

## From the Interim Superintendent



“Donuts with Dad”...wow! What a great day for our kindergarten students at CCS and for their dads that were able to attend. I saw dads involved in playing games with their child, giving BIG hugs, reading books and kindergarten students that loved every minute of it with their big jelly donut smiles. There was one little girl crying when the love of her life had to leave, wishing he could stay with her all day. Those are valuable times with our children. I shared with a couple of dads that is seemed like only months ago when I sat in those same little chairs

having donuts with my now two Jr. High students. Where does the time go? Dad, your time spent with your child that Friday morning at school said to them, they are extremely important in your life and so is their presence at school learning how to count, read and learn more about Jesus.

Someone recently said to me that “teaching was a cake job, you work 6-7 hours a day and get the whole summer off, plus all the holidays”. I am not going to even begin to honor that statement with a reasonable comment. I do however want to share with you the passion of great teachers. Great teachers are anxiously ready for their class to begin by spending hours in preparation each week. Great teachers will carefully grade and record a student’s work so that every student is awarded what they have earned. Great teachers truly love every student and want more than anything to see success and prosperity in the life of every student. Great teachers see potential not handicaps. Our great teachers at CCS are individuals who first love the Lord and want to serve Him by helping His little ones become all they can be. Great teachers can’t do it alone, they need great parents. This is where you come back into this letter parents, because without you being involved in your child’s education every day, says to your child, there are other things of greater importance than their education. I pray this is not the message we are sending to our children at CCS. Great teachers need great parents to support academics, the arts and our athletic programs. Because when students see their teachers working with their mom and dad, our students then begin to understand the value we place on quality Christian education. Our mission; to partner with Christian families in order to provide a Bible-centered quality education program to equip, train, and disciple students to follow Christ and impact culture. You want an excellent Christian school, we want excellent Christian parents; so let’s build CCS together for the sake of our children; it can be like jelly donuts and smiles.

Mr. Terry Diefenbacher

## From the School Board

The night before last, I began teaching a 13-week seminar at my home church that is a comprehensive, integrated study of the Christian worldview entitled, “The Truth Project.” The reason our church leadership decided to offer this course is simple: Studies show that only 4% of the American public in general holds to a Biblical worldview. Among those who claim to be Christians, that percentage increases dramatically – to 9%. Is it any wonder that statistics show that 75% of young adults who have been raised as Christians leave the faith within two years of leaving home?

After the first night’s presentation, a lady approached to tell me how much she appreciated the material and how important she thought it was that it be taught. She went on to tell me that three of her grown children were struggling or had long since rejected their faith in some pretty significant ways. They were part of the 75% statistic I mentioned. With difficulty speaking, and with tears rolling down her cheeks, she told me that her children had been brought up in the church and even gone to Christian schools. “If you don’t mind,” I asked, “where did they go?” A chill shot down my spine when she answered, “Cincinnati Christian.”

This is not an indictment of this passionate lady’s family or of our school. It is a wake-up call – a reminder that none of our families are immune to the deceptions of this world. We cannot make decisions for the young adults who leave our homes. We can only do our best to “train them up” to know the truth and live their lives in accordance with it – even in a culture that seems more and more bent to mock them for doing so.

Continued on page 3.....

*Koti Shoopman,  
Judy Hernandez,  
and Brittany Hill  
compare schedules  
on the first day  
of school.*



# PRINCIPALS PAGE

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## Elementary Principal Mrs. Donna Hempelmann

*Differentiation.* What does that mean for CCS Elementary and for our students? First, differentiated instruction is a concept that makes it possible to maximize learning for all students. It's a collection of strategies that help teachers plan and create different pathways to respond to the needs of diverse learners. What does it mean for our students? It means that CCS is committed to developing a culture of learning that begins with staff growth and development that flows down to benefit our students.

As we began the 2008-09 school year, our plan was to spend the school year focusing on differentiation. In fact, we had begun to receive training from several sources and were excited about how Differentiated Instruction (DI) would help us to help our students. Then suddenly, we had an unforeseen opportunity to receive SMARTboards. We re-evaluated and decided that we needed to shift our focus to accommodate the tools that God had provided. We are still learning about the

marvelous ways that SMARTboards can enhance student learning, but we are now ready to go back and finish learning about DI.

