

Reflector



Update from the School Board

Students, teachers, parents and friends of Heritage Christian High School/Protestant Reformed Christian School, as we reflect upon the first semester of the 2018/2019 school year, it is our prayer that as we come together to teach our children, we have done so to make them know the certainty of His words of truth.

To the teachers and staff, thank you for your commitment each day to our students in assisting our parents in raising up the children in the fear of the Lord. To our students, it is our hope and prayer you are engaging diligently in your calling as student, endeavoring to use and build each day the skills God has given you. May you and we be reminded each day of the need to trust in the Lord, and apply our hearts unto His knowledge.

From the spring dinners to anticipating the Auction, the Board recognizes and appreciates the work of the Ladies Auxiliary for the schools and expresses thanks for your past and future efforts in this school year.

Over the past months, Board members have continued to conduct visits in the classrooms. It is wonderful to observe the energy and skill the teachers put forth to develop the material and reach the students. From patiently listening to a student explain how they gleaned the definition of a word from the context of a sentence, encouraging the students to stand tall against sin, weaving in the horsemen of Revelation into history, or channeling senior's enthusiasm into Native American Literature, the atmosphere of the schools are alive with developing minds being instructed about our Father and His hand in guiding this world.

In conjunction with the above, new computers and Chromebooks have been purchased for utilization in the classrooms. A subcommittee was also established to assess security measures. Teachers and staff engaged in ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) training, and extra measures have been implemented to maintain security for extra-curricular activities occurring before and after school.

The Endowment Fund Committee again expresses their thanks to those who contributed to the Endowment Fund during the 2018 calendar year. The current balance in the Endowment Fund is over \$900,000. The Committee requests that you consider including the endowment fund as part of your estate plan, such as by naming the Endowment Fund as a beneficiary under your will or trust. Your gifts will benefit our school,

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Special points of interest

- No school on Presidents' Day, Monday, February 18.
- Please plan on joining in support of our school for the Spring Promotional Dinner on Friday, March 8.
- ITBS for grades 3-8 is scheduled for the week of March 18.
- Beginners' Day for the incoming Kindergarten class is Wednesday, March 20.
- HCHS and Covenant Christian High School plan to present a combined concert on Thursday, March 21 at Crete Church.
- The end of the 3rd quarter is March 22.
- Spring Vacation is scheduled for the week of April 1. Please plan accordingly.
- The Ladies Auxiliary school auction is in the works. Please mark your calendars for Friday, April 26 in the school gym.

our parents and our children by helping to contribute to the costs of Christian education both now and in the future.

The Progress and Promotion Committee is planning a smoked pork shoulder dinner for March 8. Please reserve this evening for good food, fellowship and song with the high school choir. As well, please be on the lookout for an event which is being planned for April/May of this year with the group “Protect Young Eyes.” In conjunction with presentations to students in junior high and above, an evening presentation to parents on technology, digital trails, and web safety will occur.

With the fiscal year ending July 31, 2019, the Finance Committee notes \$80,000 of the budgeted \$191,400 amount has been collected through January. We give thanks to all those who contributed for their continued financial support and we thank God for the financial upholding of our school.

The Education Committee has reviewed anticipated enrollment for 2019 and beyond, and is working to add another high school teacher to help with the increased workload additional students bring. Teacher and administrator interviews have also been conducted, evidencing a hardworking, devoted and Godly staff. The Education Committee has also been evaluating staff needs for the future 2019/2020 school year,

to maximize resources to develop each student’s potential. This includes a line by line evaluation of funds for support staff, teacher development, books/supplies, band, choir, and technology, amidst other expenses.

As a school board and as a member of the Federation of Protestant Reformed Christian School Societies, we see the need for teachers in our Protestant Reformed schools. Our Protestant Reformed schools across the country and in Canada have openings and are advertising to fill these vacancies. However, we have fewer students in college going into education than the projected need our Federation schools foresee. To that end, we encourage you as parents and grandparents to speak to your children about our great need for Protestant Reformed teachers. One excellent resource you should check out is the Federation’s website, www.prcs.org. Besides other resources, this website contains two pertinent videos, “Why Teach” and “Teacher Interview and Hiring Process”. We encourage you to familiarize yourselves with this website and have as many people view these videos as possible. Above all, pray that God continue to supply our schools with good, Protestant Reformed teachers.

We encourage you to communicate with the teachers, administrators and board as we endeavor alongside you, the parents, in offering a rigorous and

Chicago Symphony Orchestra

The school board allowed our 7th and 8th graders a unique experience. We were given the opportunity to take our students to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra for a youth concert at Orchestra Hall in downtown Chicago. This year was the 100th season of the CSO’s concert series for children. These educational youth concerts provide a learning experience for students to be educated about the orchestra, individual instruments, and specific pieces of music. This year’s concert depicted the orchestra as a unit or team with varying pieces all coming together to create the beautiful sounds a full orchestra produces.

According to *The Beat*, a guide to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra school concerts, “The legendary sound of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra is a product of creativity and commitment from some of the greatest musicians on the planet. This concert explores the incredible dedication and amazing teamwork that has made the CSO an extraordinary ensemble for more than 125 years.”

