zeeland Christian School

1. Opening Prayer and Devotions - Brian VandenBrink, Board President and Jim Heeres
2. Notice made of the 2016 Annual Society Meeting minutes in the Annual Society packet, submitted by Vicki Zylstra, Board Secretary
3. Notice made of the 2017 President's Report in the Annual Society packet, submitted by Brian VandenBrink, Board President
4. Budget Report and 2017-2018 Budget:
 - a. The Finance Committee Report, including the 2017-2018 proposed budget, was presented by Chad Geenen, Board Treasurer
 - b. Per the votes cast, the 2017-2018 budget was approved. This notice was made by Brian VandenBrink, Board President.
5. 2017 Board Member Voting:
 - a. Review of the new board nominations process
 - b. 2017 Returning Members were presented: Jim Heeres & Lori Slenk
 - c. Five Nominees were presented as approved candidates by the Society: Tom Bouwens, Betsy Koop, Chris Lamer, Shanda Sprick, Daniel Woolsey
 - d. Online voting occurred and paper ballots were available for voting.
 - e. From the five approved candidates, names four names were drawn from an envelope by lot. Chosen: Tom Bouwens, Betsy Koop, Chris Lamer, Daniel Woolsey.
6. Fundraising and planned giving report – Peter Jenkins, Dir of Communication and Advancement
7. Principal's Report – John Buteyn, Principal
 - a. Highlights: Extended Care, Heather Mulder
 - b. The Inclusive Education program
 - c. The valuable counseling services available to the ZCS students.
8. Update on the New Head of School – Tim McAboy – by Brian VandenBrink.
 - a. Leadership and the Executive team are enjoying regular conversations with Tim.
 - b. Tim planned arrival in Zeeland is mid-June, after he completes his service at Wheaton.
9. Open Forum
 - a. Comment of thanks to the board for their work throughout the past year
 - b. Comment that prayers are being offered for the board, staff, and ZCS community
 - c. Comment of appreciation for the Moms in Prayer group that so faithfully meets to pray for different groups within ZCS and the ZCS family.

President's Report
February 27, 2018

Greetings ZCS Family,

The 2018 Annual Society meeting is shortly upon us. We welcome you to join us at 7:00pm, Thursday March 15th for an open meeting to give you an update on Zeeland Christian School. As I reflect on serving on the board for almost five years, it amazes me how far God has carried us. He has brought us to a place of excellence, reconciliation, hope and inspiration for students, faculty and families at ZCS. It has been such a privilege to work with Brian Vanden Brink, who has faithfully and humbly served as the Board President for the past five years. All I can say is "*Thank You.*"

The ZCS board has been for me personally a great blessing. I have had the privilege of working with some of the most wise, Godly, and dedicated people that I've ever met. We have shared many laughs and some tears, but most importantly, we have shared a passion for Zeeland Christian. Every meeting and every decision has been covered in prayer. I am grateful to you as a society for entrusting us with this great responsibility that has also been a great privilege.

This past year, it has been particularly encouraging and inspiring to work with Tim McAboy as the new Head of School at ZCS. Tim first stepped into this role this past June and has been leading the faculty and staff incredibly well. I really appreciate Tim's endless positive attitude for meeting new people and promoting the mission of ZCS. Under his leadership, the faculty have been inspired to further their academic excellence through teacher evaluations and thorough program evaluations. There are so many great things happening in all of our programs from Traditional, Spanish, Mandarin, Inclusive Education, Preschool, and School Home Collaborative.

As we look to the future, we will continue to press into the mission of ZCS of *challenging young minds, nurturing young spirits and encouraging obedience to Jesus Christ.* Thank you for all of your support and prayers.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees,



Chad Geenen
Board President

Finance Committee Report To Society

The Finance Committee meets once a month to go over Zeeland Christian's financial statements. The Finance Committee also looks specifically at tuition revenue and makes contact with people who are falling behind. The Finance Committee also spends time looking at ways to contain the cost of education here at Zeeland Christian and makes sure that all our funds are spent in a stewardly way.

Income at Zeeland Christian comes from many sources like SMP (Sustaining Membership Plan), individual gifts, and gifts from businesses. We also have an active Parents' Club that raises over \$140,000 every year. The reality of our budget is that the biggest percent of our income, approximately 87 percent, comes from tuition receipts. As a Finance Committee, we'd like to thank everyone who has supported Zeeland Christian so generously in the past year.

