



CREDO
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

BRANCHES

JUNE 19, 2026 | VOLUME 38 | ISSUE 7

Have an Egg-cellent Summer!
See you in September



Grade 3 Blooming Chicken Artwork

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The purpose of our parental Christian School is to educate our children to develop their individual potential and to acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed for a life of responsible stewardship in God's Kingdom.

From the Chairman *Oliver Hansma*

The school year is almost complete, and we thank our heavenly Father for His abundant provision. He continues to supply the resources necessary for the school to operate effectively and fulfill its mission.

One of Credo's greatest strengths is the community that supports it. This includes our teaching staff and administration, who have carried out their calling with professionalism and dedication; parents and members who faithfully support the school financially; volunteers who assist in classrooms, the library, maintenance, Credo Aid, and the Board and its committees. We are grateful for the collaboration of so many people, united in the shared purpose of providing an environment for the godly training and character development of our covenant children.

Thank you to the members who attended the spring membership meeting, where the budget was approved. We were able to reach quorum shortly after the meeting began. As a Board, we appreciate the engagement of our members and are encouraged by your participation. We continue to see the Lord's faithfulness in sustaining the school with adequate financial resources. On behalf of the

Board, we would also like to thank the parents for entrusting us with the leadership and oversight of the school.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to those staff members that are departing this year. Thank-you to Deb Minderhoud and Deanna Van Dyke for stepping up and providing teaching this year. Thank-you also to Esther Vandergugten for your service as an EA. We appreciate each of you and your commitment to CCES.

Congratulations to the students graduating from Grade 8. Over the past nine years, CCES has had the privilege of supporting your education and helping prepare you for a life of Christian discipleship. We pray that you will continue to embrace the way of life taught and modeled by Christ Jesus and apply it in every area of your lives. While your training will continue in high school, we trust that CCES has helped lay a strong foundation for your continued growth in faith and service.

We pray that the summer break will be a time of rest and refreshment for staff, students, and their families. May God keep you safe and bless you in all your summer plans!



From the Principal *Otto Bouwman*

Another school year has passed. We praise God for the faithful and good care we received. Great, great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised!

Summer Time

The summer weeks give opportunity for students and families to have more of a relaxed schedule than during the school year. Because the date of Labor Day is rather late in 2026, this year's summer break is a week longer than usual. While that might be welcome news to some people, it comes with a price. Have you ever heard the maxim "If you don't use it, you lose it"? There is some truth to that. When students no longer use reading, writing, and some memory skills, we should not be surprised if they lose some abilities.

So here is my plea to parents, now that summer has begun. **Encourage** Require you children to engage in reading regularly during their weeks off. Read to your

young children. Talk with your children about what they are reading. Maintain a reading culture in your family, also while on vacation. Elsewhere in this *Branches* issue, you'll find an article written by Mrs. Crystal Koat. Please read it and appreciate it. Thank you, Mrs. Koat, for sharing these thoughts.

During the summer months, also have your children pick up their pen or pencil and engage in writing activities. Play memory games with your children. Engage your children in math activities. For example, have your older children complete some conversion activities and calculate mpg (🚗) while on that road trip, and then compare those numbers with the metric equivalent, etc etc.

All of which is to say: ensure that your children continue to progress in their skills acquisition during the summer months. After all, the opposite of making

progress is regress; regression will make their return to school more challenging.

Highlight Events

Since the last issue of *Branches*, a wonderful highlight took place on Thursday, May 28. We hosted a Middle School concert in the Langley church. It was a beautiful evening, where students could give evidence of growth of their musical abilities and also of their desire to praise their Maker. We thank God particularly for the abilities he has given to Nathalie Snyder, who inspires the students along the way. Many others also contribute, and we're thankful for those contributions as well.

For students on sports teams, there can be an exciting feeling as the end of the season approaches. Our students involved in Track & Field felt that as their season came to a close at the Provincial Championships, held at McLeod at the end of the first week of June. With the support and encouragement of parents, coaches, and peers, many students surprised themselves and others with their best scores. Congratulations – especially to those students who placed very well at the end of the season.