“Have you ever considered that an orchestra is a miniature society? Every day, musicians of differing backgrounds and opinions work together to achieve the expressive intent of a piece of music...consider how the Orchestra works as a team to bring the music alive for you!”

As students and teachers, we were reminded of a body with all the body parts working together as a unit. This application also extends to the body of Christ. We are all many members with differing functions. Each member has an important part in the church, the body of Christ. I Corinthians 12:12 says, “For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.” The orchestra gave us an illustration of this... many differing instruments with differing functions,

manifesting themselves in different tempos and volumes, each instrument important for the full sound an orchestra can produce.

Here are some quotes from students after the concert.

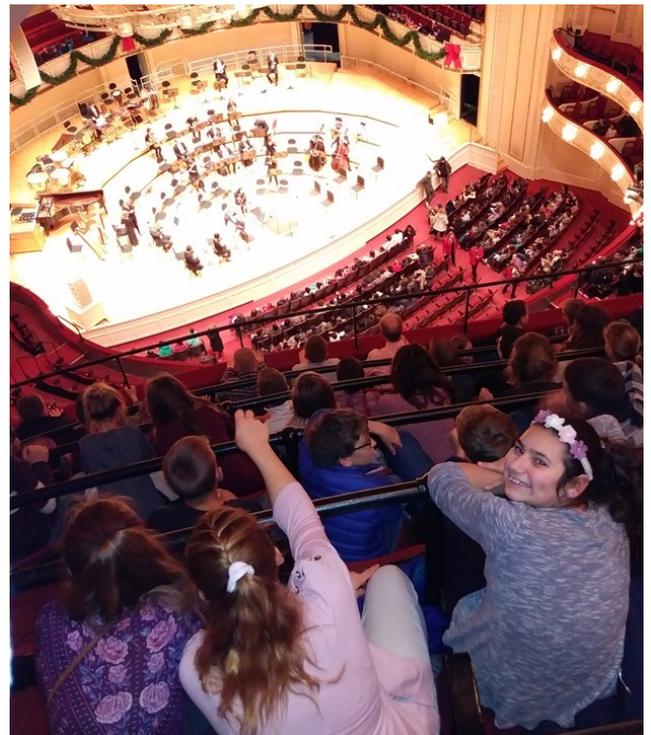
I thought the Chicago Symphony Orchestra was really cool. The building was really awesome as well. It was huge and had lots of stairs. The seats were red and the balcony was really steep. There were many instruments like the violins, harps, a celesta, bassoons, flutes, piccolo, chellos, etc... The music they performed was outstanding. My favorite song was the last song, the William Tell Overture. It was used by the Swiss as their freedom song. However, we often know it as a song used for someone riding horseback. Thank you school board for approving this trip. Thank you school for paying for us to go. And I thank God that He brought us there safely to listen to the talents that He has given these musicians to perform. -Chloe De Jong

I liked the big building and how everything was set up. The seats were cool and I loved how we looked down from way high up. I mostly watched the percussion and the conductor, though I liked looking at the flutes and violins. My favorite piece was the Nutcracker with the bells and violins. Overall, it was a cool experience. It was very interesting how the conductor told us about CSO history and how it started. I'm glad I went and I thank everyone who helped make it possible for us to go. I hope I would be able to go again, and maybe other students would come too. Thank you. -Tori Haak

I like the percussion instruments. They added a certain "icing on the cake" for the songs. The building was grand and was a great sight to see. The sound of the music would ring through the whole building. The conductor was very interesting with how passionately he talked about the music. My favorite instrument was the violins with the swift but soft tune in the melody. My favorite song was the William Tell Overture. The orchestra was a grand group of musicians. It was a great experience. -Jonny Zandstra

It was really fun at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. The building was really nice. The music sounded amazing. I really liked the flag song. Before I went here, my dad told me that this building was the first building repaired/built after the Chicago Fire. The only thing I didn't like is that I saw no saxophones (the instrument I play). It was really fun there. Thank you for letting us go. -Daniel Holleman

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra today was a wonderful experience. My favorite instrument was the celesta which is like a piano, but instead of hammering keys, it rings little bells. That is the instrument that plays the cool part in the beginning of "The Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy." My favorite pieces of music were Trepak, A Russian dance from the Nutcracker ballet, and William



National Geography Bee

Each year thousands of schools in the United States participate in the National Geographic GeoBee using materials prepared by the National Geographic Society. This has been a tradition at our school as well. Students in grades five through eight originally compete in their preliminary classroom rounds. These classroom competitions consist of seven rounds. The first three rounds are questions about the United States and students are given a choice of two answers from which to pick. Round 4 was entitled "Source to Sea" which asked questions about rivers. The answer to each question in this round was one of the seven continents. Here's an example. *The Vistula River flows through the cities of Krakow and Warsaw on which continent?* Round 5 was entitled "Amazing Animals" and tested the students' knowledge of animals around the world. This section again offered two choices for answers. Here's an example: *Which animal that can regenerate its limbs and tail can be found in the Appalachian Mountains-salamander or red-eyed tree frog?* Round 6 was called "Odd One Out". Students were asked about countries around the world. They were given a choice of three answers and they had to choose the answer that did NOT belong. Here is an example: *Which country is not crossed by the Equator-Gabon, Guatemala, or Indonesia?* Finally, round 7 was entitled "Global Economy" and tested the students' knowledge of the economic activities of countries around the world. Students had to name a country and were not provided a choice of answers. Sample: *Tea and coffee are major crops grown in the highlands near Nairobi in which African country?* Each of the grades five through eight looked for two contestants to advance beyond the preliminary classroom rounds to the school competition.

