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Fall 2024

The Mission of Inwood Christian School is to provide an atmosphere in which each unique child of God is challenged both academically and Biblically to live as a Christian, serving Him in all areas of life.

FROM THE ICS OFFICE....

Welcome to a new school year at ICS! It is great to have the students and teachers back in school. The school year seems to be flying by, and here it is October already.

We want to say "Thank You" to Brian Stearns who completed his term as a school board member. We appreciated his many hours of work to keep the school running smoothly. We want to welcome one new school board member, Jaron Van Beek. We ask that you pray for our school board members as they help to lead our school during the upcoming year.

ICS's enrollment stands at 52 students in Kindergarten-8th Grade and 13 preschoolers who attend SonLight Preschool. We give thanks for the families that are partnering with ICS in educating their children.

This year's theme is "Believe, Grow, Serve." This theme will carry on into the upcoming years. It is a summary of our mission statement that we felt would be easier for the students to understand.



**You are cordially
invited to the annual**

Inwood Christian School

VETERANS DAY PROGRAM

**Held in the
Inwood Christian School Gym**

**On Monday,
November 11, 2024**

**Coffee & Cookies served at 9:00 a.m.
Program begins at 9:30 a.m.**

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**Veterans
Day**



The Inwood Christian School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities, generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 2 - Chapel
 October 3 & 4 - Heartland Conference
 October 11 - Carpool p.m.
 October 14 - School Board Meeting
 October 21 - Speech Interscholastics
 October 29 - End of the First Quarter
 November 6 - Chapel
 November 7 - Parent Teacher Conferences
 November 8 - No School, P/T Comp Day
 November 11 - Veterans Day Program
 November 11 - School Board Meeting
 November 22 - No School, Staff PD
 November 27 - Early Dismissal, 1:30 p.m.
 November 28 & 29 - Thanksgiving Vacation



Sept. 12 -	Eric Van Nieuwenhuyzen
Sept. 15 -	Locran Leloux
Sept. 20 -	Pete Van Velzen
Sept. 20 -	Karsen Van Beek
Sept. 20 -	Nathanael Cardenas
Sept. 21 -	Jaden Fluit
Sept. 28 -	Kaison Blom
Sept. 28 -	Keaton Blom
Oct. 6 -	Jacob Vande Vegte
Oct. 10 -	Drew Davelaar
Oct. 12 -	Ethan Van Engen
Oct. 12 -	Dakota Van Grouw
Oct. 16 -	Ruby Grevengoed
Oct. 28 -	Nyla Schaeffer
Nov. 5 -	Mrs. Marge Kollis
Nov. 10 -	Jett Blankespoor
Nov. 11 -	Eliza Nieuwendorp
Nov. 26 -	Derek Vande Vegte
Nov. 29 -	Jacob Van De Stroet

ASBESTOS INFORMATION

In compliance with regulation of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), on July 12, 2022, an inspection of our school building for asbestos-containing building materials was performed. The inspection findings and asbestos plans are on file in the school office for your review.

INWOOD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL FACULTY FOR 2024-2025

Mr. Pete Van Velzen.....	Principal
Miss Rebecca Schouten.....	Head Teacher
	Grades 5 & 6
Mrs. Stephanie Klarenbeek.....	Preschool
Mrs. Lisa Greene.....	Kindergarten
Miss Reagan Hawf.....	Grades 1 & 2
Mrs. Sheri Vander Veen.....	Grades 3 & 4
Mrs. Elizabeth Lucas.....	Grades 7 & 8
Mrs. Andrea Hoogendoorn.....	Music
Mrs. Amy Stearns.....	Part-time Resource
Mrs. Marge Kollis.....	Paraprofessional

SUPPORT STAFF FOR 2023-2024

Mrs. Jamie Van Voorst.....	Secretary
Mrs. Cristina Hernandez.....	Cook
Mrs. Leah Vande Vegte.....	Janitor
Mr. Briton Van Beek.....	Janitor
Mrs. Abbi Davelaar.....	Volunteer Librarian
Mrs. Marge Kollis.....	Bus Driver
Mrs. Kayla Mantel.....	Bus Driver
Mr. Ken Denekas.....	Bus Driver
Mr. Dale Kollis.....	Bus Driver
Mrs. Sandra Hanson.....	Bus Driver