For our school, the official celebration of the 70th anniversary of our schools in the Fraser Valley came to an end at our closing assembly this past week. Thank you to all who contributed to Reformed education in this region – not just in the celebrations this year, but also in your support for the cause during the past 70 years. What a blessing!

Thank You

At our closing assembly, we thanked God for his generous provision during the past school year. Our Father has blessed us in so many ways: health, board members, committee members, finances, administration assistants, teachers, educational assistants, bus drivers, Credo Aid, etc., etc., etc.

A special thank you is in order to three staff members who have signaled that it's their intention not to return in a similar way next year. 😊

- We were so thankful for Deb Minderhoud's willingness to take care of the third grade Math instruction – not just for a few months, as was originally anticipated, but for the entire year! Thank you, Deb!

- We were so thankful for Deanna Van Dyke's willingness to take care of the eighth grade Math instruction for the entire year. That level of Math instruction can be intimidating to others, and we really appreciated Deanna's kindness and ability. Thank you, Deanna!
- We were thankful that Esther Vandergugten continued her role as a Middle School EA for one year longer than she had previously anticipated. Esther is looking forward to her practicum, starting in September; all the best in your further studies and endeavors!

Each of these colleagues contributed positively to our school culture and were much appreciated by students and colleagues. I prefer not to say "Farewell!" to these colleagues, but instead to say "See you later!" I'll keep them on speed dial and look forward to their involvement as subs in the future.

Elsewhere in this issue of *Branches* one finds evidence of work done not only by our dedicated school board but also by the Education Committee. I'm very grateful for the time, effort, and expertise that board and committee members dedicate to the smooth operation of Credo Christian Elementary School. Thank you heartily!

Wrapping Up

Here's one more reminder related to the scholarship application invitation. The deadline is the end of this month.

Farewell to our departing students. Graduating class, may God surround and sustain you as you move on to the high school grades. We also have three families leaving the Fraser Valley: Tim & Cami Welfing to the United States, Cindy Wang to China, and Tony & Mindy Zheng to Ontario; may God bless each of you in your new surroundings. We will miss each of you.

An eagerly anticipated summer highlight is Spencer and Meghan's wedding, scheduled for July 11. Also from here: congratulations, Spencer and Meghan! May God "bless you richly and grant you a long and holy life together in all godliness, love, and unity." We're excited with you and for you!

May God grant all of you a safe and enjoyable summer vacation. See you in September.

From the Board

Yearly tuition fees run from September to August. The current fees are payable for July and August for all members including those with graduating students and those who are relocating.

2026/2027 tuition rates will be applicable as of September 1, 2026.

As described in the May 13, 2026 *Branches* and as outlined in the May membership meeting, Credo is again implementing the Tuition "Top Up" Plan. Looking back at last year's budgeted \$96,000 deficit the board appealed to those who could voluntarily top up their tuition payments to help offset this deficit. The response was very positive and the board heartily thanks you! Together with these donations and the increased government grant revenue we are on track for a healthy surplus this year. The budget for this upcoming year includes a \$70,000 deficit to deliberately help keep tuition rates affordable. The tuition rates and the table below reflect the board's desire to minimize the barrier for young and new families entering the school system. The board requests that for those who have been blessed with much, that they "top-up" their tuition rates and indicate that choice in the Google form which will be emailed out by the end of June. Please do respond and fill this form out.

Fees for the upcoming school year (2026/2027) have changed according to the schedule below. Pre-Authorized Debits (PAD) will be adjusted to the new rates as of September 2026.

Kindergarten	\$470.00
Elementary (1-5)	\$735.00
Middle (6-8)	\$810.00
Junior High (9-10)	\$955.00
Senior High (11-12)	\$1015.00
Membership	\$160.00

Donations are a helpful way by which we are able to keep educational costs to parents as low as possible; we invite member and others to make additional monthly donations. Please give this prayerful consideration and contact our bookkeeper to make your own customized arrangements.