Eight students then advanced to the school competition. We held the school geography bee competition in the gym so all the classes involved could observe. In the final round, a contestant is eliminated after answering two questions incorrectly. Each round in the final competition varied, in some rounds each student was given a separate question whereas some questions were the same to all students and were answered by each student writing their answer with marker on a piece of paper within a 15 second time frame. From the school competition, we continued to ask questions until a third place contestant and the top two finalists were determined. The top three students in this year's Geography bee were Nicholas Lenting (6th grade; 3rd place), Collin Lenting (8th grade) and Hannah Lenting (8th grade). Collin and Hannah then advanced to the championship round.

The two finalists started over with a clean slate in the championship round. This round consisted of three questions. These questions were asked to both finalists at the same time and they had 15 seconds to write down their answers. Here are the three questions they were asked in the school championship round. 1) *Saginaw Bay, a popular summer tourist destination in the state of Michigan, is an inlet of which lake?* 2) *February 2019 marks the start of the Alpine World Ski Championships. This competition will be held in which country that is the most populous in Scandinavia?* 3) *National Geographic Explorer Ricardo Moreno studies jaguars and human-jaguar conflict in places like Darien National Park, the largest national park in which Central American country?*

Congratulations to all our finalists and especially to Collin Lenting who was our school champion. Collin Lenting recently took a state qualifying test to determine if he can advance to the state GeoBee. As many as 100 of the highest-scoring students in a state advance to the state competition.

Answers to above questions: Round 4) Europe; Round 5) salamander; Round 6) Guatemala; Round 7) Kenya
Answers to school championship round questions: 1) Lake Huron, 2) Sweden, 3) Panama

How did you do?



L to R: Nicholas Lenting (6th), Ethan De Jong (6th), Joshua Boverhof (7th), Levi Houck (7th), Collin Lenting (8th), Hunter Regnerus (5th), Owen De Jong (5th), Hannah Lenting (8th)

8th Grade Beanbag Tournament

The 8th graders thank you for your support of our 14th annual beanbag tournament. We appreciate all the support from both the contestants and the spectators. We had a record high 57 teams sign up this year. These teams were separated into four men's division, a ladies division, and two co-ed divisions. Each team competed against every other team in their division. We had 11 games running simultaneously which allowed us to play the 205 games needed to determine advancement to the championship brackets in about three hours. The top two teams from each bracket advanced to the next round of competition.

Congratulations to those teams who advanced to the championship rounds. Also, congratulations to our winners, Z² (Nicole Zandstra and Blake Zylstra) and the Zebras (Calvin Bruinsma and Todd Zandstra).

The 8th graders also had a bake sale during the beanbag tournament. Thanks to all who donated baked good items and those who purchased them. Overall, the beanbag tournament and bake sale netted a \$3900



Heritage Christian High School Honor Roll

First Semester 2018-2019

High Honors (3.5 – 4.0)

12	Elizabeth Hillegonds
12	Julia Holleman
12	Connor Houck
12	Nathan Mancusi
12	Ryanne Van Overloop
11	Matthew Gagliardi
11	Jane Mancusi
11	Sadie Smits
11	Luke Van Baren
10	Vanessa Andringa
10	Isabel Boer
10	Sean Dykstra
10	David Holleman
10	Mark Holleman
10	Joshua Houck
10	Carly Huizenga
10	Earl Kamps
10	Emma Lenting
10	Jonah Medema
10	Jacob Moore
10	Jed Ophoff
10	Josephine Ophoff
10	Troy Ophoff
10	Dylan Poortinga
10	Jared Van Baren
9	Morgan Bennett
9	Dora Bruinsma
9	Karissa Moore
9	Sophia Smits

Honors (3.0 – 3.49)

12	Noah Andringa
12	Samuel Lenting
12	Carlie Poortinga
12	Thaddeus Van Baren
12	Morgan Van Der Griend
12	Garrett Varner
11	Noah Bauer
11	Andrew De Jong
11	Olivia Lindsey
11	Meghan Ophoff
11	Abigail Van Der Noord
11	Caleb Van Overloop
11	Blake Zylstra
10	David De Jong
10	Carolyn Lenting
10	Jonathan Lubbers
10	Elaina Regnerus
10	Chloe Ward
10	Carter Van Der Griend
10	Benjamin Zandstra
10	Cody Zandstra
9	Madison Bennett
9	Isabel Lubbers
9	Michael Mancusi
9	David Terpstra
9	Renae Van Overloop