

# *The Grapevine*

## ***Bulkley Valley Christian School Vision Statement***

*Our goal is to prepare young people to live fully for God with the ability to understand, evaluate, and transform their world from the foundations of God's infallible Word, the Bible.*

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*A monthly newsletter of  
Bulkley Valley  
Christian School*

*Operated by the  
Christian School Society  
Of Smithers and Telkwa*

*August 2011  
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## ***Message from the Board Chair***

As we approach the end of August we begin to anticipate the beginning of another school year at BVCS. Soon the hallways and classrooms will be buzzing with students and staff in our new unified campus welcoming all our students from pre-school through to grade 12. The final touches are being completed on the addition as well as many of the renovations that were done at the existing campus and we expect most things, including the new sidewalk and boulevard, to be completed by the beginning of school. As I reflect over the process we as a Christian school community have gone through over the past couple of years to arrive where we are today, as a single campus Christian school, I feel a strong sense of thankfulness. Thankful for a staff that is deeply committed to Christian education, an administration team that is also very committed and willing to lead the school through a time of transition, a board and society that was willing to "dig in" and work hard towards the goal of a unified campus. I would like to say a big "Thank you" to everyone who was involved in this process. God indeed is faithful and we can move forward into this new school year with excitement, knowing that He is there to lead us.

So, welcome to another school year! A special welcome our new families, the five exchange student that will be joining us and an international student. We hope you soon feel at home here. I would also like to encourage everyone to come out to the "Back to School Barbeque" that will be happening in the beginning of September. I wish you all God's blessing in the coming school year.

Glenn Bandstra

### From the Principal



As you read this short article we are only a little more than a week away from the official start of another school year. This past week a number of staff members and I were at school already to get ready for this event. As a new administrator I have begun the steep learning curve that comes with starting this new job. I am confident that with the help of my colleagues and with a patient and graceful supportive community we will be able to work hard at making the school 'the best it can be.' This is a phrase I have heard quite a bit during this past year. There is a real desire to do everything we can to make this a reality, as we stand at beginning of a new part in the history of BVCS. I call on you as parents to be supportive as we learn to become a K-12 community; it will take a lot of give-and-take. I call on the students to take their work seriously; school is not a social club, it is an educational institution. Teachers are committed to teach a program that is in line with the vision of our school. It is my hope and prayer that together, and with God's help, we will give expression to the fact that this school is truly a *Christian* school, a place where teachers and parents work together as partners to ensure that our children are enabled to live in as true disciples of Christ.

K. Kort, Principal

### Highlights of the May 2011 Board of Directors' Meetings

Kristine Huxtable opened with devotions and prayers. The board approved the minutes of April 2011 and then spent time reviewing reports from the various committees.

A subcommittee of Chris Steenhof, Klaas Kort, Hugo VanderHoek, and Warren Vandenberg has been working on developing a review process for the DL Principal.

The Board approved a phasing-in period for the librarian position having both librarians working together one day a week from September to December 2011.

#### **Education Committee:**

- Math Streams meeting was held on May 17, 2011. There was a good turnout. A lot of schools are dealing with this exact issue. Committee will discuss more at their next meeting and come up with recommendation to board.
- A motion was brought forth to the board to approve the policy regarding possession and use of weapons at school to be included in the Education Committee handbook. After discussion, the decision was made to table the motion to allow for some changes to the wording of the policy.

Kristine Huxtable gave a report on her school visits over the last month. She attended the Track and Field Day with the elementary school students. She was happy to see the way the students supported each other during their events. Also, she commented how great it was to see the DL families there as well. With high school, she attended their pancake breakfast and had a good time getting to know some of the students better. The visits were very enjoyable and Kristine would love to do more of them.

#### **Admissions Committee:**

- Two new families have been recommended for full membership. We welcome **John & Melanie Martin** and **Dan & Kristen Hoogland** to our school community as full members!

#### **Financial Report:**

- Glenda Posthuma is working on Draft #6 of the budget. She is presently in the process of sending out letters for tuition arrears, which is a tough job.
- There has been an increase in the Government Grant of 2011/2012 school year.
- There is concern about our enrolment numbers. New families would make a big difference!