Information from the Finance Committee

- Salaries

The staff at Zeeland Christian will receive a 2.0 percent increase this year, both in the base pay and in the increments, which is pay for experience up to 14 years.

- Insurance

The projection from CSI is that insurance costs will remain flat from this year. That is based on Zeeland Christians' history of claims and the group of which we are a part. Zeeland Christian staff has an HSA insurance plan. The teachers pay 20 percent of the premium. This plan is through Priority Health.

- Maintenance

Our building is in excellent shape, but there are a few things that need to be taken care of over the next few years. These include roof replacement for the original 1940s/50s building and also for the 1989 addition, along with the preschool parking lot.

- Computer Equipment

Our One To One Laptop Program and technology in every classroom is a huge blessing, but there are costs associated. We defray some of the costs by charging a \$150 fee for middle school students. This helps cover about a third of a cost of a laptop over its life expectancy.

- High School

Holland Christian is projecting a 3.0 percent tuition increase for next school year.

- Endowment

The Endowment Fund is over \$4.0 million. The significant growth is due to a generous gift of \$1.7 million received from Gerrit Schreur a couple years ago.

- Class Sizes

The Board continues to look at classes here at Zeeland Christian and walk the fine line between classes that are too small, and therefore expensive, and classes that are too big and are not as effective as they should be.

- Sliding Scale

The family mix in our sliding scale has a significant impact on tuition revenue.

- Ditto

Ditto continues to grow. We praise God for the amazing support that we get from ditto. During the year that we're presently in, Zeeland Christian will receive approximately \$200 per student from ditto. For 2018/19, this amount is expected to be \$300 per student. As a result of paying off their building debt, Ditto is able to increase the amount per student by \$100.

- Tuition

Based on the above information, the School Board is projecting an increase in the cost of education of approximately 3.25 percent. This is reflected in the tuition schedule.

- Upgraded Student Billing Software.

For the 2018/19 school year, parents will see changes in how they pay and manage their tuition account. SMART Tuition is web based tuition management software that is integrated with ZCS's accounting software. SMART offers tuition and fees invoicing and payment processing for the school. All parents/families will have online account access to their accounts including checking balances and making payments. This will replace the current FACTS tuition payment processing.

As a Finance Committee we are willing to help any families that are facing financial hardship. If you have questions about the kind of help that we can provide, please don't hesitate to contact the school office and ask for Mike Arendsen for additional information.

Additional details on the budget and tuition schedule are shown on pages 10-11.

ZCS Board Nominees



Geoffrey Bremer and his wife Erin are members of Engedi Church.

ZCS Affiliation: Geoffrey is a parent of three ZCS students: Grady - 5th, Charlotte - 2nd, and Callan - Kindergarten.

Occupation: Geoffrey is an accountant.

Thoughts on Christian Education: We are called to different areas of expertise and have all been uniquely made. Through an individual's K-8 years, students are able to understand these areas and uniqueness-es. Without providing this discernment through the Christian lens, students are left to wonder and struggle through these years without Christ's guidance and understanding of His plan for them. Christian education is uniquely situated to affect this student's understanding of themselves, and prepare them

for their high school and college years. It will take a strong Christian Education institution to assist students in their understanding of God's plan for them, and prepare our students for industries and vocations of the future, but continue to do so through a Christ-Focused lens.



Krista Brower and her husband Ross are members of Haven Christian Reformed Church.

ZCS Affiliation: Krista is a parent of three ZCS students: Avery - 5th, Cora - 3rd, and Ty - 2nd and a foster parent to their foster daughter in Threeschool.

Occupation: Krista is a behavior consultant at Ottawa Area Intermediate School District

Thoughts on Christian Education: Since I grew up attending Christian schools, I have always had an appreciation of them. I believe that the Christian schools that I attended gave me a wonderful knowledge base and strengthened my faith. When we had children, we had to decide whether the sacrifices needed to make Christian education work for our children were worth it. We decided that there was absolutely no better investment to make than

giving our children a firm foundation in their beliefs in Christ. Since our kids have been attending Zeeland Christian, we have never regretted our decision. From the songs that our children come home singing, to the conflicts that are worked out with Biblical wisdom at school, it is such an incredible blessing to have this support for us as we raise our children to know and love Christ. I feel like having Christ's love woven through every aspect of their day is invaluable!



Ann Hemmeke and husband Brian are members of First Baptist Church in Zeeland.