An Entrance Fee is a requirement for new parents to our school and is an acknowledgement of the substantial previous costs related to the school's capital infrastructure. The Entrance Fee is equal to three years of membership fees. Our bookkeeper can provide further clarity if needed in specific situations.

Treasurer - Aren VanDyke

arenvandyke@credoces.org

Bookkeeper – Belinda Dykstra

b.dykstra@credoces.org



SCHOLARSHIP for Teachers-in -Training

has been created with the objective of helping people to choose teaching our covenant children as a career and to become fully certified teachers.

Scholarship Policy Outline:

- The applicant must either be currently employed by CCES or have volunteered or have worked at CCES for at least 30 hours within the previous 12 months.
- The applicant must be a member of a Canadian or American Reformed Church, or a church with which the CanRC has ecclesiastical fellowship.
- The applicant must have been accepted into or be currently enrolled at a post-secondary institution in the pursuit of being a teacher (this includes the PDP program).

If you are interested in applying please contact Otto Bouwman (principal of CCES) at o.bouwman@credoces.org for an application form.

Short Report of Board Meetings

Short Report of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of Credo Christian Elementary School May 11th, 2026

Opening and Welcome: The Chairman, O. Hansma, opened the meeting by reading Scripture, followed by Board singing and a moment of prayer. He welcomed the directors and Principal O. Bouwman.

Agenda Approval: The agenda for the board meeting was approved.

Minutes and Short Report: The minutes and short report from the regular board meeting held on April 13th, 2026 were approved.

Incoming Correspondence: The board is thankful for the CRSA annual report.

Principal's Report: O. Bouwman presented his principal's report for May. O. Bouwman presented a brief report outlining some concerns and sought the Board's input. The Board expressed its support and extended strength and encouragement to those involved. The Board reviewed the Continuous Improvement Cycle Plan for information and approved the 2026/27 draft calendar.

General Business: The board reviewed the agenda for the membership meeting that will be held May 27th, 2026 and approved it.

Valley Wide Implementation Committee: D. Leffers presented an update from the committee for distribution to the membership. Following minor revisions, the Board approved the update to be sent to the membership.

Education Committee: The final Special Education Report was reviewed and approved. The Board again expressed appreciation for the committee's work this past year.

Membership Committee and Fundraising Committee / Heritage Committee: An enrollment request was received; the Board conditionally approved it.

Fundraising Committee / Heritage Committee: The Board reviewed the draft letter to the Heritage Foundation and approved for it to be sent.

Finance Committee: A motion was carried to approve the 2026/2027 school budget for distribution to the membership. The board reviewed the income statement and accounts receivable for information and discussion.

Board / Staff Relations: Birthday cards were signed by the board.

Next Meetings / Events: The CCES membership meeting is scheduled for Wednesday May 27th, 2026 and the next board meeting, including Legal Authority, is scheduled for June 15th, 2026.

Closing: S. Schouten offered a prayer of thanksgiving. The chairman closed the meeting and thanked all for coming.

Draft Minutes of the May 2026 AGM

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of Credo Christian Elementary School with the Membership May 27th, 2026

Opening and Welcome: Board chairman, O. Hansma, welcomed everyone present and opened the meeting. We sang Psalm 95:1. He read from Philippians 2:1-11 and followed with prayer. A quorum of members was present. O. Hansma thanked the membership for their involvement in the SPED survey.

Agenda: The agenda was presented. *MOTION:* That the agenda be approved- *MOTION CARRIED*

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the CCES membership meeting held on October 29, 2025 AGM were distributed prior to the meeting. *MOTION:* that the presented Oct. 29th, 2025 meeting minutes be approved- *MOTION CARRIED*

Business arising from the Minutes: No business arose from the previous minutes.

Five Year Capital Plan: The Board treasurer, A. Van Dyke, presented the proposed 5 year capital plan.