#### **Building, Grounds, and Transportation Committee (BGTC):**

- Everything is on track for the Unified Campus to receive "a lot" of stuff. Work bees are taking place every Tuesday to get the work done.

- The Board approved the BGTC motion of continuing to use the newer bus for regular daily use and budgeting for the purchase of a new(ish) bus to replace the 2005 Int'l by 2012-2013 and then consider using the 2005 Int'l as a field trip bus. Discussions were held about the feasibility of going to only one bus, but it was felt that would make it difficult to serve the entire school (field trips, etc.).

**BVCS Educational Creed Adhoc Committee:**

A meeting is to take place June 6<sup>th</sup> to discuss the proposed changes. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

The next regular board meeting date: June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

**Highlights of the June 2011 Board of Directors' Meeting**

Mike Bandstra opened with devotions and prayers. The board approved the minutes of May 2011, and then spent time reviewing reports from the various committees.

The Board approved the addition of BVCS Education Committee's policy regarding possession and use of weapons at school to the Education Committee handbook.

**Education Committee:**

- The Board approved the hiring of Natasha Bandstra for a DL teaching position for the 2011/2012 school year.
- Peter Rhebergen was granted permission to take part in the "Outdoor Experiential Education and the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Initiative" course. He is presently on the waiting list, as the course is full.
- Karen Vanderschaaf has agreed to be the Shecana representative for BVCS.
- Henry Contant will be in the Bulkley Valley for the Northern Principal's Conference, September 16<sup>th</sup>. There will also be a board/committee training session on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

Mike Bandstra gave a report on his school visits over the last month. He attended Kindergarten graduation where each student came dressed as what they wanted to be when they grew up. He also attended the school work bees and was happy to see the amount of volunteers that turned out.

**Admissions Committee:**

- Two new families have been recommended for full membership. We welcome **Josh & Laura Wimbush** and **Tom & Sheri Lundberg** to our school community as full members!

**Financial Report:**

- Committee has approved \$1500 for new equipment in Preschool and Kindergarten classrooms.
- Committee may need to hold a meeting in July to discuss the issue of declining enrollment and the effects on the budget.

**Building, Grounds, and Transportation Committee:**

- Move is scheduled to take place June 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. Lots of volunteers are needed!

**BVCS Educational Creed Adhoc Committee:**

- Meeting took place June 6<sup>th</sup> to discuss the proposed changes. It was a small turnout, but good discussions were held.

The next regular board meeting date: August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2011.

Recording Secretary for the Board, Yvonne T.

**Highlights of the August 2011 Board of Directors' Meeting**

Klaas Kort opened with devotions and prayers. The board approved the minutes of June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011, and then spent time reviewing reports from the various committees.

There will be a **Back to School BBQ and Grand Re-opening of the BVCS Unified Campus** on Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. This will include a burger and salad supper, along with a brief ceremony of dedication and ribbon cutting. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

On Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup> there will be a **Board Training Session** in Houston with Henry Contant. All board members are encouraged to attend.

**Admissions Committee:**

- We welcome **Jesse and Teale Hertgers** to our school community as full members!

#### **Financial Report:**

- Financial Statement ending June 2011 was received for information

#### **Building, Grounds, and Transportation Committee:**

- Quite a bit is happening at the Unified Campus to get everything cleaned up and ready for the first day of school. There is also cleaning that needs to take place at the Elementary Campus and some bigger items that need to be moved over to the Unified Campus.
- The committee is working on developing a busing agreement between BVCS and Ebenezer School, which is hoped to streamline routes and minimize the use of public buses.

A huge **Thank You** to Martin & Charlotte Apperloo for donating their floor polisher and some other cleaning equipment to the school. It is greatly appreciated!

Due to the summer break, many committees had not met for the last couple of months and, therefore, did not have a report to submit.

The next regular board meeting date: September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

Recording Secretary for the Board, Yvonne Tucker

#### **Back to School BBQ and Grand Re-Opening of the BVCS Unified Campus: Sept. 13, 2011**

Plan to come out for a hamburger supper and brief ceremony to celebrate the start of a new school year and the re-opening of our unified campus: Preschool to Grade 12!