ZCS Affiliation: Ann is a parent of two ZCS students: Tyler - 5th and Elise - 1st .

Occupation: Ann is an optometrist.

Thoughts on Christian Education: Having attended a public school for all of my educational experiences, Christian education is rather new to me. What drew my family to Zeeland Christian was the unique programming that was offered with such a commitment to excellence. The icing on the cake was that it offered it from a Christian perspective that aligns with our worldview. In a culture increasingly hostile to the Gospel, it is becoming more critical for Christian schools to remain true to God's Word and not water it down or alter it to make it seemingly more

palatable. When we first enrolled our son in Kindergarten, we underestimated the power of having him exposed to the Gospel throughout his school days and we appreciate knowing that ZCS is staying true to God's Word. We feel we are getting the best of both worlds: wonderful educational opportunities and a Biblically-based education targeting the heart and the mind of the child. From my perspective, a challenge facing Christian education in general is making it affordable enough to attract all segments of the population and then embracing them into the community, should they enroll. Christian schools are in a unique position to be able to offer distinctive programming and use these programs to bring the message of grace and salvation to a hurting world.



Steve Langeland and his wife Kathy are members of Third Christian Reformed Church.

ZCS Affiliation: Steve is the parent to two Holland Christian High School students and one ZCS student: Nolan - 8th.

Occupation: Steve is a funeral director.

Thoughts on Christian Education: Having attended ZCS and HCHS there was no question as to where our boys would go to school. I feel that having our kids learn in a Christ centered environment not only helps them to be better Christians but also helps them to show love to others outside the walls of the school. The sacrifices made to make christian education possible are very well worth it.



Travis Senik and his wife Corah are members of Ridge Point Community Church.

ZCS Affiliation: Travis is a parent to three ZCS students: Reagan - 2nd, Grant - Kindergarten, and Paige in Threeschool.

Occupation: Travis is in medical sales.

Thoughts on Christian Education: I think I have a unique perspective of Christian education as I spent K-12 in the California public school system and then my collegiate years at Wheaton College and one year working at Gordon College as the men's assistant basketball coach. The Christian education experience, specifically at a young age, is one that I have come to value immensely as I have witnessed the spiritual growth within my three children. A Christian education should be one of excellence, challenging

our children in all studies, but should also have the highest value in moral and spiritual instruction based on the Bible. Of course, Christ should always be at the center of instruction.



Lisa Timmer and her husband Louis are members of Ridge Point Community Church.

ZCS Affiliation: Lisa is the parent of three adult children whom are all ZCS alum.

Occupation: Manager at ditto upscale resale

Thoughts on Christian Education: I realize how blessed I am to have been able to attend ZCS and HCHS. I am also thankful that my children were able to have that same experience. I believe that God is the center of all we do and who we are and ZCS teaches our children to love God and give Him the honor and glory for everything! I love God, love kids, and love how ZCS realizes that each child has been created unique and in His image.

Proposed Budget for the 2018-2019 School Year

Revenues	Proposed Budget 2018-19	Budget 2017-18	Expenditures	Proposed Budget 2018-19	Budget 2017-18
Tuition			Instruction		
K-12 Net Tuition	\$6,139,000	\$5,846,000	Elementary, Middle School	\$3,174,452	\$2,932,694
Preschool Tuition	\$382,000	\$355,000	High School (Tuition to HC)	\$1,620,000	\$1,502,000
Total Tuition	\$6,521,000	\$6,201,000	Preschool	\$473,871	\$453,184
			CLC	\$538,322	\$550,170
Contribution Revenue			School Home Collaborative	\$72,750	\$69,961
Ditto	\$291,600	\$187,600	Total Instruction	\$5,879,395	\$5,508,009
Industrial Drive	\$20,000	\$0			
Churches and Special Collections	\$18,000	\$18,000	Instructional Support		
Other Gifts and Donations	\$32,500	\$32,500	Professional Development	\$61,000	\$51,000
Total Contribution Revenue	\$362,100	\$238,100	Library	\$4,000	\$4,000
			Technology	\$221,409	\$213,961
Generated and Transfers			School Administration	\$371,111	\$369,450
Activity Fees	\$103,460	\$99,000	Total Instructional Support	\$657,520	\$638,411
Rentals	\$9,000	\$9,000			
Other and Miscellaneous	\$73,200	\$78,200	Support Services		
from Endowment	\$55,000	\$55,000	Advancement/Promotions	\$110,215	\$105,241
from School Circles	\$135,000	\$135,000	Business	\$216,689	\$212,832
from Tuition Assistance	\$110,000	\$110,000	Business Other (Insurance/Contingency)	\$184,960	\$175,413
from Special Needs	\$23,000	\$23,000	Buildings and Grounds	\$410,153	\$403,102
from Other & Activity	\$130,000	\$157,000	Extra Curricular	\$56,830	\$56,793
Total Generated and Transfers	\$638,660	\$666,200	Transportation	\$6,000	\$5,500
			Total Support Services	\$984,845	\$958,880
Total Revenue	\$7,521,760	\$7,105,300	Total Expenditures	\$7,521,760	\$7,105,300