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Todd Reinke.....	President
Mr. Darren Davelaar.....	Vice-President
Mr. Josh Van Grouw.....	Treasurer
Mr. Michael Grevengoed.....	Secretary
Mr. Jaron Van Beek.....	Assistant Treasurer
Mr. Tyler Attema.....	Building & Grounds

FALL DRIVE

The annual Fall Drive for the support of Christian Education has begun. You should have received a letter explaining the drive. Our goal in this year's giving is \$60,000.00. We ask for your support in this matter. By working together, we can help to keep the tuition cost down and keep Christian Education affordable for all parents. Please give this your prayerful consideration. Donations may be sent to Inwood Christian School, Drawer C, Inwood, IA 51240, or placed in Inwood CRC mailbox #159.

SONLIGHT PRESCHOOL

We just finished our “beginning of the year” study. We have been learning about school, the different people who work at school, the rules in school, and how to be good friends at school! We were able to see Miss Cristina, the school cook. She showed us around the kitchen and all of the things she uses to cook including the can opener, the mixer, the oven and the stove. She showed us where she stores the food in the pantry, the fridge, and the big freezer. She also let us be little chef’s and make our own pepperoni pizzas! We also went to Miss Jamie in the office! We learned about what Jamie does on her computer and what kind of phone calls she receives. The students’ favorite part was seeing Miss Steph on the screen while she was getting buzzed into school! The preschoolers have also had a blast getting to know their friends, playing outside, using teamwork, and being “Bucket Fillers”. We are excited to start our Tree Study and go on a field trip to the Riverview Christmas Tree Farm in October!



KINDERGARTEN

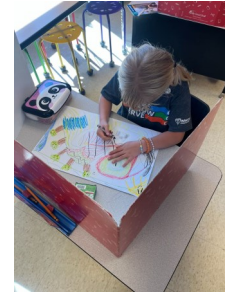
The beginning of the school year has been an exciting and busy time for our Kindergartners! They are working hard in all their subjects and have come to really enjoy art class on Fridays! They have all been blessed with a lot of creative talent!



A big thank you to Ms. Dawn for her presentation to the Kindergartners on how to care for their teeth and why it is so important to take care of them! She talked about how to brush your teeth, how long to brush your teeth, how often to brush your teeth, how much toothpaste to use, examples of healthy snacks to eat and why it’s good to eat them. Each child was given a toothbrush and toothpaste! Thank you for helping us learn how to take care of our teeth!

1st/2nd Grade

We have been having so much fun in first and second grade! We have been doing lots of experiments in science, playing site word bingo, and all sorts of learning games. We are looking forward to our service project on the 11th. We are going to the park to help clean it up! One thing the students are enjoying is all the art projects. We made wreaths using paper plates and paper, we read the rainbow fish and made our own fish with a tinfoil tail, and we did "pass the paper". The kids really enjoyed "pass the paper" because they never knew what they were going to get and had to use their imagination. They had two minutes to try and draw off of another student's drawings before they had to pass their paper to someone else!



3rd/4th Grade

New backpacks! New shoes! Big smiles! Excited chatter! The beginning of the new school year is always exciting! We have 13 students in the third and fourth grade class this year! The third graders were also excited about having a new classmate - Nyla Schaffer! We are very happy to have her in our class!

We have a lot to cover and learn this year! In Reading, Math, Spelling, and Grammar, we will expand and build on the things we learned last year. Learning multiplication is a huge priority in third grade, and expanding our writing skills is very important for both classes.

Our Bible classes this year started with characteristics of the Bible, learning about the divisions, footnotes, concordance, and using maps. Our stories will focus on the Old Testament, beginning with creation. Our Social Studies will focus on Communities, and Science will cover a variety of topics.

