

NURTURING COVENANT
CHILDREN TO
REFLECT THE MIND
OF CHRIST

ECS BOARD NEWSLETTER

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Administrator's Reflections

Our ship, The Eastside Christian, is sailing along fairly smoothly in spite of the fact that there are new captains at the helm. In fact, there are two helms! The inexperienced captains, Pete Adams and Judie Feenstra, are assisted by the experienced first-mates.

Mrs. DeKryger has returned to the Kindergarten State Room and is capably handling her four Pre Kindergarten and Kindergarten students.

Miss Nelson's state room has eight talented students in grades one through three working in an atmosphere surrounded by fish.

Mrs. Feenstra's state room is filled with tools and her five students are learning to choose the right tool for the right job. (Markers are not for coloring maps.)

Mrs. Thompson has the largest crew (thirteen) of this ship working under her. She also helps out in other state rooms as well. She teaches Math to First grade, Grammar to Fourth and Fifth grades, and English to the Junior High.

To enter Mr. Adam's state room, you must pass under a huge, beautiful sailfish hanging above his doorway. His crew varies from time to time, but generally he has a crew of six.

We have a few more changes on our ship:

- The library has been expanded in size and in the number of books.
- We now have an enclosed storage room for teacher supplies. All of our supplies can now be centralized. And, we can use that room for tutoring.
- Our school day has been lengthened. We now start at 8:15 and end our day at 3:00. This has enabled us to have a full time period in the morning for Bible class, and it helps us to have the additional minutes at the end of the day to finish our day in an organized way without rushing.

Our theme for this year is "Living Thankfully." We can show our thankfulness in so many ways: how we treat our neighbors, how we take care of our many physical blessings, the language we choose to use, our attitude toward work, what we choose for entertainment, and so forth. If we are truly thankful for the gift of belonging to Jesus, that will be evident in every area of our lives. Please join us in praying that we will concentrate our efforts on living thankfully.

- Judie Feenstra

Foundation

The Eastside Christian School Foundation was formed in November 2004, almost four years ago. During this short period of time, we have received income from various sources, such as donations and memorial gifts, for which we are most grateful. When we consider the income we have received during this same period from those who remembered Eastside in their estate planning, and have passed on to glory, we are profoundly grateful. Thanks be to God, for all His provision.

As a result of the Foundation we are able to keep tuition rates the same as last year. Since the support base at Eastside is not as broad as other PR schools, it is the Foundation's goal to continue to grow its assets, so that we may financially assist our school more and more in the future years.

To all of you who love Eastside Christian School, we ask that you include her in your estate planning. If you need help in this area, you can get professional, confidential direction from Barnabus Foundation, free of charge, since we are a member.

Pete VanPutten

9th Grade Forum

For the last two years Eastside board members have been working on the 9th Grade Forum. The Forum studied the issue of placement of 9th graders in our West Michigan Protestant Reformed Christian Schools. The heart of the matter is whether we are providing the best curriculum and learning environment for our students.

The thought of moving 9th graders from a grade school setting to a high school setting calls for a multitude of considerations. Committees have studied curriculum, staffing, social effects and extra curricular activities, building and transportation, as well as the financial aspects.

Forum newsletters have kept constituents informed and additional information will be available soon. Lets continue to pray for the Lord's guidance as we consider what is best for our covenant youth.

Dan Monsma

Operating Fund Drive Update

Eastside Christian School Board would like to thank all those who have so generously supported the cause of covenantal Christian education here at Eastside Christian School.

The Lord continues to bless us with the means needed to operate our little school.

We have raised nearly \$104,000 of the \$148,000 fund drive needed for the operation of the school this year. This leaves us with a balance of \$44,000 to raise by the end of this year as we plan for the future. Please continue to remember us in your prayers, and as you have opportunity with your giving. If you have been contacted and were not able to give an answer at that time or if you have not been contacted and would like to help, you may contact us at: Todd DeMeester 437-1723; todd@notimeflat.com or Phillip Kleyn 293-1376; phil.kleyn@speedwrench.com.

Financial Report

At the beginning of this new school year we are once again grateful to our God who has given us the financial means to begin another year of Christian education here at Eastside. He has blessed our school with many willing supporters and tuition-paying families which give generously of their time and money to enable this. Once again we are able to report that our tuition rates have stayed the same due in large part to a generous pledge from the Foundation of Eastside Christian School.

We have the assurance from scripture that our God will supply all our needs, please continue to pray that God would continue to supply us with the means to continue this important work here at Eastside.

-Phillip Kleyn

Eastside Christian School Board 2008-2009

President	Dan Monsma
Vice-President	Todd DeMeester
Secretary	Erin Windemuller
Treasurer	Phillip Kleyn
Members	Craig Dykstra, Pete VanPutten
Administrator	Judie Feenstra

Anticipated School Year Projects

October

Organ/Pan Flute Concert
Banket

November

Stop-n Shop & Eastside Table
Candy & Nut Sale

February

Martin Mans Concert

March

Dodgeball Tournament

Do you ever wish you could be more involved here at Eastside? Do you sometimes have ideas for a cool, new fundraiser? Ever wonder how this gets done? Well, come to a Promoters meeting! We meet once a month for about an hour, generally the third Thursday of the month. This is a great place for the parents and teachers to show support for each other. We are always looking for new faces to join! Friends, Grandparents, and Alumni are always welcome to join!

Please join us for our next monthly meeting Thursday, October 23, 2008.

Committees (first listed chairman)

Education	Todd DeMeester, Erin Windemuller, Dan Monsma, Judie Feenstra, Bernadette Orzechowski, Meribeth Newhof, Kristin Kleyn
Enrollment	Todd DeMeester, Dan Monsma, Erin Windemuller, Judie Feenstra
Building	Pete VanPutten, Todd DeMeester
Insurance	Pete VanPutten, Todd DeMeester
Finance	Phillip Kleyn, Todd DeMeester, Craig Dykstra, Tom Newhof
Publicity	Erin Windemuller
Technology	Craig Dykstra, Jerry VanBaren, Pete Adams, Meribeth Newhof
Federation Board	Erin Windemuller, Phillip Kleyn, Craig Dykstra
Foundation Board	Pete VanPutten,