Highlights of the Proposed 2018-2019 Budget

- Our budgeted enrollment projection for the 2018-2019 school year is 1,230 students. The projection assumes an increase of 31 students in grades K-12 and assumes no change in the preschool enrollment level of 260 students..
- The proposed budget reflects a 3.25% increase in tuition.
- Non-tuition revenues make up of 13% of the budget with tuition making up the 87% balance.
- The budget reflects a 2.0% salary increase overall, experience step increases for eligible staff within the range recommendations by Christian Schools International (CSI).
- Health insurance and related benefit costs are budgeted flat, with no changes to current benefits.
- The budget accounts for the staffing costs to accommodate current enrollment estimates.
- The Ditto contribution is expected at \$300 per student totaling \$292,000 for ZCS.
- In 2017-18, many ZCS families donated “their” portion of the Ditto grant back to the school which totaled \$37,500 (an increase of \$6,600 over the amount donated in 16-17). This amount has been added to the allocation to support tuition assistance for 2017-18.
- The 2017-2018 budget is projected to maintain the positive fund balance position.

Tuition Schedule for the 2018-2019 School Year

The proposed tuition schedule for the 2018-19 school year includes a 3.25% increase from the 2017-2018 schedule amounts. The tuition table below breaks out the tuition amounts based on number of students and grade level configurations. The table also shows increases per child, both yearly and monthly.

Elementary and Middle School (K-8)	2017-18	Proposed 2018-19	Per Child Increase	Proposed 2018-19 Monthly	Proposed 2018-19 Quarterly
1 Child	\$8,308	\$8,579	\$271	\$714.92	\$2,144.75
2 Children	\$12,461	\$12,866	\$203	\$1,072.17	\$3,216.50
3 Children	\$15,369	\$15,869	\$167	\$1,322.42	\$3,967.25
4 Children	\$17,446	\$18,013	\$142	\$1,501.08	\$4,503.25
5 Children	\$19,038	\$19,657	\$124	\$1,638.08	\$4,914.25
6 Children	\$22,846	\$23,589	\$124	\$1,965.75	\$5,897.25
High School (Grades 9-12)					
1 Child	\$10,535	\$10,878	\$343	\$906.50	\$2,719.50
2 Children	\$16,153	\$16,678	\$263	\$1,389.83	\$4,169.50
3 Children	\$20,016	\$20,667	\$217	\$1,722.25	\$5,166.75
Combinations					
G1, H1	\$14,446	\$14,916	\$235	\$1,243.00	\$3,729.00
G1, H2	\$18,606	\$19,211	\$202	\$1,600.92	\$4,802.75
G1, H3	\$21,952	\$22,666	\$179	\$1,888.83	\$5,666.50
G2, H1	\$17,195	\$17,754	\$186	\$1,479.50	\$4,438.50
G2, H2	\$20,570	\$21,239	\$167	\$1,769.92	\$5,309.75
G2, H3	\$23,306	\$24,064	\$152	\$2,005.33	\$6,016.00
G3, H1	\$19,058	\$19,678	\$155	\$1,639.83	\$4,919.50
G3, H2	\$21,846	\$22,556	\$142	\$1,879.67	\$5,639.00
G3, H3	\$27,321	\$28,209	\$148	\$2,350.75	\$7,052.25
G4, H1	\$20,424	\$21,088	\$133	\$1,757.33	\$5,272.00
G4, H2	\$25,793	\$26,632	\$140	\$2,219.33	\$6,658.00
G5, H1	\$24,735	\$25,539	\$134	\$2,128.25	\$6,384.75

Student Technology Fees for 2018-2019 (in addition to tuition) will remain at current amounts:

- \$150/technology fee - grades 6-8
- \$380/high school activity fee - grades 9-12

Note Regarding the Tuition Schedule

Zeeland Christian School is a covenantal family made up of many parents and guardians. Many years ago the School Board decided it would implement a *sliding tuition schedule* that would allow parents with more children to pay a lower percent of the cost of education. What this means at the present time is that a family with one child pays more than 100 percent of the cost of education and a family with more children pays less than 100 percent.