Just as God provided the opportunity for the SMARTboards last school year, He provided once again when Mrs. Enos and I were able to attend a week long Train the Trainer course in Differentiated Instruction and it didn't cost the school anything! What a blessing and of course, the training came at just the right time. So, I have already started the training in the elementary and we are excited about how DI can have a positive impact on student learning. We will be doing a lot more assessments (pre and formative) which will not all go in the grade book. We will also be "tiering" lessons which means that not everyone will receive the same assignment. Much of what your child brings home will look the same, but there will be some subtle differences. It is important that you read the things that your child's teacher sends home because at some point he or she will be explaining some things that you won't want to miss.

Isn't it exciting how God continues to provide us with so many excellent tools to help us to "equip, train and disciple students to follow Christ and impact our culture."

## High School Principal Mrs. Debbie Enos

I have to admit that I love to go to work! The last few weeks of reconnecting with the faculty, staff, and students have been a wonderful experience for me. I feel very blessed to be able to help lead such an amazing group.

The faculty and I have been working hard these past few weeks. During our inservice time, I introduced the Differentiated Instruction training that Mrs. Hempelmann and I received in Columbus in early August. As a faculty we began our study by asking ourselves three questions:

- 1) What do we teach?
- 2) How do we teach?
- 3) How do we learn as educators?

We then discussed various teaching techniques that are used in the classroom and the observed relationship between these various strategies and the retention of content by our students. Our academic focus this year is to increase critical thinking in our students by focusing in on our lesson planning and the learning strategies we use in our classrooms.

Each week the teachers are introduced to at least one new teaching activity or strategy that will help students move from where they are academically, to closer to where they need to be. To quote our trainer, "Differentiated instruction is a mind-set of the teacher because it is a commitment to proactive planning to help each student grow as much as possible." It is my desire that our faculty will bathe each lesson plan in prayer as they strive to present their very best to our students.

## High School Parking Lot

I would like to ask for your help concerning the front parking lot (student drop-off point) at the High School campus. It has been brought to my attention that after school some parents are parking their cars in the drop-off area for several minutes, which causes others to be blocked out of this area. This is causing a traffic back-up onto Morris Road. In addition, we have parents unable to pick up their students who are ready to leave for the day. Please be aware that you need to pull your car as far around the student pickup circle as you can if you are waiting for your student.

Also, if your student is not out front ready to get into your car, we would ask that you not sit in front of the building for several minutes waiting on them. It will be necessary for you to park in the front parking lot and wait until your child is ready to leave for the afternoon, then you can pull into the circle to pick them up. Also, please remember we only want one lane of traffic in the front. A second lane of traffic is dangerous for students.

I am requesting that if you need to be out of your vehicle to pick up your student from after school care, go to a meeting in the school, or watch football practice - please park in the side parking lot closest to the chapel.

Thanks so much for your help in this matter. We want to be sure everyone is able to pick up their students in a safe and timely manner. Thank You.

## School Board Continued....

This is not an easy endeavor ... but it is exactly what we intend to do.

On September 12, 2009 your school board, along with the school's leadership team, will conduct an in-depth strategic planning session to assess and refine the objectives we as a school aim to achieve with the graduates of CCS. Nothing is off the table. Our only motivation is to use the successful foundation on which our school rests as the basis from which we will seek to achieve new levels of excellence in the spiritual, academic and athletic lives of our students and thereby better prepare them for the realities of the world that awaits them.

On September 22, 2009 at 7:00 pm, the Board will hold an open meeting at the High School to discuss the direction of the school with you. We hope you can join us. We welcome your input and will be glad to answer any questions you may have about CCS. We will repeat this format at the Elementary school on March 25, 2010 at 7:00 pm.

Please pray, not only for the leadership, staff, and teachers of CCS as they strategize and implement the vision of our school, but also for our students past and present. They are the reason our school exists at all. They live at the point of the cultural spear. They are the engaged in a "Truth Project" unlike any that most of us have ever faced. May they be encouraged and enjoy success in that undertaking because of the foundation that you, your churches, and the CCS family have provided for them in the common cause we share in Christ.

Mr. Bob Perry, CCS School Board Member

Next School Board Meeting: October 20th  
7:00pm HS Campus Conference Room

# ATHLETICS



## CCS Basketball Mini-Golf CHALLENGE

WHEN: Sat. October 10th 9:30am - noon

WHERE: Monster Mini Golf  
West Chester (Next to Fitworks & Walmart)

COST: \$15/player (includes breakfast/golf)

REGISTER BY: September 25th  
Head Coach Danny Celenza  
513.967.3109  
celenza67@yahoo.com

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## ADVENTURES AT THE ELEMENTARY

This year Mrs. Edwards, Mrs. Smearsoll, Mrs. Carter, and Mr. Bennett will be leading the 5th and 6th graders on a pirate treasure adventure. It's a game where the students try to find a hidden treasure. Along the way, they'll read stories about pirates, learn about ships and what it was like to be a sailor, participate in talk-like-a-pirate day, work on projects, and create a treasure map that will enable them to locate the treasure. Students in Mr. Bennett's and Mrs. Carter's classrooms will "sail" around the game boards and earn "buccaneer bucks."