Mark Tuesday, September 13th on your calendars, and enjoy being with others in the school community for a casual supper, served from 5:30 to 6:30. Bring your lawn chairs and dishes, the rest will be provided. (There will be a donation bucket to help offset costs.)

At 6:30 p.m. we will meet in the gym for a short ceremony, then it's back outside for the official ribbon-cutting, and of course dessert!

In order to have the right amount of food ready, we need you to email or phone the school to say you are coming, and with how many people by FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH: [admin@bvcs.ca](mailto:admin@bvcs.ca) or 250-847-4238.

If you know of a family just starting with our school society, please give them a call to remind them of this event. A personal invitation is always appreciated!

#### **Important Information for Parents and Students**

Being on a unified campus will take some time to get used to. In order to ensure that the transition goes as smoothly as possible and that our students' safety will not be at risk, we ask that you take note of the protocols below. They were taken from the revised parent/student handbook. A copy of the handbook can be found in the student agendas. Please take the time to familiarize yourselves with its content.

#### **Buses and Busing**

Students using the BVCS busing system will be dropped off and picked up at the designated pick-up area in front of the school. Students are required to walk along the designated pathway to and from the bus stop.

Students using the District 54 busing system will be dropped off and picked up along Fulton Avenue. Students are required to walk along the designated pathway to and from the bus stop.

#### **Parking Lot Rules**

The staff and visitor parking area is located in front of the school building. The student parking area is located on the west side of the school, near Fulton Avenue. To avoid

congestion and for student safety, the parking lot is not meant to be used as a pick-up and drop off area. Parents are asked to drop off and pick up their children on the sidewalk in front of the modular building. Students will then make their way into the building using the designated walkway.

### **Entrance To Building**

Students of grades 7 -12 may enter and leave the school building through the main foyer or the west entry door during school hours of 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. They may use the student foyer during recess and lunch breaks. The students of grades 7 – 9 may remain in their classrooms in the modular building only if a teacher is present. Unless participating in a supervised activity, all students should leave the school by 3:30 p.m.

Students of grades K – 6 will normally be outside before school and during breaks. Kindergarten students will line up by the front gate near the playground and wait for their teacher to come and get them. Grades 1-6 will enter and leave the building through the entrances by the sports field, grades 1-3 through the glass doors and grades 4-6 through the doors by the ramp. Students may be asked to line up and wait for their teacher to let them in. When arriving late, students must use the main entrance and report to the office before going to class.

### **Welcome**

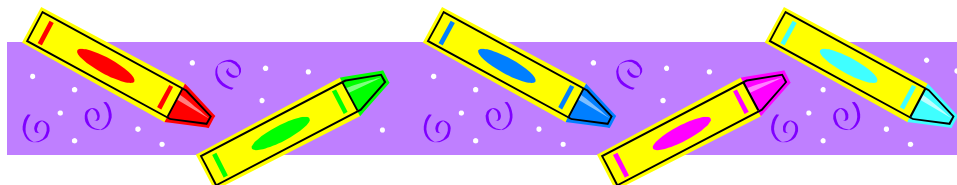
We are very happy to welcome a number of new students and their families: First of all, our new kindergarten students, Wyatt Dejong, Jesse Green, Abigail Hoogland, Matthew Knol, David Loki, Austin Martin, Kai Meerdink, Ainslee O’Coffey, Ava Wimbush, Trenton Widen, Mila Woudstra, Ben Yuen, and Tobias Hertgers. We also welcome our exchange students Aileen Hein, Andrea Lopez Garza, Milena Prigge, Janina Keller and Peter Kersten and our international student Tim Knigge. We hope that all of you will soon feel at home among our students and teachers.

### **First Day of School**

The bell signaling the beginning of the first day of school will ring at 8:28 on Tuesday, September 6, 2011. Students will be in classes or homerooms until the opening assembly which will be from 10:30 – 11:05. All parents and other interested people are encouraged to attend. Students will be dismissed at 11:15. The first full day of school will be Wednesday, September 7.