Enrolling at ZCS makes you a member of the ZCS Society. As a member of this Society, we are asking that you commit to this sliding scale until your child(ren) leave the ZCS school system. That may be in eighth grade or upon graduation from high school at Holland Christian. This way we can continue to provide this service for our families and continue to provide quality education for the children in this

community. Thank you!

Advancement Update

The ZCS Advancement Office has four main functions:

- Assist individuals and businesses in the donation of gifts and services
- Organize and facilitate the ZCS Parent Club
- Oversee the ZCS Endowment Fund
- Tell the ZCS story

The ZCS Society was generous to the students at Zeeland Christian School in 2017. A few of the highlights include:

Stronger Together: We are \$130,000 away from paying off our middle school expansion. Please consider a gift towards this amount so we can celebrate being a debt free school!

Year End Giving: Our 2017 year end campaign raised over \$230,000! Thank you to our generous Society who supports ZCS throughout the year. Nearly \$100,000 of these funds was directed towards tuition assistance. Praise God for providing through all of you.

Parent Club: The ZCS Parent Club utilizes the “Parent Points” system to conduct fundraisers for the school. During the 2016-2017 school year, the Parent Club raised just over \$130,000. That includes the auction which raised just under \$100,000! A major thank you to Jen Schafer and her team for all their efforts in making the ZCS Auction such a success.

In addition to supporting the initiatives listed above, ZCS families and friends gave money to Philippines Student Sponsorship, El Puente, the Genzink Grant, Tuition Assistance, the General Fund, Kevin Witte Memorial and many other initiatives.

We are grateful for the support of the ZCS Society!

To God be the glory.

Updated by Peter Jenkins (Dir. of Communication and Advancement)

Principal's Report
March 9, 2017

I. Present Enrollment Information:

Threeschool	92	First	82	Fifth	83
Preschool	184	Second	103	Sixth	80
Young Fives	14	Third	94	Seventh	86
Kindergarten	83	Fourth	84	Eighth	67
School Home Collaborative 17					

II. Facilities

Zeeland Christian has been blessed with beautiful and very functional facilities. The multiple additions over the years have, not only provided additional space, but the new spaces have been designed with our goals in educating the students taken into consideration. Paul Meeuwesen, along with our custodial staff, do a wonderful job maintaining the school plant with daily cleaning and maintenance.

Zeeland Christian School began in 1915 when the School Society purchased property on the corner of Cherry and State. In the late 1940s, the school added a building on Central Avenue, and then in 1982 moved the entire program to the Central Avenue location where it has been since then. Zeeland Christian has 130,107 square feet of education space. We are blessed with outside space which allows for a variety of outdoor activities for our students during recess times. Our property has a winter sledding hill, baseball diamond, soccer field, and many pieces of playground equipment. Zeeland Christian's property is used not only by Zeeland Christian but also by Zeeland Recreation and the rest of the community.

The halls and walls of Zeeland Christian tell the story of God's faithfulness. When you walk through the school, you will see many murals and Bible verses on the walls in the hallways and in the classrooms. When people come into our building, we want not only the staff and students to tell the story of God's faithfulness, but also the walls and halls. Our educational facility reflects our faith, beginning with the standing stone in the front hallway, which reminds us to tell stories of God's greatness. There's also a stained glass window in the front hallway that shows children at Jesus' feet and reminds us that that is our goal - to bring kids to the feet of Jesus. In the front entry on Central Avenue there is a mural that shows how the Holy Spirit needs to fill the hearts and souls of everyone in this building. In the latest addition, the story of God's faithfulness is evidenced through posters that tell the stories of influential people and events in the life of Zeeland Christian as well as displays of murals and themes that have been our focus over the last 20 years. There are small standing stones from former 8th grade students that testify to the growth they each have experienced in their faith. We are blessed to have a room that is specifically dedicated to prayer that is used by classes, groups of students, and parents. By

walking the halls and rooms of Zeeland Christian you have the opportunity to see our Christian faith expressed in a variety of ways.