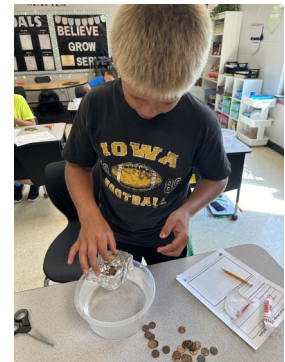
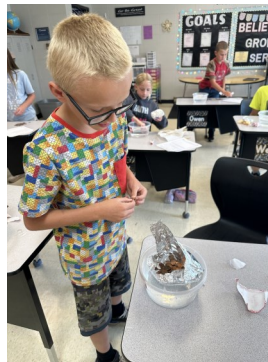
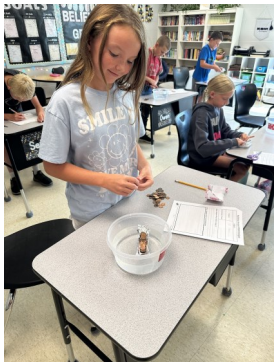
A highlight in our classroom so far this year was our STEM project for Science. After studying the engineering process, the students had to develop a prototype to safely drop a raw egg from a height of two meters. After careful planning and creating their project with classroom supplies, the eggs were tested. We had a pretty high success rate! (Maybe I let them use too many cotton balls.) We learned a lot about creative thinking, cooperation, and patience! Some pictures are shared in this newsletter, but be sure to check out the rest on our classroom webpage!

We covet your prayers throughout this coming year as we learn about God's world and grow in our knowledge and faith in Him!



5th/6th GRADE

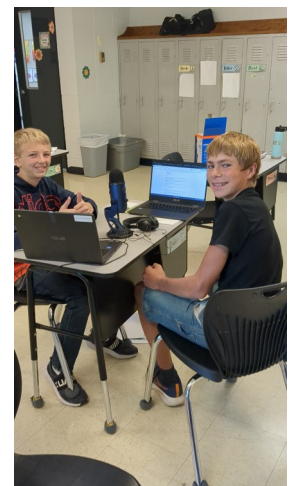
To wrap up our science engineering unit, fifth and sixth graders took part in a fun STEM project where they built boats out of tin foil. Working together to brainstorm ideas, they came up with individual designs and created their boats, then tested them by adding pennies to see how many they could hold before sinking. This hands-on activity helped students learn about how things float and the importance of weight distribution, reminding them of the intricate design of God's creations in nature. After testing their boats, they talked about what worked well and what didn't, thinking of ways to make their designs better. This process encouraged a spirit of perseverance and collaboration, echoing the biblical principle of working together as a community. It was a great way for students to experience the engineering process while having fun and growing in their faith!



7th/8th GRADE

From survival skills to high-tech skills, the 7th and 8th grade class is learning it all this year! In mid-September we headed down to Klondike and then Pahoja with Lyon County Conservationist, Emily Ostrander, to learn some survival skills! The students made shelters, fished, made fire, and cooked over their fires as well! We also learned about edible plants found in the wild here in Iowa! It was a neat learning experience in a non-traditional setting that we'll be remembering for a long time!

When it comes to high-tech skills, these kids aren't messing around. They jumped right in to making radio plays! Before television, many families gathered around the radio to listen to stories told in drama form. After listening to one, the students adapted children's books to fit this medium, and then the fun began! They used special microphones and an editing program called WeVideo to create these projects! Gather your family around any device and head to the 7th-8th grade page on our school website for a link to the students' radio plays!



5TH - 8TH GRADE

On a recent P.E. field trip, our fifth through eighth graders had an exciting day at the Heartland Country Corn Maze. The highlight of the trip was navigating the impressive maze, which was creatively shaped like a sea turtle. Students enjoyed the fresh air and the challenge of working together to find their way through the twists and turns of the maze. As we went through the maze, we were really able to appreciate the beauty of God's creation around us, reminding us to be stewards of the Earth. We had an unforgettable adventure, making this field trip a perfect way to embrace the beauty of fall while celebrating the wonders of nature and our friendships in Christ!



