



**ZEELAND
CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL**

2024
Society Report

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Annual Society Meeting

Thursday, April 11, 2024 | 7:00 PM

Agenda

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| 1. Opening Prayer and Devotions | Dr. Ann Hemmeke
Board President |
| 2. 2023 Meeting Minutes | Molly Kehrer
Board Secretary |
| 3. President's Report | Dr. Ann Hemmeke
Board President |
| 4. Finance Committee Report | Craig Oosterhouse
Board Treasurer |
| 5. 2024-25 Proposed Budget Voting Report | Craig Oosterhouse
Board Treasurer |
| 6. Nominees for Board of Trustees | Dr. Ann Hemmeke
Board President |
| 7. Selection of New Board of Trustees | Dr. Ann Hemmeke
Board President |
| 8. Head of School Update | Dr. Tim McAboy
Head of School |

2023 Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2023 // 2023 Society Report

- I. Devotions and Opening Prayer - Ann Hemmeke - Board President
- II. Introduction of Board Members
- III. Notice made of the 2022 Annual Society Meeting minutes in the Annual Society packet, submitted by Krista Brower, Board Secretary
- IV. Notice made of the 2023 President's Report in the Annual Society packet, submitted by Ann Hemmeke, Board President
- V. Finance Report and the 2023-2024 Budget
 - A. The Finance Committee Report, including the 2023-2024 proposed budget, was presented by Chris Lamer, Board Treasurer.
 - B. With ballots cast, the 2023-2024 budget was approved with 77 voting support and nine votes not supporting. This notice was made by Chris Lamer.
- VI. 2023 Board Nominees:
 - A. Four candidates were presented to the society: Jessica Brouwer, Stacey de Vries, Mark TenHaken, and Ben Wickstra.
 - B. All four candidates were affirmed via online voting which ended at 7:00 a.m. on the morning of April 13, 2023.
 - C. Facilitated by Ann Hemmeke, Board President, the three candidates chosen by lot as the new 2023 Board of Trustees members are:
 1. Jessica Brouwer
 2. Stacey de Vries
 3. Ben Wickstra
- VII. Notice made of the Advancement Report as submitted by Peter Jenkins, Director of Communication and Advancement
- VIII. Notice made of the Head of School Report as submitted by Tim McAboy, Zeeland Christian Head of School
- IX. Closing and Prayer - Mission and Prayer by Tim McAboy, Head of Zeeland Christian School

President's Letter

Dear ZCS Society,

I remember sitting in my first board meeting hearing several veteran board members as they prepared to wrap up their service. Up until that point, I had only experienced ZCS as a parent. It was obvious that I was stepping into something special, something to be honored. Over the last six years, I have come to share the sentiment those board members expressed. Being part of the inner workings has been an unexpected highlight in my life. Interacting with parents, staff, faculty, and leaders that I wouldn't have crossed paths with otherwise has been a complete pleasure. ZCS is a unique place where God has done and continues to do great things. It's more than just a school; it's also a community, a ministry, a gathering place, and a family. It's an amazing slice of the Kingdom where many congregations are represented.

This year, the Board has focused on several themes. The one most integral to ZCS' mission is Faith Formation. Our educational leaders have done an extensive inventory and analysis of all the ways we "practice" faith at ZCS and weave it into everything from academics to behaviors. They have wrestled through how faith is formed in a student and how faith is integrated into learning. Grade-level themes are built from questions like, "What did I do today to encourage a Christ-like community?" Or, "How did I use wisdom from God to make wise choices today?" It's been a delight to see this process unfold and to consider how to build onto an already- strong foundation. We've also spent a considerable amount of time exploring affordability, both now and in the future. Developing a sustainable tuition model that reflects the actual cost of education while still allowing everyone access to a Christian education remains a challenge. We identified a key area for immediate and future growth: the ZCS endowment. A strong endowment will provide a steady revenue stream for the general cost of education and free up precious resources to focus on fundraising for strategic initiatives and growth. Trusted advisors are helping the Board plan wisely in this area. Most recently, we have collected much data in advance of developing a robust strategic plan to launch ZCS into the next few years. Many of you provided valuable input, for which we are very grateful.

The Board's top priority for the next few months is working diligently to ensure strong future leadership for ZCS that will allow it to remain mission-focused, academically sound, and financially strong. We are so grateful for Dr. McAboy's gifts that have served the community so well. The legacy he will leave behind is remarkable. We look forward to building on that. Please continue to pray with us as we seek wisdom in the next steps. Pray also for the next leader of ZCS, that God would give him or her an undeniable calling to take on the role and responsibility. We trust that He will direct all of our steps in this.