III. Preschool

Our preschool program serves a large number of families in the Zeeland and surrounding communities. We offer many schedule and language options for parents of three, four, and five-year-olds. Our English program continues to be the foundation of our preschool, and parents are thrilled with the love, care, learning, and spiritual development their children receive. The Mandarin and Spanish immersion programs continue to be well-received options for parents enrolling their children in preschool who are looking for second language learning. The Drenthe site has been a great opportunity to serve a growing area to the southeast of Zeeland. Zeeland Christian's preschool program is often a first experience with Christian education for many families, and we are privileged to share our love of God with the kids in our preschool classes.

IV. Extended Care

Extended Care is our childcare program designed for students in threeschool-5th grade. We offer childcare from 7:15 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. By offering various childcare options for families, we are meeting the needs of many parents who otherwise would have a hard time sending their children to ZCS because of scheduling concerns. Next year we will offer full day care for families with preschoolers so that they can have their child at ZCS 5 days a week if needed.

V. Literacy Support Services

Four ZCS teachers have been trained in Reading Recovery. Currently, Sherri Tibbe is the Reading Specialist, K-5 Lead Teacher and Language Arts Curriculum chairperson. Sherri services the English first grade classrooms in reading support, and services the kindergarten through fifth grade classrooms with literacy support. She oversees Vicki Bouman's work in grades 3-5, as well as Shirley Medina's work with Spanish Immersion students in grades 2-5. Judy Zwiep and Marianne Raitz are trained and use their knowledge while teaching in first grade classrooms. Marianne Raitz and Matilde Gonzalez are also servicing the first grade classrooms with Spanish reading support.

VI. Counseling Program

We have been blessed with an excellent counseling program here at Zeeland Christian. Caryn Navis, LMSW provides counseling for students at Zeeland Christian School. Mrs. Navis also supports families who are involved in adoption or foster care. Zeeland Public Schools provides social workers to support some of our students as needed.

VII. Support Services

The resource room program continues to meet the needs of many students, teachers, and parents through assessment, support, and direct instruction. This program, with support from CLC Network, offers help for about 40 students with learning disabilities and other learning-related concerns.

The inclusive education program is a part of Zeeland Christian's educational support services as well. We offer programming for children who have a variety of disabilities. Children with autism spectrum disorder, intellectual disabilities, physical disabilities, emotional needs, and other developmental delays can find a place of acceptance and belonging in the heart of the general education classrooms. Friendships and educational growth take place each day as we live together as one body in Christ.

We currently serve over 80 children as part of this program. We have well-trained staff members who daily meet their needs. In partnership with CLC Network and support from Zeeland Public Schools, this program has shown tremendous growth over the years.

VIII. Language Immersion

Zeeland Christian has continued its Spanish Immersion Program, now in its twelfth year. The program currently enrolls students in three-year-old preschool to eighth grade. Our Mandarin Chinese Immersion Program, currently in its sixth year, has students in preschool through sixth grade. In an immersion classroom, the teachers and students engage in all academic and classroom interaction in the target language while meeting the same curriculum goals as the students in traditional classrooms. Immersion pedagogy guides students to develop proficiency in Spanish or Mandarin. Formal English instruction begins in third grade through the medium of Social Studies for three class periods a week. The time spent in English gradually increases through the grade levels. Throughout middle school, students continue to receive several hours each day of curriculum instruction in the target language to improve their fluency and expand their vocabulary and cognitive ability in the target language. The immersion staff is committed to immerse children in various languages and cultures in order for them to be better equipped to interact with and to demonstrate Christ's love to our increasingly global community. Our program model is being used in many other schools around the country and continues to be supported by add.a.lingua.

IX. Technology in Education

ZCS has a passion to integrate technology into learning. Over the last several years, we have been intentional in placing technology into the hands of the students. Giving the students connected devices has allowed us to incorporate technology in the regular classrooms at any time of the day. Information is now at our fingertips and we have increased the ability for students to collaborate with each other and communicate with teachers. We continue to change as we look for ways in which students can reach out beyond our school walls and place their work on a larger stage. Technology is becoming a larger part of all of our lives. We want to continue to look for ways in which technology can change and reform this world for Christ. Technologies that help classes around the world connect are part of the vision for technology in the years to come. We want our technology to encourage the

desire of teachers and students have to make those connections.