NICSTO

NICSTO has been a great opportunity for individuals that are a part of a Christian School Society. Tax credits (75% tax credit on your Iowa taxes) are given to those who donate money to NICSTO, and families who attend a school that is part of the organization can receive assistance in paying for tuition. Contributions are welcome and greatly appreciated. You can find a contribution memo attached to the Society Newsletter.

SEE YOU AT THE POLE

Each year students at schools all across America gather around their flagpoles to celebrate their freedom to pray for their schools, friends, teachers, government, and nation. Inwood Christian School participated in this event on September 25. The 7th & 8th graders led the students and society members who joined us in prayer for our world, country, community, and school. Thank you to those who joined us in celebrating this freedom to pray.

FOUNDATION NEWS

Thank you to all of the members of the ICS Foundation who have been so diligent in submitting their dues in a timely manner and for all of the extra gifts that were received.

We want to thank everyone that gave memorials in honor of loved ones.

Your continued cooperation and sharing have helped to educate our children in an environment that allows God's name to be honored and glorified in all aspects of the curriculum and extra-curricular activities.

ICS Society Foundation Board, Inc.

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

May 13, 2024

Darren Davelaar opened the meeting with devotions and prayer. Minutes of the April 15, 2024, meeting were read by title and a motion was made, supported and approved to accept these minutes.

The agenda was established with the following members present: Pete Van Velzen, Rebecca Schouten, Brian Stearns, Todd Reinke, Michael Grevengoed, Josh Van Grouw, Darren Davelaar & Tyler Attema.

Old Business

School has rented a storage shed to store all extra desks, tables, etc.

Principal's Report

Principal Van Velzen's report was discussed.

We are still looking for a kindergarten teacher.

Registration will be released online on June 5. Registration night will be held on June 12. Help will be available after the society meeting to fill out the ESA application.

Substitute teachers were discussed for when Mrs. Klarenbeek is out on maternity leave.

Treasurer's Report/Finance Committee Report

The treasurer's report was given, and profit/loss statements were reviewed. Tuition concerns were discussed.

The offerings & envelope amounts were discussed.

Various gifts were discussed.

The 2024-2025 budget was approved.

A motion was made and approved that Hearts & Hands will no longer be obligated to pay school for the administrators fee & for text books.

Education Committee

Tyler Attema gave a positive report on his school visit.

Building & Grounds Committee

The roof/exterior of the school was discussed. The roof will be repaired soon after school is completed for the year.

Other Business

Nominees for school board & foundation board were discussed.

The Society Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 5, 2024.

The next school board meeting will be held on Monday, June 10, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Concept minutes were read and approved. Closing prayer was given by Josh Van Grouw.

Michael Grevengoed, Secretary

June 10, 2024

No Board Meeting was held.

July 8, 2024

Michael Grevengoed opened the meeting with devotions and prayer. Minutes from the May 13, 2024 meeting were read by title and a motion was made, supported and approved to accept these minutes.

The agenda was established with the following members present: Pete Van Velzen, Rebecca Schouten, Todd Reinke, Darren Davelaar, Michael Grevengoed, Josh Van Grouw, Jaron Van Beek and Tyler Attema. Brian Stearns was absent with notification.

Principal's Report

Principal Van Velzen's report was discussed.

Lisa Greene has been offered the kindergarten position.

Board officers were voted on. President - Todd Reinke; Vice President - Darren Davelaar; Secretary - Michael Grevengoed; Treasurer - Josh Van Grouw; Assistant Treasurer - Jaron Van Beek; Building & Grounds - Tyler Attema; Busing - Michael Grevengoed & Jaron Van Beek

Treasurer's Report/Finance Committee Report

The treasurer's report was given, and profit/loss statements were reviewed. Tuition concerns were discussed.

The offerings & envelope amounts were discussed.

Various gifts were discussed.

Education Committee

School visiting was assigned to the board members for the 2024-2025 school year.