The first day of school, Mr. Bennett appeared dressed in full pirate regalia as "Whitebeard, the Pirate!" Whitebeard is a reformed/reborn pirate who used to be mean and dangerous, but today he is a Christian who is dedicated to doing what is right!



## FALL PLAY - "Translations"

### SHOWS:

October 15 10:00 a.m. (school show)  
7:00 p.m.

October 16 10:00 a.m. (school show)  
7:00 p.m.

October 17 2:00 p.m.  
7:00 p.m.

TICKETS: \$7.50 if purchased at Fairfield Community Theatre  
\$8.50 if purchased by phone 867.5348 or online,  
[www.fairfield-city.org/cac/theater.cfm](http://www.fairfield-city.org/cac/theater.cfm).

Tickets are on sale now for evening performances.

Limited tickets are available for the school day matinees.

Contact Wayne Beaver: [wbeaver@cincinnatiachristian.org](mailto:wbeaver@cincinnatiachristian.org)

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## INTRODUCING



Parents and students.....The CCS yearbook needs YOUR photos! Introducing a new community upload site where you can upload photos for possible inclusion in the HS yearbook. We are looking for photos from sporting events, school sponsored activities such as homecoming, retreats, trips, plays and ESM week. Simply go to [www.classscene.com](http://www.classscene.com) and enter our school code: CCS. Create a user name and password and begin uploading your photos. For questions contact Cyndi Totten: [cotten@cincinnatiachristian.org](mailto:cotten@cincinnatiachristian.org).

## Calendar

### September

- 18 1st Quarter Interims issued, K-12
- 28 – 10.02 HS Spirit Week

### October

- 2 Homecoming Game
- 3 HS Homecoming Banquet
- 9 End of 1st Quarter – HS only
- 12 Athletic Boosters Meeting  
7:00pm HS Diner
- 15-17 HS Fall Play
- 14 PSAT (Juniors)
- 16 1st Qtr HS Report Cards Issued  
End of 1st Quarter – Elem only
- 20 JH/HS Picture Retake Day  
School Board Meeting
- 21 PLAN Test (Sophomores)  
Elementary Picture Retake Day
- 22-23 No School -  
Parent/Teacher Conferences  
Elem 1st Qtr Report cards  
issued at conferences

### November

- 06 2nd Quarter Interims Issued (K-12)
- 11 HS Veterans Day Chapel
- 12 JH/HS Fall Sports Celebration

### December

- 2 5th/6th Grade Band Concert
- 7 JH/HS Choir Concert
- 10 JH/HS Band Concert
- 18 Christmas Break Begins  
(All Grades Dismissed at noon)

vol'un'teer [vol-uhn-teer] `n

one of life's most valuable  
natural resources.



As part of your commitment to CCS, each family is asked to give a minimum of 20 hours per year to voluntary labor to CCS (CCS Parent/Student Handbook pg. 32). Much of what is done here is accomplished by the helping hands of our CCS families. Below is a current list of how you can help:

**Parent representative for CYO Volleyball.** Duties include going to meetings and to help find coaches for the girls. Parent representative meetings begin in September; the playing season begins in December. For more information, please contact Amy Fox, [afox@cincinnatiachristian.org](mailto:afox@cincinnatiachristian.org).

**The Guidance Office** needs help filing. Contact Mrs. Mary Zeller, [mzeller@cincinnatiachristian.org](mailto:mzeller@cincinnatiachristian.org)

**The Elementary Campus** needs help with weeding, painting and small jobs to help Mr. Wilburn. They also need assistance in the office. Contact Mrs. Donna Hempelmann, [dhempelmann@cincinnatiachristian.org](mailto:dhempelmann@cincinnatiachristian.org).

## ren web

**RenWeb**, our school management software program, provides parents password-secure access (ParentsWeb) to their children's data such as attendance, grades, homework, missing assignments, and discipline.