As my term concludes, (along with those of Geoff Bremer, Steve Langeland, and Travis Senik), I look back very humbled and grateful for the opportunity to serve on the Board. Even the hardest times were meaningful. I learned the importance of working together and using our gifts collectively to serve the Lord. Together we look back in gratitude for God's kindness and provision over the past year, and we look forward with expectancy and hope for all that God will do within our ZCS community in the year ahead.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Ann Hemmeke
ZCS Board President

Finance Committee Report

Finance Committee Members:

Craig Oosterhouse - Chair
Jessica Brouwer
Tim McAboy
Ben Wickstra

Mike Arendsen
Ann Hemmeke
Dave Muma
Zach Van Denend, Faculty Rep

Geoff Bremer
Steve Langeland
Andy Vander Zwaag

Responsibilities of the Finance Committee:

The Finance Committee meets once a month to

- review Zeeland Christian's financial statements
- review Zeeland Christian's tuition revenue vs spending compared to the budget
- follow up with families falling behind on their tuition
- review/approve tuition assistance requests
- ensure that all our funds are spent in a stewardly way

Revenues:

Revenue at Zeeland Christian comes from a variety of sources.

- tuition payments
- grants
- endowment earnings
- donors
- fundraising efforts

Tuition & Fees

- 2024/25 will see a tuition increase of 3.9% overall, with the two-child rate increasing 4.9%
- \$250 technology fee for 6-8th grade students
- \$100 pay-to-play fee for students participating in extracurricular activities

Grants

- **ditto Grant:** \$267,000 (\$360 per student)
- **Zeeland BPW Grant:** \$10,000 Community Grant to replace and add to the sledding hill lighting
- **Safety Grant:** \$135,000 to update security, signage, visitor system, and other security measures

Donors & Fundraising

The Mission Advancement Department oversees donor relations and fundraising.

- EMBER (donors who have committed to monthly donations)
- individual donor gifts
- gifts from churches and businesses
- sponsorships from businesses
- fundraising events

Expenditures:

Human Resources

- **Salaries:** The staff (both salaried and hourly) at Zeeland Christian will receive a 4.0 percent increase for 2024-25.
- **Benefits:** The budget reflects an 8% increase in health insurance costs from the current year. Insurance rates are 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.

Facilities

- **Building & Grounds:** We have addressed some major areas of our building over the last few years. This has included replacing the roof over the original 1940s/50s building and 1989 addition along with a new boiler, air-conditioned classrooms, updated fire alarm system, new/upgraded restrooms, and a new preschool parking lot. These projects were all funded through our Mission Possible fundraising campaign. Thank you to all the donors who made these improvements possible!
- **Technology Infrastructure:** Our One-to-One Laptop Program and technology in every classroom are a huge blessing, but there are associated costs. We defray some of the costs by charging a technology fee to middle school students. The fee is \$250 per student for 2024/25. This helps cover the costs of classroom technology and the infrastructure to support it.
- **Student Billing Software:** For 2024/25, Finalsight (School Admin) will continue as our enrollment and billing platform. Finalsight (SchoolAdmin) is a web-based tuition management software that is linked to our admissions and enrollment software. This allows for a single sign-in for parents/guardians to one platform for all enrollment, billing, and tuition/fee payments. All parents/families will have online account access to their accounts including checking balances and making payments.

Savings // Endowment:

Endowment Committee Members:

Drew Deters
Mike Lubbers

Jim Edewaard
Dave Muma, BOT Rep

Peter Jenkins
Doug Stob

Endowment Funds

- **Balance:** \$7.3 million
 - \$6.0 million with Barnabas
 - \$1.3 million with the Community Foundation of Holland/Zeeland
- **2022-23 Amount Donated:** \$348,197
- **Generated earnings this year:** \$222,000

2024-25 Proposed Budget Rationale

1. Our budgeted enrollment projection for the 2024-25 school year is 741 students in Young 5s through 8th grade and 254 students in Preschool. Those numbers for the current school year are 752 and 255, respectively.
2. The proposed budget reflects a 3.9% increase across the board, with the 2-child rate increasing by 4.9%. We continue to monitor the multi-child discounts in order to cover our operating costs.
3. Non-tuition revenues make up 27% of the budget, with tuition making up the 73% balance.
4. The budget reflects a 4% wage increase for all staff.
5. Health insurance and related benefit costs are budgeted at an 8% increase for 2024/25, with no changes to current benefits (West MI Partners network through Priority Health).
6. The budget accounts for the staffing costs to accommodate current enrollment estimates.
7. The budget includes the ongoing funding requirements for the CSI pension.
8. The Ditto contribution is expected to continue at \$360 per student, generating approximately \$267,000 for ZCS.
9. Over the years, many ZCS families have donated “their” portion of the Ditto grant back to the school. For 2023/24 this totaled about \$23,000. 100% of this goes to the tuition assistance fund.
10. The 2023-24 and 2024-25 budgets are projected to maintain a fund balance position of at least 10% of the expense budget.