Buildings & Grounds Committee

School cleaning night will be held on July 24, 2024.

Briton Van Beek has been hired as a janitor.

The roof has been completed.

Other Business

Michael will contact the current bus drivers to make sure they will drive for the upcoming school year.

Michael & Jaron will set up the bus routes.

The next school board meeting will be held on Monday, August 12, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Concept minutes were read and approved. Closing prayer was given by Todd Reinke.

Michael Grevengoed, Secretary

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

August 12, 2024

Todd Reinke opened the meeting with devotions and prayer. Minutes of the July 8, 2024, meeting were read by title and a motion was made, supported and approved to accept these minutes.

The agenda was established with the following members present: Rebecca Schouten, Todd Reinke, Michael Grevengoed, Josh Van Grouw, and Jaron Van Beek. Darren Davelaar & Tyler Attema were absent with notification.

Old Business

The maternity policy will be updated.

Principal's Report

Principal Van Velzen's report was discussed.

Darren Davelaar will be the kitchen liaison.

The sub list has been approved.

Teacher in-service will be held on Wednesday, August 21. Rebecca will be going through the handbooks and trainings with the staff. All staff will be attending the CPR class.

Opening chapel will be held on Thursday, August 22 at 7:00 p.m.

Personal days were approved.

Treasurer's Report/Finance Committee Report

The treasurer's report was given, and profit/loss statements were reviewed. Tuition concerns were discussed.

The offerings & envelope amounts were discussed.

Various gifts were discussed.

Building & Grounds Committee

There is a possibility of another work night being needed.

Other Business

Michael has contacted the bus drivers and they all consented to drive again this year.

Minerva Grevengoed will be getting her bus license.

Jaron & Michael will get the bus routes set up.

Bus drivers will not wait for a student for more than 3 minutes after the scheduled pick up time.

The next school board meeting will be held on Monday, September 9, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Concept minutes were read and approved. Closing prayer was given by Josh Van Grouw.

Michael Grevengoed, Secretary

September 9, 2024

Todd Reinke opened the meeting with devotions and prayer. Minutes from the August 12, 2024 meeting were read by title and a motion was made, supported and approved to accept these minutes.

The agenda was established with the following members present: Pete Van Velzen, Rebecca Schouten, Todd Reinke, Darren Davelaar, Michael Grevengoed, Josh Van Grouw, and Tyler Attema. Jaron Van Beek was absent with notification.

Principal's Report

Principal Van Velzen's report was discussed.

The NICSTO goal for ICS is \$28,834.00

Long range planning was discussed.

The music programs have been set for December 12, 2024 and April 15, 2025.

We will need to start doing background checks on all volunteer drivers, room mothers & staff in the near future.

Hot Lunch Report

A parent proposal stating why students should be able to bring sack lunches was discussed.

Treasurer's Report/Finance Committee Report

The treasurer's report was given, and profit/loss statements were reviewed. Tuition concerns were discussed.

The offerings & envelope amounts were discussed.

The ESA funds for the first semester have been received.

Education Committee

Tyler Attema will be visiting school in October.

Buildings & Grounds Committee

Additional security cameras were discussed.

The lockdown on September 5, 2024 went well.

Other Business

We will need to start looking for new vehicles that can be used as additional buses next year.

The next school board meeting will be held on Monday, October 14, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Concept minutes were read and approved. Closing prayer was given by Darren Davelaar.

Michael Grevengoed, Secretary

Minutes of the ICS Annual Society Meeting

June 5, 2024

7:00 p.m.

Article 1: Opening prayer and devotions were given by Board President Brian Stearns.

Article 2: Minutes of the June 7, 2023, Society Meeting were read for information. Motion made, supported, and carried to approve the minutes as read.

Article 3: Count off was held with 27 members in attendance. Dustin Schouten and Gerald Zwart were appointed tellers.

Article 4: No absentee ballots were turned in.

