



We are here to help you!

We are so excited to welcome to the Zeeland Christian School Community! Here is some things you should know to help make your transition as smooth as possible!

For important information please visit the [Parent](#) section on [ZCS.org](#). You can find that on the top right of our home screen.

For general questions email zcsinfo@zcs.org

For finance, questions contact Mike Arendsen marendsen@zcs.org or Linda Keen lkeen@zcs.org.

Start of School

New Family Open House

If you are new to ZCS please join us for a sweet treat on August 22 from 3:00-4:00 just before the all school open house. We would love to meet you, answer questions and give you some tours!

Open House

Young 5's-8th-grade Open House will be held on August 22 from 4:00-6:00 PM. This is your opportunity to help your kids get past some of their back to school jitters! Bring

them in to meet their teacher, find their locker, drop off school supplies and get familiar with their classroom!

School Supplies

[School supply lists](#) are found on the Parent Page on our website ZCS.org.

Don't have time to shop? You can order your supplies at [classbundl.com](#) and 5% of your purchase will be donated back to ZCS! Your child can drop off their supplies and get settled during the open house.

Parent Info Meetings

This night is for parents to come in and get important information from each of their children's teachers. Teachers will go over the day to day routine of the classroom, the curriculum that will be covered, homework expectations, and volunteer opportunities. If you cannot make this meeting please contact your child's teacher so that you don't miss out on this important information!

Young 5's and Kindergarten Parent meetings:

August 21 6 pm.

Kindergarten and Y5 Bus Night

August 27

Elementary meetings:

September 6 at 6:00 and 6:45

Middle School Meetings:

September 11 at 6:00 and 6:45

Opening Convocation

August 27 at 9 AM We will kick off our school year by gathering together and praising God. **Parents and Grandparents, please join us, this is a community event!**

Daily Life

Calendar:

[ZCS Google Calendar:](#)

[Subscribe to Google Calendar](#)

[At a Glance Calendar](#)

School times

Elementary

Start Bell 8:40

Morning Recess 10:15-10:30

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 2:05-2:20.

Dismissal 3:25 For safety purposes, children who walk to school are dismissed as soon as the buses have left the school grounds.

Middle School

Start Bell 7:35 a.m.

Monday, Wednesday, Friday Lunch 11:50-12:20

Tuesday and Thursday Lunch 11:20-11:50

Dismissal 2:30.

Building Security

All doors will be open for arrival and dismissal. **During school times all doors will be locked.** To enter school you will need to enter through the main doors and be buzzed in by the office staff.

Transportation

Transportation is available for students in the Zeeland Public School boundaries. Busing is available on days when ZPS is in session. More information may be found at <http://www.zps.org/files/2018/03/2018-2019-ZPS-Transportation-Form-1.pdf>

Drop Off/Pick Up

See [this map](#) for drop off locations, please use the designated drop off lanes. Or park in one of the designated parking lots to walk your child in.

The driveway along the front of the school is for buses only.

Remember that **the drop-off zone is for dropping-off only.** Please **do not park** in the drop-off zone.

Children who do not ride the bus will be dismissed after the buses have left the premises.

You may have them meet their ride at a designated carpool lane or they may be picked up from their classroom. Before the walker bell students may be picked up by their

parents or an authorized person of high school age or older. Students may not be picked up before the walker bell by middle schoolers.

Attendance

Whenever your child will be absent or late to school please notify the school office by emailing attendance@zcs.org or leaving a message on the attendance line 616-741-0051. When leaving a message please list your child's name, grade, and teacher.

Signing In and Out

Students who arrive at school late or need to leave school early must sign in and out in the main office. Students need to list the date, name, time in/out and the reason for arriving late/leaving school.

Delays and Cancellations:

We follow Zeeland Public Schools for delays and cancellations. To find out if there is a closing or delay check your email, the ZCS Facebook page, our website or the local news stations.

Hot Lunch

Hot Lunch is provided by ZPS when ZPS is in session. Hot Lunch for the school year will begin on September 4. Days when ZPS does not have school or has a ½ day of school, hot lunch is not provided. Students order Hot Lunch daily. There are two options each day. If a student forgets to order lunch they will need to have lunch brought to them, ZPS does not send extra lunches.

Menus

Adding Funds:

Funds may be added to your students account via cash or check using a hot lunch envelope found in the office.