X. Music Education

Music education is a vital part of the ZCS student's experience. General music classes in grades K-5 meet once per week to teach students how to enjoy, understand, and explain the music they experience. Also, as part of their general music class, students in grade 4 experience playing instruments through the addition of a recorder unit. Because singing is such a natural way to express themselves, and to worship the Creator, all students in grades 1-8 are also required to have a choir experience, which is geared toward developing the singing skills they have been given. These students perform concerts throughout the year, and an elementary musical is usually a part of the yearly curriculum. Students in grades 5-8 may choose to be a part of the band program as well, receiving weekly instruction on playing their instrument well alone and in small and large ensembles. Band students participate in several concerts throughout the year, and also march in several local parades, such as Pumpkinfest, Tulip Festival, and Memorial Day. A spring out-of-town trip is a regular part of the seventh and eighth grade band experience. The music program is taught by Kelli Ten Haken and Kevin Schonewill.

XI. Physical Education

All the students in kindergarten through eighth grade have an opportunity to get involved in physical education on a regular basis. Susan Miller meets the physical education needs of students in grades K-8. P.E. addresses areas of physical fitness, team and individual sports, and movement concepts during class. The "Jingle Jog" has become a P.E. highlight for elementary students. We also have health and fitness classes for middle school students.

XII. Art Education

The opportunity to be involved in art classes at Zeeland Christian is certainly a blessing and something the students enjoy doing. Our art classes, taught by Lynn Groothuis and Wendy Kragt, incorporate art history and problem solving. The results of this art program are proudly displayed throughout the school and really make the halls and classrooms at Zeeland Christian an enjoyable place to visit.

XIII. Academic Extracurricular Activities

Some of the examples of these programs are Destination ImagiNation, Spelling Bee, Eighth Grade Play, and Geography Bee.

XIV. Athletic Activities

ZCMS students have the opportunity to participate in either intramural and/or interscholastic sports. The interscholastic sports program is a part of the A.O.K. Christian Athletic League. It includes these Christian schools: Byron Center, Legacy, Dutton, Heritage, Hope, Moline, Adams, Hudsonville, West Side, Jenison, Allendale, Calvin, and Zeeland. The league offers basketball, baseball, soccer, track, and volleyball. Joel Nagelkirk, the athletic director, oversees these activities. In addition, ZCS is in a cooperative athletic program with Holland Christian Middle School. This

allows ZCS students to participate in football, swimming, cross-country, lacrosse, boys' and girls' tennis, and competitive cheer.

XV. Curriculum

Zeeland Christian continues to develop and maintain its classroom curriculum to provide a relevant, well-rounded education for its students. We continue to implement project based learning and design thinking approaches as a way to incorporate rigor, relevance, and relationships throughout our curriculum. We continue to stay up to date with regional and national curriculum trends, and our staff works hard to stay up to date on best practices.

XVI. Testing

Zeeland Christian uses a variety of assessments to evaluate the general quality of our curriculum and academic program here at Zeeland Christian. Assessments provide ongoing measurement of student progress and help us encourage each child to work towards his/her potential.

XVII. Middle School

John Buteyn, Assistant Principal and middle school lead teacher is in charge of the sixth, seventh, and eighth grade program. Working in grade level teams has enabled our staff to develop a progressive and effective middle school. The focus on positive relationships between teachers and students has led to the development of small group Bible study, worship class, service projects, and camp experiences. The positive attitudes of staff and students have created a Christian learning environment where education takes place in a natural yet effective way. The incorporation of the FLES (Foreign Language in the Elementary School) program, differentiated instruction in Math and Reading, the one to one laptop program, as well as the implementation of more real-life application of concepts through project-based learning illustrates the educational goals of Zeeland Christian Middle School.

XVIII. Media Center

The ZCS media center is a fantastic space that not only houses our school's library of books and reference materials, but also serves as a chapel space for our middle school students to worship together, a stage for guest speakers and presenters to enlighten us, and a meeting center for staff, students and even members of the community to gather. Laurie Joustra, the media center staff, provides service, maintenance and scheduling.

XIX. Additional Information

Our mission at ZCS is to: Love God, Love Kids and Love Learning.

It is very important to all of us that everything that we do here at Zeeland Christian needs to follow this mission. To us as a staff, that means that we first dedicate everything that we think, do, and say to the honor and glory of God. We then focus on understanding our students so that we can teach them in the most effective ways possible. Much of our staff meeting time is spent on creating the best curriculum and developing the best teaching methods possible.

Peter Jenkins helps us not only in the area of fundraising but also in promoting our school. It's very important that we share the good news about Zeeland Christian with others around us. Our communication tools are very important in sharing this good news.