Article 5: Voting was held for one school board member for a three-year term, the nominees are Brian Blankespoor and Jaron Van Beek. Retiring board member is Brian Stearns. Tyler Attema will be returning for an additional three-year term which was voted on by the board.

Article 6: Voting was held for one new foundation board member for a three-year term, the nominees are Todd Folkerts and Glenn Vande Vegte. Retiring board member is Harold Van Voorst.

Article 7: Principal Pete Van Velzen gave the principal's report. Pete reported that EANS funds have ended. These funds were used for janitor supplies, BenQ boards, classroom furniture and various technology. He has spent time visiting classrooms and commended the teachers on the way they handle teaching 2 classes in one room. He spoke on the ESA funds and the out of state families. He expressed his appreciation to all the staff, board members and society members.

Article 8: Matt Vande Vegte presented the Scrip Report. Earnings for the year was \$15,520.00 which was an 8% decrease from last year. The school received \$6,000.00 for their share of the earnings. The Scrip checking account balance is \$2,902.45. A thank you was expressed to Shirley Kollis for the years of having the Scrip box at her store and also to Todd Reinke for taking the scrip box at his store.

Article 9: The Hearts & Hands report was given by Todd Reinke. Major fundraisers for the year were cookie baking, pizza sales, fudge sales, freezer meals and bake sales. Total gross revenue for the year was \$27,663.16 and total expenses were \$23,029.32. The school board will no longer be asking Hearts & Hands to supply funds for the administration and text books for the upcoming school year. As the school year progresses, Hearts & Hands will be monitoring its funds and will be donating funds as they are available.

Article 10: Dale Kollis gave the Foundation report. Income this year was \$25,948.50. This includes multiple people that have signed up for the lifetime membership. The checking account balance is \$10,910.22. The Foundation will pay \$21,850.00 to ICS in the upcoming year.

Article 11: The Building Committee report was given by Tyler Attema. He reported that the renovation is completed, the roof replacement is taking place, and there will be a night held this summer for summer cleaning and maintenance.

Article 12: Election results were shared: Jaron Van Beek was elected to the school board. Todd Folkerts was elected to the foundation board.

Article 13: Josh Van Grouw presented the 2024-2025 proposed budget of \$595,000.00. Josh explained the changes made to the budget. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the budget as presented.

Article 14: Tyler Attema thanked Harold Van Voorst and Brian Stearn for their service on Foundation Board and School Board. He also thanked Dawn Folkerts for her many years of service at ICS and also presented her with a gift.

Article 15: The concept minutes were read. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes.

Article 16: A motion was made, seconded, and carried to adjourn.

Article 17: Josh Van Grouw closed in prayer.

Todd Reinke, Secretary pro tem

NICSTO 2024

NORTHWEST IOWA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL TUITION ORGANIZATION

NICSTO is designed by Iowa State law to promote the expansion of school choice for the benefit of Iowa's students, our children and grandchildren. **Will you consider donating to support families who desire Christ-Centered education?**

A donation to NICSTO allows a **75% tax credit** on your Iowa taxes and helps families with their tuition payments. For example, a gift of \$1,000 will bring you a \$750 Iowa tax credit.

You may donate by check, gifts of grain, or a distribution from your IRA. **There is no limit to how much you can contribute.** To receive a tax credit for 2024, please complete the form on the back side and return it with your check by November 30, 2024.



Believe

Believe in God the Father
and His Son Jesus Christ!



Grow

Grow in Faith
and Knowledge!



Serve

Serve God by
Serving Others!

NORTHWEST IOWA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL TUITION ORGANIZATION

NICSTO

CONTRIBUTION MEMO

**This completed memo must accompany your contribution.
The Iowa Tax Credit Certificate will be sent to you in January 2025.**

Taxpayer Name

Date of Contribution

Address

Amount of Contribution

City

State & Zip

Telephone #

Social Security Number or Taxpayer I.D. Number

Name(s) of school(s) you wish to be the beneficiary of this donation

Contributions may be mailed to:

**NICSTO
811 7th Street
Sheldon, IA 51201**

