

# Chairman's Report

*Arie Veenendaal*

## "Remain true to the faith" Acts 14:22

It is again that time of year when teachers and students are nearing the finish line of another school year. At the end of June the hallways of DCS will be, for the most part, quiet. The formal education for both the teachers and the students will come to a halt. However, the call to remain true to the faith, "God's education" never comes to a halt. The Christian parent, the Christian teacher, and the Christian student are all called to continue to persevere beyond June 30. Perseverance implies hard work. If perseverance were not hard work it would for that fact not be perseverance. God knows that it is not always easy for us on this earth, however, his watchful eye is always on us when our perseverance is the target of our enemies. The graduating class, and all of the high school students, involved with writing final exams will know the need to persevere, but it is after June 30 that the call to persevere will continue. It is easy to overlook that the reason for our perseverance is not in the first place so that we achieve *our* goal but that God's purpose for our life is accomplished. God has placed us on this earth because HE has something to do, He has a plan. We are not placed here on this earth because WE have something to do. It is especially with this last thought in mind that the call to persevere becomes all that much more urgent. Our focus needs to be on HIM and not on ourselves. Isn't it often the case that this is where we so often go off course? Isn't it so much easier to focus on ourselves (for both parents and students) then to focus on what God is doing? May the words of Acts 14:22 be a source of encouragement to have our focus where God wants it to be.

## Thursday, June 10

Please mark this date on the calendar and plan to attend the semi-annual School Society meeting. In the next week we will supply you with an updated agenda as well as the preliminary budget figures for next year. One item that we hope to spend some time on with you is our building needs and it is increasingly becoming more apparent to the board that the building has needs! Recently the board had a chance to meet with the staff in the school. It was just great to see the entire staff (minus one) in a classroom together with the 5 board members. I lost count, but we had close to 30 people together. It was good for the board to experience their collective enthusiasm. Our teachers truly love their work and love DCS. We truly are blessed with dedicated staff whose motivation is to serve God in their daily work. But back to my point about the building needs. This fall we will, DV, have a full compliment of staff for next year. What this also means is that all of the available spaces in the school are being used up. There is more we could do and want to do but lack of space is increasingly becoming a concern (may I say a good concern). There are a lot of people occupying DCS every day and there are even more on the way! The current staff room is over full and preliminary estimates target that in 5 years student enrollment will be around 245! Talk about blessings. Even in this regard it is good to remember that all of us have the privilege of being involved in God's work and God's plans. Suffice it to say that the school board will be looking for your wisdom on June 10 regarding the future building needs.

At the moment the board is busy finalizing the paraprofessional contracts. Also in this regard, I want to thank the special needs coordinator and the entire paraprofessional staff for their love and dedication.

I will end this report on that note. I wish all of the parents, staff and students a great month of June as we persevere towards the end.

## ***Principal's Report***

*Andy Huisman*

*"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10*

Life at DCS in the last weeks before the summer break is a lot like the weather in Manitoba. Some days go by in a flurry of activity, much like the windstorm of the other day. Other days go by in a calm and sunny manner, and other days are like the thunderstorms – lots of brewing activity that may or may not manifest itself. Wherever you have a large group of people of varying ages contained under one roof, there is never a dull moment. You look forward to those calm, sunny days, but those thunderstorms are also pretty exciting. One thing in all of this that gives us comfort is the knowledge that our God is in control. He gives us a wide variety of days with which to serve Him and Him alone. We may not understand why the wind has to be so violent that windows at school get broken, but we know that it shows His awesome power. We may not understand all of the issues that our children face on a daily basis, but we do know that God is in control. DCS is a parental school and as such forms one part of the triangle of Church, Home and School. DCS strives to provide an environment where His way is upheld, His word is honoured and His love is shared. God's love surrounds us daily. It is always the hope and prayer that what we are trying to accomplish at DCS is to help educate children so that they will grow up into discerning, caring individuals who see their purpose is to serve God. Since it is the task of Dufferin Christian School to assist parents in educating their children from a Biblical perspective, it seeks to do so by:

- *Teaching students that their calling in this world is to know God, their Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, and to honour and serve Him*
- *Helping students grow into mature human beings, prepared to employ their talents in the service of their neighbors, at home and abroad, and in all areas of life*
- *Assisting students in recognizing their value and privileges as God's Covenant children, and reminding them that they are enabled by grace to respond in obedience to the call to serve.*
- *Helping students discern the pervasiveness and corrupting influence of secular values and philosophies, so that under the Lordship of Christ they may, with due humility, begin to think in a fundamentally Christian way about all aspects of life.*

