

**February 9, 2010**

Dear Parents:

*“The Christian School is a community in the biblical sense. Covenant not contract, builds community in the Christian School. Community will not arise if people are simply trading money for services. Trust and cooperation characterizes student, staff and parent relationships. The key principle of community – Christian love in action – means worshipping, sharing, counseling, encouraging and celebrating with Christian joy and hope.”*

This is a quote from the book written by Vryhof, Brouwer, Ulstein & VanderArk and I believe it in many ways sets a standard for all of our communities to strive toward. Over the years, the Hudsonville Christian School community has been blessed richly by our God, but it has not come without some challenges along the way. Key elements that will keep Hudsonville Christian School a special community are keeping our eyes focused on Him and following His will. One other piece that must remain at HCS is the spirit of cooperation and the covenant we have with each other as a school community.

We have been blessed with many, many people who have stepped up to help our school in a variety of ways whether it be financial, with their time, in service in a variety of ways, and most importantly, in prayer. Please continue to look for ways to help keep the HCS community strong and for opportunities where you can help to be a part of the “covenant” that builds community in our Christian school.

Dan Pott, Middle School Principal

**Prayer Corner**

- Please pray for the search process and team to hire a new Middle School Principal.
- Please continue to pray for the Crisman, Dykstra and Van Rijs families.
- We have several single parent families in our school. Please pray for these families and the added responsibilities of a single parent.
- Pray for families who have or are in the process of adoption.

**SCHOOL WIDE NEWS**

**HCS EVENT SPONSORSHIP**

HCS holds several fundraising events throughout the year where business sponsorships are necessary to help underwrite the events. These include the Hike & Bike, the HCS Golf Outing, the Sporting Clay Shoot, and the Education Foundation Dinner. If you are a business owner, if your family has an interest in one of these areas, or if your employer may be interested in supporting an HCS event, check out the flyer available by the school offices. Businesses or individuals who sponsor an event(s) receive recognition in various ways, so check out the form to see how you can show your support this year!

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY**

Just a reminder that there will be no school for students on Monday, February 15 for a staff professional development day.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL MAGAZINE SALE**

Thank you so much for the support of our magazine sale again this year. We couldn't do this without your support, as many of our expenses at the middle school are paid for from the proceeds of this sale alone. We want to thank our magazine “moms” who worked on our magazine sale turn-in days sorting, counting, and processing orders – Cindy Glashower, Judy Glass, Greta Huizenga and Deb Bolton; and a special thank you to Julie Doll, our sale coordinator! This year our total sales were just below \$32,000 and we are very thankful for the 40% we receive of that amount! Thank you!

**HCS MENS FASTPITCH SOFTBALL TEAM**

Interested in playing fast pitch softball this summer at the Christian Reformed Recreation Center? Dust off your cleats, hone your skills, and prepare to have fun this summer by playing with your HCS friends. For more info contact Duane Hinken at 662-1806.

**TUITION ASSISTANCE — FACTS PROGRAM**

Families who wish to apply for tuition assistance will need to use the FACTS application format online via a confidential web site (paper applications are also available). Information on this program is available in the school offices. Please note that the deadline to apply for assistance through the FACTS program is March 31.

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS**

**COLOR/DAY SCHEDULE**

Feb. 10	Yellow/Day 2	Feb. 15	No School
Feb. 11	Green/Day 3	Feb. 16	Red/Day 1
Feb. 12	Blue/Day 4	Feb. 17	Yellow/Day 2

**HOT LUNCH**

Hot lunch this week Wednesday will be hot dogs, BBQ chips, Cheetos, frozen Gogurt, and M&M cookies.

**PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES**

Conferences for students in PK—5th grade will be scheduled for March 1, 2, and 4. There will be no school for students on March 5 for Records Day.

**GO USA!**

This Friday, Feb. 12, will be USA day at the elementary building in celebration of the opening day of the Winter Olympics. Students have an opportunity to express their patriotism dressing in red, white, and/or blue that day. There will be a prize for the student in each classroom who is dressed the most patriotically. The Hospitality Committee will be selling red, white, & blue popsicles to students in the place of popcorn/cookies. Students can bring their quarters to school as usual if they wish to have one.