2024-25 Proposed Budget

3/15/2024

	Proposed Budget 2024/25	Revised Budget 2023/24		Proposed Budget 2024/25	Revised Budget 2023/24
Revenues			Expenditures		
<u>Tuition</u>			<u>Instruction</u>		
K-12 Net Tuition	\$5,052,045	\$4,733,018	Elementary, Middle School	\$3,874,263	\$4,120,065
Preschool Tuition	\$811,350	\$651,129	Preschool & Ext Care	\$983,181	\$850,465
Total Tuition	\$5,863,395	\$5,384,147	Support Services	\$860,624	\$787,774
			Total Instruction	\$5,718,068	\$5,758,304
<u>Contribution Revenue</u>			<u>Instructional Support</u>		
Ditto	\$266,760	\$273,000	Professional Development	\$65,955	\$57,100
Churches and Special Collections	\$2,500	\$2,000	Library	\$7,350	\$7,000
Other Gifts and Donations	\$480,000	\$397,500	Technology	\$213,595	\$205,613
Total Contribution Revenue	\$749,260	\$672,500	School Administration	\$502,080	\$504,289
			Total Instructional Support	\$788,979	\$774,002
<u>Generated and Transfers</u>			<u>Support Services</u>		
Activity Fees	\$59,250	\$57,375	Advancement/Promotions	\$429,053	\$462,761
Rentals	\$5,000	\$5,000	Business	\$507,060	\$496,633
Other and Miscellaneous	\$392,880	\$303,664	Business Other (Insurance/Other fees)	\$117,949	\$112,332
from Endowment	\$230,000	\$220,000	Buildings and Grounds	\$455,997	\$474,526
from the Auction	\$125,000	\$110,000	Extra Curricular	\$34,157	\$32,530
from Tuition Assistance	\$650,000	\$790,836	Transportation	\$4,305	\$4,100
Total Generated and Transfers	\$1,462,130	\$1,486,875	Total Support Services	\$1,548,520	\$1,582,882
Total Revenue	\$8,074,785	\$7,543,522	Total Expenditures	\$8,055,567	\$8,115,187
Surplus / Deficit	\$19,218	-\$571,665			
FYE Fund Balance	\$2,143,837	\$2,124,619			

2024-25 Proposed Tuition Rates

YOUNG FIVES	2023/24	2024/25
5 mornings	\$4,231.00	\$4,858.00
5 mornings + 1 afternoon	\$5,014.00	\$5,829.00
5 mornings + 2 afternoons	\$5,797.00	\$6,801.00
5 mornings + 3 afternoons	\$6,580.00	\$7,772.00
5 mornings + 4 afternoons	\$7,363.00	\$8,744.00
5 full days	\$8,146.00	\$9,715.00

Note: Multi-child discount will be applied if applicable.

KINDER-8TH GRADE	2023/24 Total	2024/25 Total	2024/25 Each Student
1 Student	\$9,350.00	\$9,715.00	\$9,715 Student 1
2 Students	\$16,050.00	\$16,836.00	\$7,121 Student 2
3 Students	\$19,900.00	\$20,677.00	\$3,841 Student 3
4 Students	\$23,400.00	\$24,313.00	\$3,636 Student 4
5 Students	\$26,900.00	\$27,949.00	\$3,636 Student 5
6 Students	\$30,400.00	\$31,585.00	\$3,636 Student 6

ZCS/HCHS Combinations	2023/24 Paid to ZCS	2024/25 Paid to ZCS
ZCS1, HCHS1	\$8,025.00	\$8,418.00
ZCS1, HCHS2	\$6,633.00	\$6,892.00
ZCS1, HCHS3	\$5,850.00	\$6,078.00
ZCS1, HCHS4	\$5,380.00	\$5,590.00
ZCS2, HCHS1	\$13,266.00	\$13,784.00
ZCS2, HCHS2	\$11,700.00	\$12,156.00
ZCS2, HCHS3	\$10,760.00	\$11,180.00
ZCS3, HCHS1	\$17,550.00	\$18,234.00
ZCS3, HCHS2	\$16,140.00	\$16,770.00
ZCS4, HCHS1	\$21,520.00	\$22,360.00
ZCS5, HCHS1	\$25,333.00	\$26,320.00

Note: Holland Christian will communicate their own tuition schedule.

