



2024 AGM Administration Report

October 23, 2024

This past year has been a lot of learning for me personally, but it has been one of the most rewarding years of my career. I have gotten to know so many more CCS students and families and I have really enjoyed being in the office. I knew this would be a busy job, but I had no idea just how busy it really is! That being said, it is the excitement of coming to work every day that still makes this the greatest job in the world.

From the first day of September to the last day of June, our school is a flurry of activity from 8:00 am to 10:00 pm. We have kids come in early for worship band practice and to train for track and field. We have practices and intramurals over lunch, and as soon as school is out, the gym and chapel are full of practices, games, singing and dancing. By the time 10:00 pm rolls around, the school is finally empty for the facilities team to do the final sweep. Then in 10 short hours, we repeat it all again. I am in awe at the amount of volunteer hours I see happening every year at CCS and I gratefully thank each and every one of those volunteers for their endless contributions to make CCS wonderful.

Last year was a big year for us as we celebrated our 30th anniversary as a school in Moose Jaw. I created a newsletter called “CCS Community Connections” in an effort to re-engage our 450+ alumni, parents and grandparents of former students of CCS and those people who just love to support our school. Every other month, we would highlight special events that alumni or former families could enjoy or participate in throughout the year. The celebrations culminated into the big reunion over the May long weekend with over 220 people in attendance and 200 viewers joining us online as we streamed the Friday night program. That event made me feel old as we welcomed back so many alumni, and the laughs we shared together will be a forever memory. After hearing the stories from that weekend, it was quite evident that the Lord had His hand on CCS from the day He birthed the vision in the hearts of the founding families. Today as we meet for this AGM, I pray that His blessings continue until He comes again!

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At the AGM last year, we talked about the building exterior and that we planned to look at it in the near future. I guess the Lord heard those words loud and clear and He blessed us with a new Facilities Manager whose heart and love for CCS abounds and his vision lined up with mine. We embarked on an extensive exterior upgrade this summer, and if I had a dime for every time someone from the community commented on how great our building looks, I would be able to fill up the tank in the CCS van! We used some funds generated from our “From Launch to Legacy” capital fundraising campaign and we were able to do the full exterior upgrade for around \$10,000, which was a fraction of the cost of hiring a contractor. Brian Fisher worked long days and his skills as a journeyman carpenter showed with a building that looks fresh, new, and cohesive from end to end.

The first day of school was extremely exciting once again as we welcomed 32 new students into the CCS family, and I was privileged to meet so many new parents. Two weeks later, we had our annual open house and Commencement Awards ceremony. We also provided a free will offering BBQ, and those proceeds went towards our Student Leadership Council (SLC) who helped serve our families supper that evening. We had many families coming to meet staff, tour the school, and pack the chapel for the awards night. It was a great night for everyone and an opportunity to celebrate our students and their high school academic achievements.

Our students have already had the opportunity to be part of many special events to start this year! The grade 9's went on their annual retreat to Cypress Hills and this will bookend with a trip to the same spot at the end of their grade 12 year. The SLC just returned from their annual retreat to Dallas Valley Camp for two days of intense Christian leadership training. The grade 11's and 12's took part in a huge career fair at the Moose Jaw Exhibition Centre where they could try a career and talk to recruiters from various post-secondary institutions. Another event in the planning stages again this year is the Mission to Mexico trip. Last year, we revived this mission opportunity and built a new relationship with a bible camp in Merida, Mexico. Our team will once again serve at this bible camp over the Easter break.

Our musical practices are in full swing once again. The hours that the staff and students pour into this show to make it a professional production are absolutely mind blowing. I can hardly wait to sit back and watch the finished product in a couple of weeks. The gym and sports fields have also been a place for the CCS athletes to



shine this fall. We are always grateful for the positive co-op relationships with the other high schools so that our students can jump on soccer and football teams to participate in a sport that they are passionate about. We are also very proud to offer top quality volleyball, basketball, badminton and track teams at CCS. All of these teams experienced much success last year and are looking great again this year. These extra-curricular activities would not be possible without the many staff and parent volunteers who commit countless hours to the success of these programs.

Academics, of course, are a major focus here at CCS. Our goal is to always “engage the mind” and “equip for life” as we weave the Christian worldview into everything we do in order to “empower with Christ”. Our major focus is on the basics of mathematics, reading, and writing. We offer every major math and science course needed for graduation and post-secondary admissions, while mixing in a variety and as many electives in high school that we possibly can to give each and every student a chance to find their lifelong passion.

This report is just a brief overview and snapshot of life at CCS. I feel that our school does an amazing job of getting information out to our families with the weekly Monday e-mail, and posting information on Facebook, Instagram and the school website. Teachers also send out information to the parents of their students and I highlight life here at CCS in my monthly “A Note from the Principal” newsletter.

As I wrap up my admin report, I want to thank the board, parents, staff, and students for all of your support and encouragement throughout this year. It has been busy and there have been long days, but this job is very special, and I am excited to come to work each and every day.

Blessings,

Lee Behrns
Principal & CEO
Cornerstone Christian School