

Hull Protestant Reformed Christian School SCHOOL NEWS

January 2025

He giveth snow like wool; He scattereth the hoarfrost like ashes. Psalm 147:16

School Board Notes

Meeting held January 8, 2025

1. President Chad Andringa reads from Psalm 36 and opens with prayer.
2. Treasurer's Report is received
3. Scrip Report is received
4. Tuition Report is received
5. Building Fund Report is received
6. Transportation Committee report is received
7. Principal's Report is received
8. The Education Committee will meet on January 29, 2025
9. The agenda for the Special Society Meeting scheduled for January 20, 2025 is approved
10. Foundation Committee report is received
11. Mark Kooima closes in prayer

Next Meeting Scheduled for February 5, 2025



Cash and Carry Scrip is available every school day in the school office.

Church Collection Report

Received YTD: \$153,162.24
Budgeted YTD: \$152,320.00
Difference YTD **(\$842.24)**

Ladies Guild Notes

New Year's greetings to you as we return from a season of celebration and rest. We as a Ladies Guild pray that your time with loved ones was filled with joy and renewal. We look forward to walking together in the new calendar year in hope and zeal, trusting in God's perfect plan.

With the new year comes a new meeting. Ladies Guild will meet Monday, January 13, 2024, at 7:30 p.m. in the 7th grade room. We hope you will join us in sharing ideas and supporting our school.

Be sure to keep an eye out for the upcoming events this spring. Grandparent's Day, the 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament, and the Father-Son Social are a few of the events that will be popping up in the next few months.

Proverbs 16:3 reminds us, "*Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established.*" May this year be a time of growth, purpose, and walking steadfastly in His will.

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School Calendar

JANUARY	13-17: 1st and 2nd Iowa Assessment tests
	20: special society meeting
	22: 2:30 dismissal
FEBRUARY	5: school board
	12: 2:30 dismissal
	17: Presidents' Day/no school
	26: 2:30 dismissal
	28: all school program

Principal's Corner

By Mr. Gritters

It is hard to believe that we are officially into the year 2025! We are halfway through another school year. This past **Friday, January 10**, marked the halfway point through another school year and the end of the 1st semester for the 2024 – 2025 school year. Report cards will be sent home on Thursday, **January 16**, the Lord willing. As teachers and students, we were grateful for the Christmas break, but we are very thankful to be able to return to school to resume our labors once again.

During the 2nd semester, our school will once again be having Trinity students who will be helping out our teachers in our school. This practice has been done for many years now. This year we have nine students who will be assisting our teachers during the school day hours for about 35 minutes each day. All the grades from 1st – 8th will have at least one of the Trinity students working in their classroom. As a school, we have been very thankful and appreciative for the assistance these students give to our teachers.

January is the month when our school administers the Iowa Assessment tests. The 1st & 2nd grade students will be taking the Iowa Assessments from **January 13 – January 17**. The results of these assessments will be given to the first and second-grade parents at the March conferences. The overall results of each grade will then

be reported to the Education Committee, to the School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC), and to our school board. The state of Iowa **requires** all accredited non-public schools to take the ISASP which stands for the **Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress**. The ISASP will be administered to the students in **grades 3 – 8** later this school year in **April**.

Many of the classes are beginning to practice singing songs for the All School Program which is to be held Friday evening, **February 28**, the Lord willing. They are using the morning singing each day to help prepare the students. The theme of this year's program is "Jehovah - Our Light". Please mark the date on your calendar and plan to attend. We, as a school, look forward to reciting God's Word and singing the songs of praise for the honor and glory of Jehovah at this program.

May we as a staff continue to strive to teach the students the ways of the Lord within our school – not for our own benefit, but for the glory and honor of God. What a joy and blessing it is to be able to educate our children in our own covenant Christian school.



Linking History and Literature

By: Mrs. Blankespoor

Hello from the 6th-8th history, English, and literature classroom! I can't believe we are beginning the second semester already!

One of the best aspects of teaching both history and literature is that these subjects can so easily tie together. I've had several opportunities to link literature and history with the 7th and 8th graders this school year. Just as we began studying the establishment of the American colonies, we read the novel *Johnny Tremain* by Ester Forbes which tells the story of a young man who witnesses the events leading up to the Revolutionary War in Boston. In this connection, we read the poem "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere" by a famous early-American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and compared this poem to the accurate historical events of that night. We then discussed the benefits of primary sources—first-hand accounts of a historical event— versus secondary sources which may give room for an author's personal bias or mistakes. We also read a section of the sermon "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God" by Jonathan Edwards while learning about the Great Awakening in colonial America. This sermon has some amazing word pictures describing a spider being hung over the fire and a bow and arrow being held ready to shoot, so the students illustrated what they read with some insightful drawings.

In 6th grade history, the study is of ancient civilizations. This has been a blast to prepare for as well! I'm quite thankful for the helpful librarians in Sioux Center and Hull who often receive a large online checkout list to prepare for me. Currently, we are concluding a unit on ancient China. We read an assortment of picture books to help us visualize what life was like in ancient China. One story told about a young boy put to the test by the emperor, and who chooses to tell the truth rather than a lie. We also read a picture book describing a family who travels on the ancient Silk Road. The Silk Road was a trade route from China all the way to Antioch and then across the Mediterranean Sea to Rome. I think the best part of this unit was when an intuitive student commented, "Hey, maybe God used traders to spread the word about Himself and King Solomon to the Queen of Sheba, and then she came with a caravan to see him." Now THAT makes a teacher's heart sing!!

If there is one goal in all the study of written word, historical accounts, and parts of speech, it can be wonderfully summed up in the theme verse of our classroom, "Come and see the works of God." Psalm 55:6a.