- *Reminding students that this world has not been abandoned by God, that Christ has redeemed it, and that, therefore, their work as His followers and co-workers is of value for the restoration of God's Kingdom on this earth.*
- *Showing students that true knowledge and wisdom is only attainable in God, in knowing and fearing Him. Wisdom, knowledge, teaching, and learning are bound up with one's relationship to God.*

These statements form the basis of covenantal education at DCS. It is good to remind ourselves of this from time to time. When we read these statements, we may be hesitant because of the daunting responsibility that they imply. We have to remember that it is not us who does this but God. He is the Gardener that gives the growth; we are but workers in His vineyard. It is us who stand in awe of Him. Covenantal education is so much more than just the '3 R's'. It is a huge task and responsibility set before us as parents and as staff. It is through continued prayer that we as staff, students and parents can move in this direction.

### **Other News**

#### **Graduation News**

- *Graduation Exercises*

The 18<sup>th</sup> DCS Graduation Ceremony is scheduled for Tuesday, June 22<sup>th</sup> at the Carman West Church. You are cordially invited to attend these exercises. The ceremony will begin at 7:30 pm.

- *Citizenship Award*

It is that time of year again when DCS solicits nominations for the DCS Citizenship Award. This award will be presented to recognize a particular student's role in the wider sphere of school and community. This award is based on the following four criteria: 1 - Christian regard for others; 2 - Extra-curricular involvement; 3 - Involvement in other community activities; 4 - Academic achievement. If there is a student who is worthy of this award, please feel free to nominate them. The form is attached to this Beacon and is also available on the school website (under "*Student Information – Awards and Bursaries*"). Completed forms must be submitted to the school office by Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup>.

#### **June Dates and Events**

- **Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup> – ICS/DCS Elementary Track and Field**  
ICS is currently finalizing the details for this event. As they become available, notices will be placed in the newsletter.
- **Monday, June 14<sup>th</sup> – Friday, June 18 – Exam Week High School**  
The exam schedule has been posted on the school's website ([www.dufferinchristian.ca](http://www.dufferinchristian.ca)) and will also be attached to this Beacon.

- **Monday, June 21<sup>st</sup> – Administration Day**  
There will be no classes for K-12
- **Tuesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> – Graduation Day**
- **Friday, June 25<sup>th</sup> – Last day of classes for Grade 7/8**
- **Monday, June 30<sup>th</sup> – Last day of school for K-6**

The closing assembly and Kindergarten graduation will be held on this day. This day is usually a half day of school but the exact time will be published in the newsletter once we hear from the division as to the bus departure times for that day.

### **Fine Arts Gala**

The time is fast approaching. Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup> is scheduled for this occasion. The doors of the Carman West Church will be open at 7:00 pm to allow for viewing of the many artistic displays (paintings, sculptures, etc.) of all of our students. The formal part of the evening will begin at 7:30. During this portion you will have the opportunity to hear the Senior Band, the Elementary School Choir and a number of other special performances. Part of this evening will also feature some media presentations that HS students have worked on in relation to the mission work and fundraising projects that the students support. To assist the students in this work, a collection will be taken during part of the evening. After the performance, the displays will still be available for you to view. We look forward to seeing you at this event

### **High School Portfolio Project**

From time to time I have heard a variety of comments in regards to the High School Portfolio Project. I would like to share some excerpts from the actual document and perhaps shed some light on common misconceptions. If you ever have a question and want to know the correct answer, please feel free to contact me.

- *Rationale of the Portfolio Project*

*“How can we assist our students to discover and nurture their talents so that they might use them to the service of God and their neighbour?”*

A high school discipleship portfolio is a physical or electronic collection of material that demonstrates a student’s exploration and reflection of God-given talents that can be used in service to God and neighbour. This portfolio process, then, is designed to help students first of all to discover their talents and then secondarily to nurture them.

*“The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each one should use whatever gift he has received*

*to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen." 1 Peter 4:7-12*

- *Overview of the Portfolio Project*

The portfolio project will be performed during the final four years at Dufferin Christian School, Grades 9 to 12. It is designed to be a 'work-in-progress' completed at the end of Grade 12. At that point, parents must complete a reflection on their child's portfolio as well. This portfolio is compulsory for students. It is worth 1.0 credit towards graduation requirements.