### **Homerooms**

We have decided to make a change in the way homerooms are organized by returning to grade based homerooms. This means that every teacher will be doing devotions with the students they have during the second block of the day. As needed students will be directed to go to homerooms to deal with things such as tracking of service hours and Daily Physical Activity, handouts, etc. The following teachers have been designated as homeroom teachers: Grade 7 – Mrs. DeBoer; Grade 8 – Mr. Boyes; Grade 9 – Mrs. Monn; Grade 10 – Mr. Boone; Grade 11 – Mr. VanDriel; Grade 12 – Mr. Vis.





## **SUPPLY LIST FOR K-6**

1. **All students (K- 6)** require *non-scuff* shoes for gym and inside use.  
**Please test them before purchasing.**
2. **Grade 4 students** will be supplied with a Yamaha Recorder and a music book.  
The cost will be **\$25.00 each student which will cover the grade 4 & 5 recorder program.**
  - **Yamaha recorder - \$10**
  - **The Complete Recorder Kit 1 & 2 (book & CD) - \$15**These monies will be collected in **September**.
3. **Grades 4-6 students** who brought their **Bible** home for the summer should bring them back to school in **September** (new students will be given one).
4. **ALL** students are asked to bring **\$2.00** to contribute to our outdoor classroom playground equipment. Please give to classroom teacher during the first week of school.

## **SUPPLIES TO PURCHASE:**

### **Grade K:**

- One box of Kleenex

### **Grade 1:**

- Kleenex and pencil case

### **Grade 2/3:**

- Pencil crayons (not felt markers)
- 1 large glue stick (for Art)
- pencil case
- Kleenex

### **Grade 4/5:**

- Pencil crayons (not felt markers)
- 1 large glue stick (for Art)

### **Grade 5/6:**

- Pencil crayons (not felt markers)
- 1 large glue stick
- One, 1 inch – 3 ring binder **\*Please purchase the PLAIN binders – no zippers, note-totes, etc.**

**Students MUST have the supplies on the first day of school.**  
**No Students are to have whiteout.**

## **September Hymn of the Month**

### **Earth and All Stars**

Earth and all stars! Come, rushing planets!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Oh, victory! Order from chaos!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!

#### *Refrain:*

He has done marvelous things.  
I too will praise him with a new song!

Hail, wind, and rain! Come, blowing snowstorms!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Flowers and trees! Soft rustling dry leaves!  
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

Trumpet and pipes! Come, clashing cymbals!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Harp, lute, and lyre! Low humming cellos!  
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

Engines and steel! Come, pounding hammers!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Limestone and beams! Strong building workers!  
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

Classrooms and labs! Come, boiling test tubes!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Athlete and band! Loud cheering people!  
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

Knowledge and truth! Come, piercing wisdom  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Children of God, dying and rising,  
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

# Bulkley Valley Christian School 2010/2011 School Year

## Passport to Education Recipients

The grade 10, 11, and 12 stamps distribution will be a set amount of 9000 stamps for each grade to be allocated provincially amongst eligible schools. Two-thirds of the weighting is on the student's best five provincially authorized courses and/or Board Authority authorized courses, including Distance Education courses and one-third of the weighting is based on effort, work habits, and other factors such as citizenship or school/community involvement. The values of the stamps for the 2010/2011 school year are: grade 10 - \$250; grade 11 - \$250; and grade 12 - \$500. Congratulations students!

Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Sarah Groot	Waurner Adema	Benjamin Alles
Kristin Holtvluwer	Daniel deHoog	Janessa Vandenberg
Natasha Steenhof	Joshua Horlings	Joshua Weme
Madison Swanson	Kristi Vandenberg	
Carissa Weme		

## Merit Roll - Average of 2.5 or better for effort

Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
David Bakker	Waurner Adema	Benjamin Alles
Stephanie Bandstra	Bonnie Barendregt	Derek Ripmeester
Aline Bouwman	Jesse Boonstra	Kellsey Truscott
Marissa Duursma	Daniel deHoog	Janessa Vandenberg
Sarah Groot	Jesse Ewald	Joshua Weme
Kristin Holtvluwer	Bibby Graham	
Evan Horlings	Katharina Pronnicki	
Brady Krakana	Jane Qian	
Michael Sayachack	Katrina Rouw	
Natasha Steenhof	Simon Schat	
Madison Swanson	Kristi Vandenberg	
Nate Swanson		
Riley Swanson		
Jake Truscott		
Corliss Van Veen		
Ian VanderHoek		
Carissa Weme		