Budget Presentation and Approval: Board treasurer A. Van Dyke provided a brief update on the current financial situation of the society for this school year. While the budget projected a \$96,000 deficit, current forecasts indicate a year-end surplus. The increase in government grants, tuition top-ups, and healthy reserves were highlighted as reasons for thankfulness. Treasurer A. Van Dyke also presented the proposed 2026/2027 CCES budget.

Following the presentation, members were given the opportunity to ask questions:

A question was raised regarding the anticipated surplus for this school year and whether further details could be provided. It was noted that it is difficult to provide precise details at this time, with a clearer picture expected in the fall.

A member questioned increasing capital plan costs and if these upgrades are being made with the valley-wide plan and potential future developments in mind. The Board explained that urgent repairs, including HVAC replacements, are necessary and cannot be deferred and that the valley wide plan is considered for capital items.

A question was raised about the tuition top-up program, specifically the difference between expected standard tuition contributions and actual amounts received. It was noted that the shortfall is approximately \$40,000–\$50,000 if all members were paying their full expected amounts.

It was asked whether the tuition top-up program would help address the projected deficit. The Board confirmed that it would, and that if the shortfall is not fully covered, any remaining deficit could be drawn from reserves.

MOTION: that the proposed 2026/2027 CCES budget be approved- **MOTION CARRIED**

Updates

CRSA: O. Hansma provided an update from CRSA. The Board expressed appreciation for the increased transparency between CRSA and CCES. He reviewed the structure of the association and presented a financial update for the year ending June 2025, including a summary of the income statement. He reported that CRSA is managing its costs effectively and is in a stable financial position.

Following the presentation, members were given the opportunity to ask questions:

A question was raised regarding whether the tenants would be responsible for repairs to the school once the current contract expires, and who would oversee such repairs. The Board was not certain of the answer and will look further into the matter.

A question was raised regarding the current financial balance. It was noted that there is

approximately \$400,000 on hand, with an additional \$200,000 held in CSF funds.

A member asked since JCCS has received money, could CCES also request money from CRSA? Funding requests would need to be addressed to the Valley Wide Committee, who would make a determination if the request would be consistent with the valley wide plan.

A question was raised regarding the number of families in the legacy group. There are 16 families.

A member asked whether it would be helpful for CCES members to send letters to CRSA requesting funding for HVAC needs, since it's so important for it to be done. It was noted that members are free to write letters if they choose; however, decisions regarding allocation of funds rest with Valley Wide. The comments will be brought back to the Board for consideration.

The membership was encouraged not to view JCCS and CCES separately, as both operate under the same umbrella. It was emphasized that a broader, valley-wide perspective is preferred over focusing on individual "fair share" allocations.

Valley Wide: D. Leffers provided an update on Valley Wide. He reported that the recent plan to secure a property east of Abbotsford could not proceed and that the committee is continuing to actively explore other potential options.

Following the presentation, members were given the opportunity to ask questions:

A question was raised regarding the likelihood of securing a property before the deadline. It was noted that there is optimism among the committee. A letter has been drafted that will be shared with the Boards, which includes an updated timeline and will be shared with membership.

Question Period: Question period was not used.

Thanksgiving Prayer: We sang Hymn 85:3. The Vice Chairman, E. Vandergriendt thanked everyone for their attendance and offered a closing prayer.

Closing: The Chairman, O. Hansma, closed the meeting.

Valley Wide High School Implementation Committee (VWSIC) Update

Chris Hoff, Darren Leffers, John Van Kammen, Jeff Vandergaag, Shawn Vandersluis

Since our last update in November 2025, the Valley Wide High School Implementation Committee has continued meeting regularly and actively pursuing opportunities for a future high school site. While progress often happens behind the scenes, many important conversations, meetings, and evaluations have been taking place over the past number of months.

- East Abbotsford Property Update: After considerable exploration and discussion, the committee has determined that the previously mentioned East Abbotsford property off Whatcom Rd. is no longer a viable option. While the parcel initially showed strong potential, the number of stipulations and requirements needed to make the property suitable for a high school ultimately made the project unfeasible.
- We remained engaged in the search and do have other locations that we are doing our due diligence on. There is now a new Official Community Plan for Abbotsford in place which does narrow down the guidelines for a rezoning of property or properties to the Institutional zoning we would need. While this certainly adds complexity to the process, it has not deterred the committee from pursuing these opportunities further.
- We are encouraged by the conversations taking place and remain hopeful that a workable solution can be reached.