ParentsWeb is available 24/7 from home, work, or on the road. If you haven't yet signed up for **RenWeb** – it's easy! Go to [www.cincinnatiachristian.org](http://www.cincinnatiachristian.org), click on **RenWeb in the "Quick Links"** on the home page and follow the instructions.

## list serves

We know that being an informed parent is important to you. Are you interested in being included on a list serve? This enables you to receive important and informative emails from the school. Contact Ann Klusmeier, [aklusmeier@cincinnatiachristian.org](mailto:aklusmeier@cincinnatiachristian.org) indicating which list serve(s) you wish to join: elementary, junior high, or high school.

# COUNSELOR'S CORNER

## College Planning Seminar for Students and Families

Junior and senior parents and students are invited to attend a college planning seminar presented by a representative from Cedarville University in October. By attending the seminar, families will obtain the practical information they need to transition successfully from a high school to university experience.

National Christian College Fair

**Tuesday, Sept. 15th**

**6:30 – 8:30pm**

The Christian Life Center  
3489 Little York Road  
Dayton, Ohio 45414

Get a great look at the Christian Colleges that interest you. For more information contact the event coordinator at [faulknr@cedarville.edu](mailto:faulknr@cedarville.edu)

## College Fair 2009

Save the date! This year's College Fair will be held at Miami University Hamilton on Tuesday, October 13, 2009. The College Fair will take place in the Miami University Hamilton gym from 6:30-8:00 PM. The Financing Your Education workshop will be held in the Parrish Auditorium from 6:00-6:30 PM. For more information contact the Miami Hamilton Office of Admissions - 513-785-3111.

## Upcoming Testing Dates

PSAT: Juniors will be taking the PSAT test on October 14th. The PSAT is a pre-SAT test as well as the qualifying exam for the National Merit Scholarship.

PLAN: All Sophomores will be taking the PLAN test on October 21st. The PLAN test is a pre-ACT test as well as an interest inventory related to the world of work.

OGT MAKE-UPS: Any student in the junior or senior class who still needs to take any or all portions of the OGT will be given those tests during the week of October 26th.

Upcoming SAT Dates			Upcoming ACT Dates		
Test date	Regular deadline	Late deadline	Test Date	Regular Deadline	Late Deadline
October 10	September 9	September 23	October 24	September 18	October 2
November 7	October 1	October 15	Dec 12	November 6	Nov 20
December 5	October 30	November 12			

Registration material for either the SAT or ACT can be completed on-line.  
For the SAT go to [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)  
For the ACT go to [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)  
Paper registration forms for both may be obtained in the Guidance Office.

# COUGAR

## LINK

### CCS Welcomes our New Teachers!

We asked each new teacher to share with us 3 things: What do you teach, Tell us about your family, What was God's path to bring you to CCS?



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LISA MCKAIN

7th/8th General Math, and 7th and 9th grade Pre-Algebra

My husband, David, teaches computer science at Lakota East High School. We have three wonderful children. Nathan is a 2009 CCS graduate; Anna is a junior; and Shauna is in 7th grade.

I have taught math in Lexington, Ky, Northwest School District, Cameroon, Africa, and at CHCA. Most recently I have been a stay-at-home mom while homeschooling my children. This is the first year all of my children would be in "real" school so it was my opportunity to enter the work force again. The only job I really wanted was to continue teaching, and teaching at CCS would have been the ideal job. I submitted my application and put it in God's hands. I began exploring other options but never felt I was suited for any them. Then God opened the door for me at CCS! I am so happy to be here and I am looking forward to getting to know everyone! God is good!



KEN PETERS

HS boys health, JH/HS PE, Weight training, Morning Traffic duty

I have been married to Brenda for 22 years. We have two children; Sarah is a junior at Ohio Christian University playing basketball and soccer, Garrett is a senior at CCS.

I have been a parent at CCS since 2001 and have served the school in many different ways. Last year I left Cincinnati to teach at Grove City Christian Schools. God has blessed my family by bringing us back to the area and I look forward to being in the role of teacher for CCS.



BRENDA ROBESON

U.S. History, Government/Economics, World Geography

I have been married to Garland F. Robeson III for 37 years! We have 2 sons GFR IV (Buck) 33, and Westin Ellis 25. We have two grandsons GFR V and Crosley. Both of our sons went from Kindergarten through 12th grade here. West actually started in Pre Kindergarten. We live in Ross.