- A. Communication is very important to the staff at Zeeland Christian. Zeeland Christian communicates in the following ways:
1. The "Blue Note" goes out weekly to all families who attend Zeeland Christian and to many local churches.
 2. Zeeland Christian has regular postings on Facebook. Please 'Like' the Zeeland Christian Facebook page so that you get this information automatically. ZCS also posts regularly on Instagram and Twitter.
 3. The staff in preschool through eighth grade sends weekly newsletters home. These are often sent electronically to email sites so that parents are sure to have an opportunity to read them.
 4. All of the staff members are using the internet to share important information with parents also. We'd like to encourage as many parents as possible to receive information through the internet so that we can use less paper.
 5. At the beginning of the school year, all teachers in first through eighth grade have an open house. This is a great time for students to show off their classrooms and for parents to meet the teachers.
 6. Parent/teacher conferences are scheduled for both the fall and the spring. We encourage all parents to get involved in both sets of conferences.
 7. We encourage parents to get and use their Parent Portal access. This online computer access program, provided through Zeeland Public Schools, allows parents to access their students' school information such as assignments, attendance, and report cards.
 8. Communication from home to school is a very important part of the educational process, and we encourage you to contact the teachers and other staff if there are any concerns or ideas that you may have.
 9. Please continue to check our website at www.zcs.org. We have updated our website to better reflect everything we do here at Zeeland Christian and make it easier for you to navigate through the site.
- B. Grandparents' Day is a great event here at Zeeland Christian. This year we had over 800 grandparents attend this special day. Both the students and the grandparents enjoyed the time they could spend together.
- C. The Parents' Club is an organization at Zeeland Christian that raised over \$130,000 last year. This is vital to keeping tuition costs down, and we certainly encourage everyone to get involved.
- D. Zeeland Christian and Holland Christian have joined forces and established a resale store called Ditto. This store is located on Eighth Street just west of

US31 in Holland. So far, Ditto has raised approximately \$300 per student in both the Holland Christian and Zeeland Christian systems. Your support of Ditto both in the form of donations, volunteering and purchases will guarantee its future success.

- E. Zeeland Christian is blessed with wonderful support from local churches. Last year these churches donated to the general fund budget to help defray the cost of tuition.
- F. Zeeland Christian is owned and operated by the parents who send their children here and supporters who make financial contributions. Once a year this group of supporters appoints Board members to serve on a thirteen-member Board. Please take the time to say thank you to the Board members who dedicate their time and energy to direct Zeeland Christian School.
- G. Community worship is an important part of every day at Zeeland Christian. All the classes begin the day with devotions and have an opportunity to talk to God through prayer several times a day. The middle school students also have chapel or small group Bible studies each week. We also have all-school chapels once a month. Family groups made up of students in first through eighth grades get together for fellowship and for service activities. We praise God for these opportunities.
- H. The staff at Zeeland Christian is a group of hardworking professionals. Our teachers are leaders in their field and spend much of their personal time becoming better educated in the latest education advancements. Our teachers are often asked to be presenters at educational conferences.
- I. Education at Zeeland Christian would be impossible without the support of parents. Parents are a vital part of the program here at Zeeland Christian. By working together as a team, we can give the students the best education possible.
- J. Our T.R.I.P. (Tuition Reduction Incentive Program) program continues to run very smoothly. Deb Vanden Heuvel is in charge of running the program, and it is supported by many loyal volunteers.
- K. Moms In Prayer has been active this last year at Zeeland Christian. We thank them for keeping the school, staff, students, and school community in their prayers.

xxii. Closing Comments

The theme for this year is "Lost in Love," based on *I John 4:10-11*. *"This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another."* At Zeeland Christian, the love of Christ compels us in everything we do. We partner with families to teach our children of this love and how our response to Christ's love for us is a life of showing love to others. Our goal as Christians is to follow the model of Jesus in our lives.

It is my distinct pleasure to serve as Head of School at Zeeland Christian. Everyday I am honored to serve alongside a faculty and staff who strive to serve Jesus as they

work with our children. I'm inspired by great parents who seek to parent in the way in which God intends. I am thankful for the School Board who serve with passion and commitment to Zeeland Christian. I praise God for the blessings that he has given to Zeeland Christian and pray His continued blessing and guidance as we move into the 2018-19 school year.

Tim McAboy
Head of School