The VWSIC remains committed to prayerfully and responsibly pursuing the best path forward for a new high school site. As the project continues to progress, we intend to provide more regular updates to our boards and school community so that everyone can remain informed and engaged in the process moving forward. We sincerely appreciate the continued support, patience, prayers, and interest of our school community as this work continues. Thank you.

Education Committee Annual Report (2025/2026)

“Let the little children come to me... for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” – Matthew 19:14

Every child is created in God’s image, with unique gifts, challenges, and opportunities to grow. The Education Committee, upon the direction of the Board, devoted this past year to a comprehensive review of the Special Education (SpEd) program at Credo Christian School. The impetus for the review being the program’s significant growth and the increasing needs within our school community.

Why Review the Special Education Program?

Over the past decade—and especially in recent years—the number of students requiring additional educational support has increased considerably. In 2017/2018, approximately 8% of students had some form of a learning plan; today, that number has grown to nearly 19%, or almost 1 in 5 students.

While this remains below provincial averages, it represents a meaningful shift for our school. Articles have been written about the rationale for the growth, but it is a reality that our school grapples with.

How the Review Was Conducted

To better understand the current state of the program, as a committee we reviewed staff roles, gathered enrollment and funding data, examined existing protocols, and studied how student progress is tracked

through tools such as Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and Learning Support Plans (LSPs).

A key part of the process was a survey distributed to staff and families, which received a strong response. This feedback provided valuable insight into both the strengths and challenges of the program and helped shape the committee’s recommendations.

What We Heard

The survey results made it clear that the Special Education program is a true blessing to many students and families. Respondents consistently highlighted the Christian care, compassion, and dedication demonstrated by staff.

Strengths identified included:

- Strong collaboration between teachers, educational assistants, and parents
- A culture of inclusion with minimal stigma
- Knowledgeable and committed staff
- Increasing access to outside professionals

At the same time, the feedback also revealed areas for improvement. Families noted that entering the program can feel overwhelming, with unfamiliar terminology, uncertainty around costs, and questions about communication and processes.

Key Findings and Challenges

The rapid growth of the program has introduced complexity. One notable observation is the high number of Learning Support Plans (LSPs). While this reflects a strong desire by staff to support students, it also adds to the load of the program and has become difficult for teachers to effectively manage and monitor all plans. The goal is for students to receive the assistance they need with less administrative paper work.

Financially, the committee also noted that in recent years, funding received from the Ministry exceeded program spending—something that should be addressed moving forward to ensure resources are fully directed toward student support.

Looking Ahead: Improvements and Recommendations

In response to these findings, the committee has made several recommendations to the Board to strengthen the program moving forward.

These include:

1. Supporting new leadership roles within the program, including a Director of Learning Support and Primary Learning Support Coordinator, to provide clearer structure and oversight
2. Developing a Special Education handbook to guide families and improve clarity around processes and expectations
3. Monitoring and adjusting the time spent on IEPs and LSPs to ensure sustainable and effective support for all students.
4. Ensuring that program funding is fully utilized to meet student needs

These steps aim to bring greater clarity, sustainability, and effectiveness to a program that continues to grow in importance.

A Word of Thanks

The committee is deeply grateful to all those who contribute to the Special Education program. Particular thanks are extended to Deb Huttema for her leadership and dedication over many years, as well as to the educational assistants and staff who faithfully serve students each day.

We are also thankful to the families who shared their experiences through the survey. Your openness and feedback have been invaluable in guiding this review.

Other Activities of the Committee

Through the year each member of the Committee, along with a Board member had an opportunity to visit the school and observe the instruction and atmosphere in the classrooms. The Committee members reported back with thankfulness that positive atmosphere and Christian character that was evident throughout Credo.