Buck started school here in 1983. I started teaching 6th grade part time with Mrs. Williams in 1989. I have been here off and on ever since. I've taught elementary, junior high school, high school and was Campus Director for 3 years. I have taught English, Math, Science and History. I am Department Chair for the Social Studies Department. CCS has been at times our school, our church, and always our family. The staff here played such a huge role in the lives of our sons. We recognize that CCS had almost as much impact on them as they grew into Godly men, as we did. West even met his wife here when he was in 8th grade! I am blessed to be part of the work here!

STEPHANIE HEID

Spanish, 2nd through 6th grades

I grew up near Lexington, KY in Wilmore. I received a bachelor's degree in Spanish from Asbury College and a Master's degree in Spanish from the University of Kentucky, where I also taught undergraduate classes as a T.A. We have three daughters: Merrick, 3rd grade; Miranda, 1st grade; and Margaux, Transitional Kindergarten.

As CCS parents, we have been pleased with our girls' experiences at the school over the last two years, and we deeply value Christian education. I enjoyed teaching high school level Spanish at a local co-op, but over the last several months I had felt a strong pull that another step was in store for me. Not knowing at that point what direction it might take, I learned to wait patiently for God's timing to find out. I was contacted about teaching elementary Spanish at CCS, and found that God's timing was indeed perfect! Each and every detail fell into place. I am thrilled to say that his plan for me includes being able to work with your students to help open their eyes to God's diverse world and share my love for all things Spanish.



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**JONI PUCKETT**  
Junior High Language Arts

My husband, Rod, and I have been married for 27 years and currently reside in the Loveland area. We have two grown children, Rhoda and “Bubby”, and two beautiful grandchildren. My husband is a worship pastor and a former deputy sheriff/ D.A.R.E. officer for 17 years. This will be my 16th year of teaching full time. This journey has been a true miracle for me. After praying about moving back to Ohio from Florida, we asked God to show us where he wanted our ministry to continue. For nearly 10 months we prayed and trusted in God’s word that He created us and has a plan and future for everyone. Jeremiah 29:11 is my verse as it has guided our family once again. My passion is teaching and I knew that God had a place for me but was starting to be a little concerned about when and where he was going to let me see His plan. Amazingly, when I felt that I had exhausted everything that I knew to do professionally and places to look for positions in the area, CCS posted a language arts opening. God’s timing is perfect; He truly knows when to come through for us.

He heaps blessings on us when we think that we are hanging on to our last thread of hope. God has a plan and knows just when to allow us to experience His faithfulness. Thank you for the honor of allowing me to join the CCS faculty family.

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**JIMMY ASHFORD**  
Chapel Leadership

My wife of 4 years, Victoria, and I enjoy our 3 four legged children (Chinese Cresteds-Wonton, Chopsticks, and Mushu).

My journey to CCS started last year. My wife shadowed Mrs. Eernisee at the elementary for her degree. During her shadowing, we attended the spring music program. We immediately fell in love with the school. Victoria saw the opportunity to be the Junior High Girls Soccer Coach and she asked me to be her assistant. I was then lucky enough to become the Junior High Boys Baseball coach and became more attached to the students and families of CCS. I was praying that God would give me a chance to speak at chapel...and he DID! For this opportunity, to teach at CCS, I will forever be grateful!



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**KIM RICHTER**  
Junior High Bible & Freshmen Old Testament



I have a very supportive husband and four wonderful children.

My Journey to CCS- I am very excited to be a part of Cincinnati Christian Schools. I believe that this job is God’s way of saying to me, “well done my good and faithful servant”. After serving as a stay at home mom for 13 years, I decided to try to seek out a ministry during the day while my children were in school. Last year, God opened the door for me to coach the CCS’s girl’s basketball team. After serving for a year, I was excited to become more involved in the work He was doing at CCS. I applied for the Bible position, and am humbled that God is allowing me to share His word with the students of CCS. What a privilege.

Everyday my prayer is that the students will have a better understanding of God’s character and His love. I am totally dependent on His wisdom for the instruction of His children.

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## CCS Magazine Sale

Turn in days: Friday 9.18 & 9.25

Proceeds benefit the general fund which helps pay for maintenance, utilities, Bible curriculum, supplies, etc.

🚌 We will earn 40% profit on each subscription selection made from our sale.



Orders may also be placed on-line during our sale for student credit at [www.midwestfundraising.com](http://www.midwestfundraising.com). Select the AP Magazine Store and start shopping! Our school code is WC2317.

🚌 There are many **fun prizes** that your children can earn by selling subscriptions: **Out of Dress Code days**, **MP4 player**, **SkinIt voucher** to customize your phone or ipod, **limo lunch to Chipotle & CiCi's** and more!