Nominees for the Board of Trustees



Steve Darrow and his wife Maria are members of Ridgepoint Community Church.
ZCS Affiliation: Steve is a ZCS parent: Harper - 1st; Piper - Future ZCS Student.
Occupation: Steve is a partner in a regional CPA firm.
Thoughts On My Role As A Keeper of the ZCS Mission: With my background in tax and finance, I would look to help with the finance side to ensure the school has adequate resources and uses them appropriately to help carry out the ZCS mission.

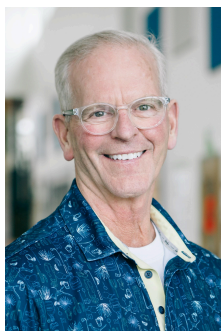


Brendon Johnson and his wife Rachel are members of All Saints Anglican Church.
ZCS Affiliation: Brendon is a ZCS parent: Brendon - 4th; Keara - 2nd; Rori - Threeschool.

Occupation: Brendon is a wealth advisor at Cap Trust.

Thoughts On My Role As A Keeper of the ZCS Mission: The ZCS mission starts at home. My goal is to help my own kids become the best versions of who God created them to be. I cannot do that, and they can't become it, without the grace of God and his unconditional love. I like to think of myself as an ambassador for ZCS already. My wife and I love ZCS and tell many people about it. As a board member, I would take that same passion and put it toward the decisions we are making on behalf of the staff, current students, and future students. The mission of ZCS will

need to be a lens through which we look through to make decisions. I am committed to that mission and hope to use my unique gifts to serve the ZCS community.



Paul Keyser and his wife, Kathy, are members of Vriesland Alliance of Reformed Churches.

ZCS Affiliation: Paul taught 8th grade and retired last year from ZCS.

Occupation: Paul is a retired teacher.

Thoughts On My Role As A Keeper of the ZCS Mission: I would say that my record of supporting the mission statement while in the classroom at ZCS speaks volumes for how I believe it should be followed. I truly believe that my Christian Faith has guided me in all my years teaching, which included 37 years in public education. The main difference being that now I can be in a position to help make decisions that will ensure that solid Christian education will take place, and that I will do what I can to assist parents in their support of the ZCS mission statement.



Kevin Kloosterman and his wife, Niki, are members of Engedi Church.

ZCS Affiliation: Kevin is a ZCS parent: Roman - 1st; Remington - Young Fives; Knox - Future ZCS Student.

Occupation: Kevin is a Regional Sales Manager at Smart Vision Lights.

Thoughts On My Role As A Keeper of the ZCS Mission: It is the duty of the board to ensure that the resources and funds of the ZCS community honor the mission. Ensuring that a high-quality education is being presented to our kids in order to equip them to become successful students, employees, business owners, and followers of Jesus. For me, if selected, I would commit to honoring that mission through the school, community, and people that I interact with but more importantly

holding our school administration and educators to that same standard. Although not always popular, it is important that our board makes decisions with sound judgment and affirms the mission and core beliefs that make ZCS such a fantastic school. I am no exception, and if selected, I will commit to honoring the core beliefs of ZCS as a newly trusted board member. Thank you for this opportunity to serve our community and school.



Brittany VanByssum and her husband, Johnathan, are members of Family Church.

ZCS Affiliation: Brittany is a former ZCS teacher and a ZCS parent: Eleanor - Kindergarten; Lucy - Starting Preschool fall of 2024; Frances - Future ZCS Student.

Occupation: Brittany is a stay-at-home mom and former ZCS teacher.

Thoughts On My Role As A Keeper of the ZCS Mission: If selected as a Board member, I'd strive to be a dedicated keeper of the ZCS mission, always being watchful and aware of decisions made and their impacts. I would consistently ensure that each choice aligns with the Reformed understanding of the Christian faith, staying true to the vision of providing high-quality Christian education as an extension of the Christian family.