You may add funds to [your students account](#) online. You will need to know your student's id# (call the office for this #). There is a service charge to add funds online.

[Apply for Free/Reduced Lunch](#)

Blue Note

The Blue Note a weekly newsletter sent by email on Wednesdays throughout the school year. This is our way of keeping you up to date on what is going on at ZCS. The Blue Note and Blue Note archives can also be found [here](#)

Infinite Campus Parent Portal/Report Cards

To access your student's grades you must have a login to Infinite Campus Parent Portal. If you do not have a login please complete the [acceptable use policy](#), and return it to the ZCS office where you will receive your login credentials.

Music

We offer band for 5th-8th-grade students. We divide them into 2 groups: 5th/6th-grade band and 7th/8th-grade band. The 5th-grade students will need to come in before school on various days depending on the instrument they play.

Band and Choir concerts will be scheduled throughout the school year.

The 7th/8th-grade band will march in the Pumpkin Parade, 2 Tulip Time parades and the Memorial Day parade.

The 5th/6th-grade band will march in the Memorial Day parade.

Middle school students will choose between band and choir.

Extended care

We offer before and after school care for Preschool through 5th grade. Click [here](#) for more info <https://www.zcs.org/extendedcare/>

Parent involvement

We love to have families involved during the school day! Parents will have the opportunity to sign up to volunteer in the classroom and drive for field trips. We do understand that this is not always possible, so please know that this is optional and not required!

Field Trip Drivers

Parents who volunteer to drive for field trips need to bring a copy of their drivers license and insurance to the office before the event.

Parent Points

To help reduce tuition ZCS uses a system called "parent points." You can either choose to pay a fee of \$250(this was on your enrollment form) or you can [sign up](#) to volunteer earning a total of 10 points per year.

Families with students in 1st-8th grade (ZPS) or 1st-12th (HCHS) are required to work 10 points per family per year at one of these fundraisers or pay a fee of \$250.

New kindergarten families, single-parent families and families with special needs students are required to work 5 points per family per year at one of these fundraisers or pay a fee of \$125.

For more information [read here](#) or contact [Jen Schafer](#)

T.R.I.P.

TRIP is a program that allows families to buy gift cards for good and services in this community and then have a percentage of that purchase go directly into their tuition account. We are currently working on changing the way that you enroll in T.R.I.P. please stay tuned!

More questions [read more here](#) or contact [Deb VandenHuevel](#)

Technology

Technology is an important part of learning, expanding the classroom beyond traditional limits of time and space. Learn more about our technology program [here](#).

ZCS Life

Chapel

Chapel is one of our favorite times at ZCS. We love to have our community together to worship our Lord and Savior! Throughout the year all-school chapel dates and times will be announced in the Blue Note. We would love to see you there!

Family groups

An integral part of building community at Zeeland Christian School is being part of a Family Group. Students are all assigned a Family Group in First Grade. They stay with their Family Group all the way through ZCS. Each Family Group has 2-3 students from every grade level. The older students are responsible for the younger students.

Together, they study the Bible, they work on service projects and sometimes, they just hang out and have fun! The Zeeland Christian community is stronger because of these multi-age relationships and the mentoring that takes place within the Family Groups.

Small Groups

Every middle schooler is placed in a small group where they will have a bible study and discussion time with a group of their peers. Small groups meet regularly throughout the year.

Moms in Prayer

A weekly time of prayer, led by an organization called [Moms in Prayer](#) where moms can pray over their children and the staff surrounding them.

Meeting times and Places:

ZCS Prayer Room
Thursday 2:15-3:15

Haven CRC
Wednesdays 6:00-7:00 am or 8:45-9:45 am

Please contact [Ann Hemmeke](#) for more information

Middle School Camps

Zeeland Christian Middle School is extremely intentional. Over the years, the Middle School staff has developed a series of experiences that help students grow into leaders and mentors for the rest of the school. A key part of this development is the Middle School camps. Each year, the students attend 1-2 camps that are specially designed to move them forward in their personal and communal development.

Grandparent's/Grandfriend's day

Grandparent's day is scheduled for the first Friday in November. Grandparents and friends come to a special chapel, visit classrooms of their students and have lunch together.

Grandparent's/Grandfriends day is a big deal at ZCS, so if a Grandparent is not available you are welcome to invite a Grandfriend.