**LASAGNA SUPPER FOR KENYA PARTNERSHIP**

On Thursday, February 18 there will be a Lasagna Supper from 5—7 p.m. in the elementary gym to support the Kenya Fund at HCS. We are making plans to send five HCS teachers to Kenya this summer to continue to build our partnership, and your participation will help this cause. Dinner is by donation, and hot dogs will be available as well. Please see the flyer that came home last week or call the office to RSVP for your family!

**5th GRADE PARENT M.S. ORIENTATION**

Fifth grade parents who will be having their first child come to middle school next year, please reserve the evening of Monday, March 15 at 7 p.m. for a special night at the middle school. Our 6th grade teachers and other staff look forward to seeing you there!

**5TH GRADE BOYS SEX EDUCATION NIGHT**

Fathers of 5th grade boys, please make sure you have our Sex Education Night on your calendar for Monday, March 8. More details will be available soon!

## MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

### HOT LUNCH

Hot lunch this week: DJ's Pizza for \$1.00/slice, chips for \$.25, canned pop for \$.50.

### CHAPEL HAPPENINGS

Friday, February 12: Mrs. Kortering's 6C Homeroom leads chapel

Tuesday, February 16: Mr. Dan Los leads chapel

### MIDDLE SCHOOL IN-SERVICE FOR STAFF ON FEBRUARY 15

On Monday, February 15, while your children are "sleeping in" our middle school staff will be attending a workshop on the topic of differentiation. We realize that all of God's children have different needs and it is our goal to try to challenge every student.

### 8TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS

The 8th graders have been studying the Holocaust. We've realized that genocide is still happening today. In the Democratic Republic of Congo an estimated 5.4 million people have died since 1998. The cause for this genocide is a fight between two different ethnic groups within the country. We ask that you pray for God's children who are suffering right now. To find out more visit [www.ushnm.org/geonocide/take\\_action](http://www.ushnm.org/geonocide/take_action). If you wish to donate to genocide prevention the 8<sup>th</sup> graders are having coin drives, pop can drives, and candy and donut sales throughout the next two weeks.

### 7/8 BAND EOCS CONCERT

Our 7/8 band members will be participating in an EOCS (Eastern Ottawa Christian Schools) Combined Band Concert this evening at Fair Haven Ministries in Hudsonville. This concert begins at 7:30 p.m. and features the 7/8 bands from Allendale Christian, Beaverdam Christian, Borculo Christian, Hudsonville Christian Middle School and the Unity Christian High School bands. Band students should arrive at 6:30 p.m. for rehearsal before the concert.

### 7/8 ORCHESTRA

The 7/8 Orchestra Festival will be held on February 25 at 8 a.m. at Caledonia High School. Please realize your student will need a ride to school that morning because we will be leaving around 6:30 a.m. Please look for more information coming home soon. We hope you will join us at Festival; everyone is welcome to attend this great event.

### 6TH GRADE VOLLEYBALL

On Saturday, February 20 sixth grade students will have an opportunity to join with other 6th graders from our athletic league to play volleyball! This will take place at GR Christian High School. The boys will begin play at 9 a.m. and the girls will begin just before noon as soon as the boys are finished. A bus will transport students to and from this event. A note with additional details was recently sent home. If you have any other questions, please check with Mr. Huisman or Mr. Los. It should be a fun day!

### SPORTS SCHEDULES

Girls 7th & 8th grade volleyball teams and the 7/8 boys wrestling team continue practice schedules this week and next. All team members should have received schedule and athletic packets from their coaches. Please ask your student for this information.

### PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Conferences will be held in the middle school south gym on the evenings of March 1, 2, and 4 from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. Middle school teachers will be at conference tables in the south gym during these scheduled hours to meet with parents. We ask that parents please be mindful of the conference time frame each evening. Please note that parents of Middle School students were NOT given individual scheduled times for parent teacher conferences.