Head of School Update

Current Enrollment: 1,015 total students

Preschool - 255

Elementary - 505

Middle School - 256

3s:	109
4s:	146
Y5s:	28
Kinder:	92
1st Grade:	77
2nd Grade:	71

3rd Grade:	81
4th Grade:	75
5th Grade:	81
6th Grade:	82
7th Grade:	74
8th Grade:	100

Preschool: 255 students

Alicia Zandstra, Director of Preschool

Zeeland Christian Preschool is a place where 3 & 4-year-olds can find a learning environment filled with nurturing preschool teams that will help your child feel safe and loved right in a Christian atmosphere. Our goal is to provide creative, high-quality readiness skills to equip them well for their educational journey. Through our play-based Creative Curriculum Studies, social-emotional Second Step curriculum, and Bible Teaching, **we ignite a learning environment that encourages social, emotional, physical, intellectual, and faith formation with the foundational idea that God loves us and we can love others!**

- **Threeschool Sessions:** 8
- **Fourschool Sessions:** 8
- **English Sessions:** 12
- **Spanish Sessions:** 4

Elementary: 505 students

Betsy Koop, Elementary Principal

Zeeland Christian Elementary has **a strong relational foundation that is the fertile soil for dynamic and enriching educational experiences that enable students to flourish.** A wide range of programs and activities aim to offer intentional faith formation opportunities, maximum academic growth, and social and emotional development. The elementary school's curriculum is designed to support students in their formative elementary years so that they are equipped to function to their fullest potential in our society now and in the future. From rigor within traditional subjects like Language Arts and Mathematics to specialized programs such as top-notch language immersion education, nature-rich learning and worship, and inspiring programming within the arts, Zeeland Christian ensures that students receive a well-rounded education that prepares them for the path God has in store for them.

- **Mandarin Immersion:** 51 students
- **Spanish Immersion:** 238 students
- **English:** 216 students

Middle School: 256 students

Tim Paauw, Middle School Principal

Relationships are our highest priority in middle school as **we want students to grow in their own faith with Jesus Christ and with the rest of us in Christian community and connecting with the community beyond our school.** Throughout the year we focus on building a community of belonging through weekly chapels or Small Group gatherings, camp experiences in the fall for our 6th and 7th-grade students, a middle school mixer and worship time at Lawrence Street Park, an 8th-grade Leadership Day Away Retreat, a Middle School New Years Celebration Event at the 3-Mile Project together, celebrating a Spirit Week, Unified sports teams, hosting visiting students from Guatemala through our Faces & Cultures partnership, taking group trips to Taiwan and the Philippines, and so much more.

- **Mandarin Immersion:** 27 students
- **Spanish Immersion:** 99 students
- **English:** 130 students

Language Immersion:

Jodi Pierce, Director of Immersion

- **Spanish Y5's-8th:** 336
- **Mandarin K-8th:** 80

Curriculum:

Katy Rozema, Director of Teaching and Learning

- **Curriculum:** We are committed to providing a Christ-honoring, relevant, well-rounded education for all students. We believe that curiosity is fuel for learning! Through active learning, knowledge is directly experienced, constructed, and acted upon by the learner. At all grade levels, teachers weave faith into their content teaching **to help students understand how everything we learn points us back to the Creator and His creation.** We consider it a privilege to help students learn to the best of their abilities and give praise and honor to God each and every day.
- **Standards/Outcomes:** Our teachers organize learning experiences around Michigan State Standards and Christian Schools International Bible Outcomes. Our standards-based report card is reflective of these standards/outcomes.
- **Approach:** Our approach to learning and the core learning objectives are consistent across all language programs. We take great efforts to ensure all language programs have equitable learning experiences while also attending to the unique characteristics of each program.
- **Elementary and Middle School Learning Innovation Teams:** Our Learning Innovation Teams meet around a specific content area: Faith Formation, Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies. Proposals for core curriculum changes are made to the Education Committee of the Board of Directors before changes are adopted.

Faith Formation:

Katy Rozema, Director of Teaching and Learning

- **Faith Formation:** At the heart of everything we do at Zeeland Christian is the discipleship and spiritual formation of our students. **ZCS has a rich history of walking alongside students in their faith journeys, teaching them the word of God, and helping cultivate their lifelong relationship with Him.**

Teachers lead their students in prayer and devotions, study God’s word with them, and guide them to apply the truths of God’s word to their lives. Through service opportunities, we engage students in opportunities to be the hands and feet of Jesus by caring for His people and His world.

This year, we identified a faith formation focus word for each grade level. While a variety of faith formation focus areas are woven throughout all grade levels, we hope to give special attention to one area per grade that is appropriate to students’ developmental levels. **Students will leave each grade level with a deep understanding of that year’s focus area.** As these build upon each other over the years, we equip students to “respond lovingly to God’s will, recognize the significance of serving others, and accept their responsibility toward the world.”