# Honor Roll

## First Class - Overall course average of 86% or higher

Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Aline Bouwman	Waurner Adema	Benjamin Alles
Marissa Duursma	Daniel deHoog	Derek Ripmeester
Sarah Groot	Jesse Ewald	Janessa Vandenberg
Kristin Holtvluwer	Katharina Pronnicki	Joshua Weme
Michael Sayachack	Jane Qian	
Natasha Steenhof	Katrina Rouw	
Madison Swanson	Kristi Vandenberg	
Nate Swanson		
Ian VanderHoek		
Carissa Weme		

## Second Class- Overall course average of 75% - 85%

Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
David Bakker	Jesse Boonstra	Jennifer Boonstra
Stephanie Bandstra	Lorne Braam	Travis Brandsma
Evan Horlings	Bibby Graham	Corey Posthuma
Brady Krakana	Joshua Horlings	Brayden Taekema
Virginia Mager	Riley Jones	Kellsey Truscott
Jennifer McEwen	Jared Lester	Justine Widen
Kimberly McEwen	Nathaniel Mann	Norman Zhang
Riley Swanson	Paige Onderwater	
Jake Truscott	Simon Schat	
Brenna Van Cadsand	Justin Steenhof	
Corliss Van Veen	Laurel Wells	
	Matthew Widen	

## Governor General's Bronze Medal Award

A bronze medal is awarded to the student who achieves the highest average upon graduation from a secondary school. The average includes all grade 11 and grade 12 courses as listed on the student's official Transcript of Grades issued by the Ministry of Education. The average cannot be anticipated; it must be calculated based on final results after provincial examinations, where the Ministry of Education requires final exams.



The recipient for the 2010/2011 school year is:  
**Janessa Vandenberg**  
Congratulations, Janessa!

### **Calendar of Events**

Sept 6	First day of classes Preschool - Grade 12. Early dismissal (11:15)
Sept 13	Back to school barbeque
Sept 21	Individual photo day
Sept 22	Early dismissal (1:50)
Sept 23	No public buses
Oct 3	Fall society meeting
Oct 6 & 7	Professional Development Days (no classes)
Oct 10	Thanksgiving Day (no classes)
Oct 21	Professional Development Day (no classes)
Oct 27	Evening parent teacher conferences
Oct 28	Daytime parent teacher conferences

### **Christian School Society of Smithers and Telkwa**

<b><u>Board Members</u></b>		<b><u>Teaching Staff Members</u></b>
Chairperson	Glenn Bandstra	Jonathan Boone
Vice Chairperson	Irene Bakker	Shawn Boyes
Treasurer	Fred Reitsma	John Buikema
Corresponding Secretary	Cornelia Huisman	Jennifer de Boer
Admission Committee	Irene Bakker	Roxanne Dykstra
	Vicki Veenstra	Deb Groot
Building/Grounds/ Transportation Committee	Steve deHoog	Myrna Johnson
Capital Development Committee		Klaas Kort
Education Committee	Warren Vandenberg	Christa LaFountain
	Kristine Huxtable	Winette McEwen
Finance Committee	Glenn Bandstra	Julie Monn-Djasngar
Promotion Committee	Irene Bakker	Elaine Nanninga
	Vicki Veenstra	Peter Rhebergen
Employee Relations Committee	Dave ripmeester	Chris Steenhof
Standing Grad Committee	Cornelia Huisman	Tom Stolte
Secretary for the Board	Yvonne Tucker	Hugo VanderHoek
		Ron VanDriel
		John Vis
		Carolyn Visser

*The Grapevine* is a monthly newsletter for members of the Christian School Society of Smithers and Telkwa as well as others interested in news from Bulkley Valley Christian School. It is distributed via school children and to others by local churches and by mail. We welcome your contribution but reserve the right to edit for suitability.

**If you wish to submit an article, please contact Wilma Numan by email at [wnuman@bvcs.ca](mailto:wnuman@bvcs.ca).**