Closing

It is evident that the Special Education program at Credo is built on a foundation of care, compassion, and a deep commitment to each child's growth. Students are not defined by their challenges, but are seen as image-bearers of God, each with unique potential.

As a committee, we are thankful for the opportunity to support this work and pray that these efforts will continue to strengthen the program for the benefit of all students and families.

On behalf of the Education Committee,
Eric Vandergriendt

Departing Staff

We thank these staff members for their service and wish them God's blessings in their future plans!

Mrs. Esther Vandergugten – Educational Assistant

Mrs. Deanna Van Dyke – Grade 8 (Math)

Mrs. Deb Minderhoud – Grade 3 (Math)

Why Reading to Your Children Matters *Crystal Koat*

One of the single most important skills your child will learn in school is how to read. The ability to read and comprehend text is the foundation of all learning, and you cannot begin building these skills too early.

Not all of us have a good relationship with books and reading. Not everyone enjoyed reading and analyzing novels - some of us might even think that a close reading of a novel or poem ruined the reading experience. Maybe we were glad to leave English class behind once we graduated from high school. Maybe we never opened a novel again since grade 12. But here's the thing; reading is not just reading novels. The reading skills you learned in school taught you how to read and understand tax forms, news articles, mortgage applications, and lease agreements. They helped you understand sermons and helped you to write a speech at your best friend's wedding. They helped you write resumes and cover letters, and helped you interpret your teenage son or daughter's assignments when they were struggling. We read signs, we read schedules, we read recipe directions—the ability to read and comprehend makes a world that would otherwise be chaotic understandable. You don't have to like reading novels to understand and promote the value of reading.

Reading to your children is foundational to building vocabulary. In a 2019 study in the *Journal of Developmental and Behavioural Pediatrics*, children under the age of five who had been read five books a day to had been exposed to 1,483,300 words - while children who had never been read to were exposed to only 4,662. Reading exposes children to vocabulary not heard at home, it increases background knowledge, and familiarizes children with spelling, expression and punctuation. It exposes children to experiences that are not their own. These experiences in turn can expose a child to unfamiliar situations and can help them learn empathy and understanding, or teach them how to behave appropriately when put in an unfamiliar situation. And this is all before the child learns to read for him or herself! You can see the obvious advantage a child that is read to is granted before even starting kindergarten. On top of this, the turning of pages improves fine motor skills, and the ability to sit through a story helps with focus and concentration.

Maybe you hesitate to read to your children because English is not your first language - please do not let this stop you. Reading in English to your children models to them how important you think reading and literacy is. It can expose both you and your child to unfamiliar cultural

stories - folk and fairy tales, nursery rhymes, cultural figures and ideas that may come up in literature later on in life. Often, we who are immersed in a culture don't understand how much we have in common just due to exposure; I remember going to a wedding where a trivia question was asked and the whole audience spontaneously began humming the tune to *Jeopardy!* - a companion at my table who was not from North America just looked around in confusion. All of us knew the song, and of course that we needed to answer in the form of a question. These seemingly small things - knowing the alphabet song, understanding what the Prince represents in Disney stories, knowing to be wary when a wolf is introduced to a story - are all things we learn through reading and help us share in a common culture. Understanding the culture helps you and your children feel at home.

If you find children's books insipid or boring, I hear you. I loved reading to my children when they were little, but mostly because I refused to read books that were awful. And honestly, a lot of children's books are. Many are formulaic, and depend on using recognizable characters from kids TV shows to fill their pages. If you as a parent can read these, all the more power to you. If this is not for you, don't give up, there are so, so many good books out there to read - ones you will also enjoy. If you don't know what those books are, ask the school librarian for suggestions. There are also many websites that will have lists of interesting, quality and age-or- interest appropriate books for you to read to your children. Also remember what books you really liked when you were a kid and start from there - your children will hear your interest and enthusiasm for those stories. Once your child is aged five, six or seven, try reading a loved chapter book with them. They may not be able to read a chapter book themselves, but that does not mean they can't understand one that is being read to them. Reading a chapter of a well-loved story from your childhood at bedtime every night is a meaningful bonding experience, and can get a child excited for when they are able to read chapter books to themselves.