Faith Formation Focus Areas by Grade Levels:

Preschool: **Love**

Young Fives: **Joy**

Kindergarten: **Kindness**

First Grade: **Purpose**

Second Grade: **Follower**

Third Grade: **Faithfulness**

Fourth Grade: **Wisdom**

Fifth Grade: **Ownership**

Sixth Grade: **Community**

Seventh Grade: **Identity**

Eighth Grade: **Leadership**

Support Services:

Stacy Deters, Director of Students Support Services

- **Students Receiving Support Services:** 40 direct and 28 consult
- **Student Receiving Resource Room Support:** 26 direct and 19 consult
- **About Blaze:** This year, we are excited to have welcomed Blaze, our ZCS comfort dog, to our staff! Since completing his training in December of 2023, Blaze is now full-time at ZCS. His job is to interact with students in order to bring about a positive change in a student’s emotional or physical state, diffuse tense situations, and open up new possibilities in the educational environment.

Mental Health Team:

Julie Postmus, ZCS Mental Health Therapist | Aaron Kauffman, ZCS Social Worker

- **Students Receiving Short-term Counseling:** 36 direct and 14 consult
- **Students Receiving Social Work Support:** 51 direct

Behavioral Support:

Lindsey Slenk, Tim Buteyn

Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) is a proactive, team-based framework for creating and sustaining safe and effective schools. This three-tiered system of positive behavior management emphasizes the prevention of challenging behaviors and is designed to support each student's social, emotional, and behavioral needs.

- **Behavior Innovation Teams:** We have multiple Behavior Innovation Teams in place, which meet monthly to discuss how to best support students and staff with tiered levels of behavior support.
 - Regular data review will improve consistency with response to, and documentation of, problem behaviors.
 - Regularly monitoring patterns of behavior across the school will help identify where systems can be improved to reduce problem behavior (e.g., locations, time of day, etc.).
- **Data Collection:** SWIS (School-Wide Information Systems) to inform our decision-making

Assessment:

Kristi Van Dyk, MAP Growth Coordinator

- **About:** Assessments give teachers and administrators valuable data points to evaluate curricular resources and revise instruction to better fit the needs of students. As a community of educators and leaders, we are working, diligently, to become a school that responds to the changing needs of students, as reflected in our data. **Assessment is an ongoing process at Zeeland Christian, and one that is critical to helping our community of teacher learners and student learners to grow and meet their fullest potential.**
- **Assessments Are Conducted To:**
 - Evaluate the general quality of our curriculum and academic program
 - Give teachers one lens to celebrate student progress **and** encourage additional growth
 - Identify areas to focus additional instruction
- **Types of Assessments:**
 - NWEA MAP Growth: 1st-8th grade (Fall, Winter, and Spring)
 - Fountas and Pinnell Benchmarking
 - CORE Phonics Assessment
 - Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Assessments
 - Delta Math Assessments

Literacy Support Services:

Marianne Raitz, Lead Reading Support

- **Elementary Students Receiving Reading Support:** 69 students

Math Support Services:

Maria Klompmaker, Lead Math Support

- **Elementary Students Receiving Math Support:** 45 students

Technology in Education:

Ross Fischer, Director of Technology

Technology is available 1:1 for our kindergarten through 8th-grade students. Therefore we have over 1,000 devices on our campus at any given time. Integrating technology into our classrooms and curriculum allows students to learn in new and powerful ways and encourages different ways of thinking about the world. We want to continue to look for ways in which technology can change and reform this world for Christ.

- **Grades K-2nd:** Tablets (kept in charging carts in classrooms)
- **Grades 3rd-5th:** Chromebooks (kept in charging carts in classrooms)
- **Grades 6-8th:** Chromebooks (students may take home with them each day)

Media Center:

Laurie Joustra, Media Center Specialist

- **Total Books Checked Out:** approximately 18,000
- **Total New Books Added This Year:** 6,000

Outdoor Education:

Katy Bosch, Nature-Rich Teacher

Our nature-rich programming aims to provide a well-rounded and outdoor enriched education, where young learners not only develop academically but also grow in their understanding of God's handiwork through meaningful interactions with His creation

- **Elementary Students in Nature Rich:** 98

Art Education:

Jael Stilwell, Elem. Art Teacher | Brittany Postma, MS Art Teacher

Because we are created in the image of our Creator, we are created to create. The art classes at Zeeland Christian School give students **an opportunity to grow closer to their creator as they engage and explore a variety of materials while at the same time learning about the artistic process.** Our art classes, taught by Brittany Postma, Jael Stilwell, and Wendy Kragt, incorporate Art History, investigation, and faith formation. In elementary art, we establish the foundations of the Elements and Principles of Art, while in middle school art, we expand upon them and learn further about artistic techniques, concepts, and processes. The results of this art program are proudly displayed throughout the school and make the halls and classrooms at Zeeland Christian an enjoyable and beautiful place to visit.

