

SCHOOL NEWS



He waters the hills with rain from the skies, and plentiful grass and herbs He supplies. Psalter 286

School Board Notes

Meeting Held April 14, 2021

1. President Mike De Jager reads from Psalm 25 and opens with prayer.
2. The Treasurer's report is received.
3. The Tuition report is received.
4. The Building report is received.
5. The new building project is on schedule.
6. The principal's report is received.
7. The 8th grade graduation song is approved.
8. Class visit reports are received.
9. The Guild treasurer's report is received.
10. Carl Maassen closes with prayer.

Next Meeting Scheduled for Wednesday, May 5.

Church Collection Report

Received YTD: \$221,551.65
 Budgeted YTD: \$246,017.04
 Difference YTD: **(\$24,465.39)**

Ladies Guild News

Grandparent's Day at HPRCS is coming soon! The day will be held on Friday, April 23, from 9:00 to 11:30 with a noon meal to follow for the grandparents. Please notice that your noon meal will be served to you in the music/choir room due to our exciting school renovations! We ask that you RSVP if you are planning to eat and if you have not done so yet please call/text Stephanie VM by tomorrow at 616-780-1373. We are looking forward to seeing you visit the classrooms and fellowship with the teachers!

Our thanks to all those who participated and came to the 3 on 3 Basketball tournament. Also, a special thank-you to the committee, volunteers and those who donated time and goods. We appreciate the support to make this event successful for our school.

A new event will be held this year, the Lord willing. An exciting picnic and afternoon of games and activities will be held at the end of the school year. Grandparents and parents are invited to school to watch the fun! More details coming soon!

"Then praise thy God, O Zion, his gracious aid confess; He gives thee peace and plenty, his gifts thy children bless."
 Psalter 402 vs 4

School Calendar

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| APRIL | 19-22: ISASP testing (3rd-8th)
20: interscholastic vocal, instrumental night (6th-8th)
22: kindergarten round up
22: 2:30 dismissal
23: Grandparents' Day in AM
30: K-2 chapel |
| MAY | 5: Western Chr. track meet (8 th)
5: school board meeting
10: Guild meeting
12: Trailblazer track meet
13: 2:30 dismissal
21: last day of school; noon dismissal (K-7); graduation |



Principal's Corner

By Mr. Gritters

There are just five weeks left in the 2020 – 2021 school year, and the teachers are all busy making the necessary preparations and plans to finish the curriculum for each of the subjects they teach. Our last day of school is set for **Friday, May 21**. There is always so much material that each of us as teachers want to get through in our classroom before we dismiss the students for the summer. The Lord has led each of us to know our calling for our lives – to teach His children. As we work together with the parents, the teachers are pleased and humbled to be able to fulfill the calling to rear covenant children in His fear.

In addition to the regular classroom work, April is the month where teachers are planning class trips for each grade, the 7th – 8th grade soccer season is beginning, and the 5th – 8th graders are practicing for the new Trailblazer Track meet set for Wednesday afternoon, **May 12**, in Sioux Center. Most of the practices will be held at our school, but we do rent the A.R. Hesla field in Hull a few times each year to allow the students the opportunity to practice events which we are unable to do at school, such as high jump or relays. One new item on our April calendar this year is the administering of the Iowa **S**tatewide **A**ssessment of **S**tudent **P**rogress (ISASP) to the students in grades 3 – 8. We plan to do this testing during the week of **April 19 -22**.

This is also the time of the year when the Prot. Ref. Special Ed. Board asks our school for a budget request for

our 2021 – 2022 Discovery/resource room. This is a very important part of our school where we try to provide extra academic help so these students are able to continue to grow in knowledge and experience academic success in the classroom. The same test/assignment given to the rest of the class may be given but a helping hand, or a word bank, or some additional tutoring is provided which allows this child to learn at a more appropriate pace.

We, as a school, are very thankful for the financial assistance the Protestant Reformed Special Education Society provides to our school each year. Last year this Society approved approximately \$7,300 for our assistance. The Special Education Society is currently seeking donations to help reach its deficit drive school year goal of \$330,000. These funds are used to support almost all of our Christian Schools at some level focusing on Resource and Discovery Education programs. The Special Education Board thanks you for your generosity and support of the education of our Christian youth who need this help over and above the general classroom.



school and the cardboard boat challenge. This year's challenge is to create a child's playhouse with furnishings. The objective is to construct each item well enough to hold up to the child's play. Two groups of 8th-grade boys are building the house, along with a bedroom addition. Two of the groups of 8th grade girls are making a garage and the car to fit in the garage. Other 8th-grade groups are fashioning a dresser, refrigerator, sink, and stove. Seventh-grade groups are making an outhouse, table and chairs, couch, and bed (complete with storage drawers underneath). I'm delighted to watch the thirty-eight students when they have their creative juices flowing.

The objectives for doing the STEM project, as well as the science fair and Rube Goldberg projects, are for them to show curiosity, problem-solve, and communicate. The students demonstrate growth in each of these areas as they plan, design, create, and present each of these projects.

It has been a school year of growth. I am thankful for each day we spend in the physical classroom, after our hiatus from the building last spring. Each day we seek to live out the motto above our door "Get wisdom. Get understanding" (Prov. 4:5a) and to bring praise to God in all of our academics and relationships

The Seventh Grade Classroom

By Mrs. Jodi Baker

What does a week look like for the 7th graders? Students have four different teachers during an average week. I teach them Bible, mathematics, English, literature, science, and art. Mr. DeBoer teaches 7th-grade history, geography, current events, and PE. Mr. Uittenbogaard teaches these students computer classes twice a week, and students go to Mrs. Zandstra for band and choir classes twice a week.

New items each year for seventh graders are that they volunteer for classroom committees where they make decisions for their classmates. They also get their first taste of end of semester exams in Bible, history, and science. Other new experiences are that in alternate years we create either the Rube Goldberg projects or science fair projects. This past fall I hope you were able to attend the 7th/8th-grade science fair where students displayed many well-thought-out projects.

Each year we also take on a STEM project, which we are currently working on, along with the 8th-graders. This project requires students to fulfill a challenge using only cardboard, glue, and tape. Some past projects left us with many neat memories, especially the two years we held cardboard arcades for the younger students in the