There is much more to be said about the advantages of reading and early literacy skills, not the least of all that they build a good foundation for reading and understanding the Bible, and for helping develop the attention span to sit through school lessons and church sermons. Reading books can feel like a disappearing activity in our digital age, but the importance of literacy is more important than ever, and gives ever returning dividends to our children and ourselves.

Kodiak Corner *Shelley Sikma*

The Grade 8 Track and Field team had a great showing at Provincials held at McLeod Athletic Park, June 4-6. Here are some notable results:

- **Eva** - **4th** in triple jump (PB), **18th** in long jump
- Boys 4x400m (**James, Cohen, Brandon, and Blake**) - **20th** with a new Credo record and PB
- **Lauren** - **12th** in 1500m (PB!), **11th** in 3000m (massive PB and 1 second from the Credo record)
- **Brandon** - **13th** in 200m hurdles, **15th** in 100m hurdles
- **Eli V** - **21st** in 200m hurdles (PB)
- **Jenna** - **21st** in shot put
- Girls 4x400m (**Eden, Diane, Jenna, and Lauren**) - **22nd** (PB)
- **Nyles** - **24th** in 200m hurdles

Once again, thank you to Mr. Pruim and Mrs. Kobes (formerly known as MS Stam) for all their time at the track and many hours beyond during the track season!



Grade 8 T&F
(James, Blake, Brandon, Cohen)
Boys 4x400m



Grade 8 T&F
(Eden, Lauren, Diane, Jenna)
Girls 4x400m



Grade 8 T&F
(Eva)
Triple Jump



WE PLAY FOR HIM

Credo Aid Update

We have been busy with the final push to the end of the school year!

- Hanging Basket Fundraiser (May 6) - thanks to Darvonda Nursery's for once again providing us with beautiful baskets!
- Sports Day (May 21) - what a great day filled with sunshine, healthy competition and community spirit. Students enjoyed the fruit/veggie/donuts, as well as the Subway lunch. What a treat! Thanks for all the help with this.
- Middle school concert treats (May 28) - thanks for a beautiful performance.
- Family Fun Fair (May 29) - a huge thank-you to Marilyn Mostert and her team (Savannah Vanderburgt, Pearl Hoff, Mandy Dewitt, Allison Vandeburgt) that once again wowed us with their version of Family Fun Fair. Thank-you to all participants - the ones who signed up to volunteer, the ones who baked the cakes, the kitchen crew, the Grade 8 game contributors, the donors that opened their wallets, and the parents who brought their excited children. It is amazing to witness an event like this where everyone contributes something.
- Neufelds 3 (June 3) - thanks for stocking up and adding \$1043 to the Credo Aid coffers.
- Freezies for school waterfight (June 4) - just what is needed as we think about summer!
- Grade 8 Grad (June 22) - Congrats future class of 2026!

For the 2025/2026 school year Credo Aid was able to raise a total of \$46,056, with \$20,176 coming from the Family Fun Fair! Thank-you community for the amazing support to provide another year of 'Credo Aid extra's' to our students! In addition to covering the budget for next year we are happy to share that we have been able to fulfill the following 'wish list' items for:

- Credo Elementary (Picnic tables \$5000, and more to come)
- Credo High School (Class outings \$2200, sewing machines \$4900, and SALT BBQ social \$400)

In addition, as we come to the end of another school year, we are already thinking about next year. If you have been thinking of joining Credo Aid next year, please reach out and chat with a member about the possibilities as we are looking for 1 new member to replace Joni VanderHorst.

Have an idea that you want to bring to Credo Aid?
Georgene VanDelft 778-549-7538.