Music Education:

Kendra Walters, Music, Choir, and Chorus | Luke DeVries, Music and Band

Music education is a vital part of the ZCS student's experience. General music classes in grades Y5-5 meet twice per week to teach students how to understand, explain, and appreciate the music they experience. **Because music is such a natural way to express themselves and to worship the Creator**, it is always an important part of music classes. Along the way, students also engage in music-making through the playing of ukuleles and recorders. 5th-grade students may also choose to begin playing a band instrument.

Each grade level participates in one special performance each year. 1st, 2nd, and 5th graders lead a Spring Worship Service, and the 3rd and 4th graders tell a version of the Christmas story through a musical each Christmas.

Students in 6th and 7th grade choose either choir or band class to continue their musical development, and students in 8th grade can choose from band, choir, or an art elective. Band and Choir students also engage in various performance opportunities throughout the year. Our ZCS band students have the opportunity to march in several local parades, such as Pumpkinfest, Tulip Festival, and Memorial Day.

6th grade

- Choir: 34
- Band: 45

7th grade:

- Choir: 36
- Band: 35

8th grade:

- Choir: 52
- Band: 27

Highlights: The 7th & 8th-grade choirs participated in the first Middle School Choir Collab this past February! Arranged by South Christian High School, the middle school choirs from Dutton, Byron, Moline, Legacy, and ZCS all came to SCHS in the morning and worked with Dr. Mark Webb on the music they had been rehearsing. The morning was a complete success and was a great way to learn from a professional music educator and collaborate with nearby schools.

The 7th grade band attended the Covenant Christian High School Band Festival on Wednesday, February 21 for the first time. They performed three pieces and received verbal and written feedback along with a 30-minute clinic on their performance.

Physical Education:

Susan Miller, 1st-8th Physical Education Teacher

Depending on grade level, Physical Education classes focus on spatial awareness, fitness concepts, fine and gross motor movement, team and individual sports skills, and personal social skills such as cooperation, sportsmanship, and effort.

- **Class Frequency:** All students in grades K-8 attend PE classes twice a week.

Athletic Activities:

Joel Nagelkirk, Athletic Director

As of 2023, ZCS is a part of the West Michigan Middle School Sports Conference (WMMSC). This conference is made up of 34 different schools and is divided into regional divisions. ZCS is part of the South West division.

- **ZCS Sports Available:** soccer, volleyball, basketball, and track and field
- **HCMS/ZCS Cooperative Sports:** football, tennis, swimming and diving, cross country, and competitive cheer

Total Middle School Athletes

- **Fall:** 70
- **Winter:** 72
- **Spring:** 106

Highlights: With this year being the first year in our new league we have had a lot of chances to go to new schools and meet new people. For 7th grade basketball, we had the chance to go play at Fruitport Middle School. It was an intensive game that we ended up losing, but the boys handled it very well. In fact, we had someone stop in, who was our chapel speaker from FCA, who talked to our boys in the locker room about how well they carried themselves on the court and represented Christ well. There were numerous occasions this year where students were faced with adversity and rose to the occasion by being a good sport, modeling Christ in how they played, keeping their composure demonstrating good character. Even though it is not always easy and we are far from perfect, our students have done a great job representing Zeeland Christian this year.

Expand(ED):

Maria Klompmaker, Expand(Ed) Summer Camps Coordinator

- **Total Camps:** 16
- **Total Campers:** 330
- **Total Revenue:** \$17,076

Extended Care:

Ginny Spahr, Extended Care Specialist

- **Average Daily Attendance Threeschool-5th Grade:**
 - Before School: 33
 - After School: 25
- **Average Daily Attendance Power Hour Middle School:**
 - After School: 34

Extracurricular Activities:

Kristi Van Dyk, Maria Klompmaker, Tiffany Kraker, Tim Paauw

- **Destination Imagination** is a creative problem-solving competition for 4th grade - 8th grade. The teams select from one of 7 STEAM-minded challenges. They study the challenge and “solve” it by telling a story in less than 8 minutes that incorporates various areas of: Mechanical engineering, Chemical Engineering, Robotics, etc. Students then compete against other schools who are solving the same challenge. 2022-2023 season saw all four teams place either 1st or 2nd in the State (with the ones placing 2nd, falling to another Zeeland Christian team).
 - **Applicants:** 60
 - **Participants:** 42 (limited due to volunteer capacity)
- **Robotics:** Three teams of ZCS 4th & 5th grade students joined the FIRST LEGO League competition this fall. These teams spent months working together to program their robot and create a skit for their innovation project presentation. The core values of this robotics program are discovery, innovation, impact, inclusion, teamwork, and fun.
- **Digital Arts Team:** The purpose of the Digital Arts Team is to nurture young talents in digital creativity, empower students to explore their artistic abilities, and provide the opportunity for students to contribute to the ZCS community through photography, videography, and graphic design.
 - **Participants:** 13
- **Servant Leadership Team:** Middle school students volunteer their time, talents, and passions in our Middle School Servant Leadership Group as part of an extracurricular option led by ZCS parents, Laurie Schnakenberg and Niki Heil. We seek out opportunities to serve others in the name of Jesus both locally and globally.