### BROADWAY REVUE CONCERT!

On Thursday, March 25, the middle school choirs will have a concert featuring songs from Broadway musicals. The concert will be held in the middle school south gym. More details are to follow. Don't forget to put this fun night on your calendars!

## Middle School News (continued)

### ATTENTION PARENTS OF 6th – 8th BAND STUDENTS

Hudsonville Christian School Band Solo Festival is being planned for after school on Tuesday, March 16. A letter outlining information for this upcoming event will be sent home with your band student when plans are complete. Please watch for this news!

### MSBOA BAND FESTIVAL

The 7th/8th Grade Band will be playing for the MSBOA Band Festival at Holland West Ottawa Harbor Lights Middle School on Wednesday, March 3 at 9:30 a.m. Students will be bussed to and from the event and will return to school before dismissal.

## PARENTS' CLUB NEWS

### TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

It is Teacher Appreciation Week! This is a great time to encourage our teachers and staff and thank them for the time, effort, energy and dedication that they put into providing a Christ-centered education for our children.

### COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Thank you to the individuals who have stepped forward to help on various committees. Additional volunteers are still needed in each of these areas that are either very important fundraisers or help build community at HCS. If you can give of your time to assist on any of these committee, please call the following contact people:

- Family Fun Night Committee — Lori Hinken (662-1806)
- September Fest Committee — Sonja DeJong (896-1214)
- Auction Committee — Sonja DeJong (896-1214)
- Parents' Club Exec. Comm. — Carmen VanNoord (896-0149)

### AUCTION NEWS

1. Reminder! The auction is coming up on Saturday, March 13.
2. We are still low this year on physical items to auction. Any contributions would be appreciated and can be brought to the school office.
3. Power point will once again enhance the live auction.
4. New items include a Shiphewana water park package, a Chinese cedar pergola, and a balloon ride for two!

### SPRING GARAGE SALE

Our first drop-off will be on Friday, February 19 from 2 – 6 p.m. at DC Storage, 4114 Ransom Unit 196. Wanted: Gently used donations of any size. We have future drop-offs scheduled in the upcoming weeks at the elementary school but we cannot accept donations of large items like couches there. We will accept items of any size the week of May 10 at the Fair Grounds. If you have large items to donate and these times do not work for you, please call Kristin DeKock to set up an appointment at 896-3148. For more details go to [hudsonvillechristian.org](http://hudsonvillechristian.org); click on Parents; click on Spring Garage Sale. Thank you!

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### UNITY CHRISTIAN UPCOMING SPORTS CAMPS

Registrations are being accepted for the following Unity Christian sports camps: 5th/6th Girls Basketball (starts 2/13) and 2nd-8th Flag Football (starts 2/13). Registration sheets are available at Unity.

### HUDSONVILLE COMMUNITY ED. PROGRAMS

Information is available by the school offices for a boys baseball clinic on 2/20 and 3/15, girls softball clinics on 2/16 and 2/23, babysitting class on 3/5, and Tae Kwon Do.

### ALLENDALE CHR. 3 ON 3

Allendale Chr. School will hold a 3 on 3 basketball tournament for boys and girls in grades 3—8 on Saturday, March 27. Cost is \$80 per team, and advance registration is required (forms at [allendalechristian.org](http://allendalechristian.org))

### HOPE COLLEGE SOCCER CAMP

Information is available by the school offices for summer soccer camps offered by Hope College.

### UPCOMING EVENTS AT HUDSONVILLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Feb. 8-9	Kindergarten Screening	March 4	Limited Busing
Feb. 12	Sub/Cookie Dough Sale starts	March 5	Records Day; no school for students
Feb. 15	Professional Day; no school for students	March 8	5th Grade Boys Sex Ed Night
Feb. 19	Garage Sale drop off; 2—6 p.m., 4114 Ransom Unit 196	March 11	6/7/8 Skating Party
March 1, 2, 4	Parent/Teacher Conferences	March 13	HCS Auction