SAVE THE DATE

SEPTEMBER 19

All proceeds support Credo Christian Elementary & Middle School



Credo Christian Middle School

INVITES YOU TO ATTEND THE

Grade 8 Graduation Ceremony

MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2026
7:30 PM
LANGLEY CANADIAN REFORMED CHURCH

THIS EVENT WILL BE LIVESTREAMED AT:
[HTTP://VIMEO.COM/EVENT/4741160](http://vimeo.com/event/4741160)



CCES Board of Directors

Al Scholtens (2026)	Maintenance
Eric Vandergriendt (2026)	Vice-Chair / Education
Aren Van Dyke (2026)	Treasurer
Daryl Driegen (2027)	CRSA / IT / CCSTA
Darren Leffers (2027)	CCHS / Valley-Wide
Marilyn Mostert (2027)	Secretary / Staff Relations
Oliver Hansma (2028)	Chairman
Sue Schouten (2028)	Membership

Education Committee

Michelle Dykstra
Kim Meints
Arlena Onderwater
Jennifer Onderwater
Derek Scheper
Allison Vandeburgt
Eric Vandergriendt
Otto Bouwman

Membership Committee

Sue Schouten
Colleen Schouten
Erin Jansen
Joel Vandergriendt
Kendra Vandergaag
Esther Zou

Maintenance Committee

Darryl Hofsink
Al Scholtens
Dave Torenvliet
Steve Vanderveen
Tim Welfing

Finance Committee

Aren Van Dyke
Oliver Hansma
Belinda Dykstra
Otto Bouwman

CCES Staff List

Otto Bouwman	Principal
Jennifer Onderwater	Vice-Principal / Grade 2
Leslie Scholtens	Grade KA
Alice Wu	Grade 1
Mary MacDougall	Grade 1 / 2 LA
Meghan Visscher	Grade 3
Deb Minderhoud	Grade 3
Ben Vandergugten	Grade 4
Linda VanSpronsen	Grade 5A
Natasja Vanrhee	Grade 5A
Nathalie Snyder	Grade 5B & Music
Alyssa Vanderstoep	Grade 5B
Nadine Krikke	Grade 6
Spencer Pruim	Grade 7A
Amber Spoor	Grade 7B
Kathy Noort	Grade 8
Deanna Van Dyke	Grade 8
Deborah Huttema	SpEd
Crystal Koat	SpEd
Shelley Sikma	PhyEd (6-8)
Natalie Hoogstra	EA
Yolanda Hoogstra	EA
Mikayla Kobes	EA
Lindsay Schouten	EA
Jac Spoor	EA
Gerrine Stebbing	EA
Sharon Struik	EA
Esther Vandergugten	EA
Krista Vanderhorst	EA
Tianna Vanrhee	EA
Joy VanVliet	EA
Maddie Visscher	EA
Caitlin Warkentin	EA
Jackie VanOene	Librarian
Belinda Dykstra	Bookkeeper
Kendra Vandergaag	Office Administrator

Fee Structure 2026-2027

Membership - 160.00
Kindergarten - 470.00
Elementary (1-5) - 735.00
Middle (6-8) - 810.00
Junior High (9-10) - 955.00
Senior High (11-12) - 1015.00

Credo Aid

Brenda Beukema
Joni VanderHorst
Su VanderHorst
Georgene VanDelft
Jackie Vanderploeg
Rebecca Wildeboer

Congratulations Grade 8 Graduates!

ISAIAH BONTKES

KASEN BROERSMA

ELI DE BOER

DIANE DOULOME

TRAVIS DYKSTRA

JUDAH HOFF

PHILIPPA KAMPEN

NYLES KANG

JAMES LOUWERSE

BLAKE SCHEPER

COHEN SCHEPER

GERRIT SCHOLTENS

ANDREW STIKSMA

LAUREN VAN DEN HOVEN

BRANDON VAN DYKE

EVA VAN DYKE

MORGAN VANDELFT

LEVI VANDERGAAG

ELI VANDERGRIENDT

EDEN VANDERGUGTEN

JENNA VANDERPOL

ELLIOTT VANPOPTA

AMELIA VANTIL

ALEXA VISSCHER

MANDY WANG

DOMINIC WELFING

NOAH WELFING

ESTHER YIN

LION ZHOU