Areas of Service: created fleece blankets and distributed them along with a trilingual Gospel message to warmly welcome newcomers and immigrants into our local community. We teamed up with a local ministry to serve at a Christmas event for adoptive and foster families. Also, as students learned about hardships in Haiti, they organized a donation drive to send much-needed supplies to a mission partner. Additionally, we served together at Sus Manos Gleaners to process and package food to send to Haiti.

Medical & Safety:

Lindsey Wagenmaker, School Nurse

- **Student Care:** Triage illness and minor injuries, provide basic first aid, administer medications, and oversee medical plans (seizure, food allergies, diabetes, tube feedings, catheters)
- **Students with Medical Plans:** 75
- **Staff Assistance:** Train, educate, and coordinate care with staff and parents, lead MERT (Medical Emergency Response Team) and perform bi-annual drills

Community Communication:

Tiffany Kraker, Director of Marketing and Communications

- **Website:** Top three family/parent pages average a combined total of 3,800 views per month
- **Email Newsletters:** Blue Note (69% open rate), Gold Note (72% open rate)
- **Alerts/Texts:** Enrollment Portal & Infinite Campus

Development:

Peter Jenkins, Executive Director of Advancement

2022-23 School Year Fundraising

- **Total Contributions:** \$1,567,564
- **General Fund:** \$799,956
- **Endowment:** \$348,197

Financial Aid:

Mike Arendsen, Executive Director of Finance and Operations

- **Students Receiving Financial Aid in 2023/24:** 227 (117 families)
- **Total Financial Aid Awarded:** \$799,395

Human Resources:

Crista Holstege, Human Resources

- **Preschool/Extended Care Staff:** 47
- **Elementary Staff:** 50
- **Middle School Staff:** 21
- **Support Services Staff:** 46
- **ZPS/Shared Time Staff:** 14
- **Administration & Support Staff:** 27
- **Total Staff:** 191

Facilities:

Bryce Huffman, Director of Facilities

- **Facility Size:** 131,000 sqft
- **Facility Assessment:** Pure Architects and GDK construction. This assessment analyzed all of the components of our building and facilities and pointed us toward anything that may need attention in the next few years.
- **Recent Projects:**
 - New lockers were put in our front hallway for our first graders
 - New lights on the top of our sledding hill, Zeeland BPW Grant
- **Upcoming Projects:**
 - Replacing the roof over the top of the media center and main entry

Head of School Closing Letter

Dear ZCS Family,

I'm so honored to work at Zeeland Christian School, a place rooted in the rich history of our mission and vision to enable our students to respond in loving obedience to God's will, recognize the significance of serving others, and accept their responsibility toward the world in which they live.

Last spring, our current 8th graders chose the theme of "RESTORED" from 2 Corinthians 5:17. God has made a way through His Son Jesus for each of us to be made new. **"The old has gone; the new is here!"**

This year, we introduced our Faith Formation Focus for each grade level to the students. While recognizing that each student and their faith journey is unique, we set out to pull together the vibrant threads of faith formation at each grade level. Collectively, these areas of focus enrich the young hearts and minds of our students with the Christ-like values that resonate deeply within our school community. We believe these eleven threads of focus shape character traits that extend beyond the classroom and help cultivate a student's lifelong relationship with God.

I pray that as you do your best to raise your sons and daughters to be men and women of God, you will not try to go it alone. No matter what you or your family are going through, we are honored to come alongside you to help in any way we can.

Parents, I'm so grateful to be on this parenting journey with you.

Burn Bright,

Tim McAboy, Ed. D
Head of School

BURN BRIGHT
ZEELAND CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

新生

17 如果有人 在基督里，他就是新造的人，旧事已经过去，你看，都变成新的了！
哥林多后书 5:17
Chinese New Version (Simplified)

¡Restaurado!

Por lo tanto, si alguno está en Cristo, es una nueva creación. ¡Lo viejo ha pasado, ha llegado ya lo nuevo!
2 Corintios 5:17 (NIV)

Restored!

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"
2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)