Although the portfolio will add some work to the student's current load, the main elements of this portfolio may use artefacts from other high school courses. This may reduce the work somewhat although the reflections on these artefacts are still required and will not necessarily have been done in the courses.

- The portfolio is divided into five sections:

<b>Unit One:</b>	God's Calling for Me: God's Gifts to Me
<b>Unit Two:</b>	Exploring Opportunities: How Can I Fulfill My Calling?
<b>Unit Three:</b>	Preparing for a Changing World
<b>Unit Four:</b>	Annual Summaries (Grades 9-11): Seeing Who God Made Me to Be
<b>Unit Five:</b>	Graduation Summary (Grade 12): Who I Am and How I Have Grown

Students will use the five checklists (one for each unit) to guide them in choosing a variety of artefacts. These may include, but are not limited to essays, artwork, pictures of community involvement, etc. Each artefact must be accompanied by a reflection.

- **School and Community Service Hours Overview:**

A large part of the Portfolio Project is the *School and Community Service Hours*. Students may start to collect hours during the summer prior to Grade 9 entry. The service hours have a twofold purpose:

1 – Community Service: to expand students' awareness of the needs in their community, to challenge students to discover and develop their talents and interests through service, and to foster a sense of responsibility and accomplishment in our students that will encourage them toward an active life of service.

2 – Career Development: to explore learning opportunities and activities that assist students in deciding upon possible career paths.

As a guide, all students will be required to complete 40 hours of service in school and another 40 hours of service in the larger community. It should be noted that there is some flexibility in this combination (a few hours either way) however, students need to realize that both components must be met. All students will be required to complete annual year end reflections. Ideally a student will make some progress in completing the 80 hours each year. Remember, students have four years to complete the project. And if you do the math that works out to two service hours per month, not counting summer break. (about the time it takes to watch a movie)

- *Eligible Activities – In-school Component*

When it comes to what are eligible activities, you are really only limited by your imagination (and a few other small details). It is easier to define what is ineligible. ***Ineligible Activities are those that:***

- ✓ Pay the student
- ✓ Are done for credit in another course
- ✓ Are done within instructional time (please see condition below)

In light of the fact that volunteer opportunities sometimes arise during normal school hours and as such do not qualify towards the total number of hours needed, the following shall serve as a guide.

*Students may, on a case by case basis with the approval of the school administration, volunteer for events held by recognized organizations, provided the organization is within the realm of a career interest of the student. Prior to the administration consent, the student's teachers will be consulted in order to determine the student's current performance. If approval is given, it is the student's responsibility to meet with the teachers prior to the scheduled day of volunteer experience in order to coordinate a plan to complete all regular school work missed. It must be clearly understood that the onus is on the student to ensure that all school work is completed in a timely fashion. Administrative approval will not be given during any examination period.*

- *Eligible Activities – Out-of-school Component*

I have included an extensive but not exhaustible list of ideas. Not included in this list are activities for exploring career paths simply because there are so many opportunities to do so and those could not be contained in a list. If you have an idea for such an opportunity, or if you are unsure of the eligibility of an activity, simply contact the Principal for clarification.

*Suggested Activities*

- ✓ Community organizations (includes assisting with special events, food banks or things like Christmas Cheer Board, child care centre or day camp, MCC, ProLife, Siloam Mission, Partners and Pals)
- ✓ Community Projects (includes participating in food drives or supporting groups such as 4H clubs, Welcome Wagon, or Meals-on-Wheels)
- ✓ Sports (includes coaching, organizing special events)
- ✓ Health Agencies (includes volunteering at hospitals, blood donor clinics)

- ✓ Animal Care (includes volunteering in a vet clinic or animal shelter)
- ✓ Environmental projects (includes flower/tree planting, recycling projects)
- ✓ Fall Clean Up and/or a Spring Clean Up Day (includes advertising volunteer labour for people in the community who can book a number of labourers to do yard type work.)
- ✓ Not-for-Profit Agencies (includes organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, YFC Back Door)
- ✓ Support for Individuals with special needs (includes assistance to those in need with shopping, housekeeping, writing letters or transcribing, hospital visitation or chronic care, visiting the Boyne Lodge residents)
- ✓ Fundraising (includes participating in walk-a-thons, sales, or other fundraising events that benefit the community or charitable organizations)
- ✓ Committee Work (includes participating on advisory boards, neighbourhood associations and regional organizations).
- ✓ Office/Clerical Work (includes activities in reception, computer work and mailings for groups providing charitable or general community benefit)
- ✓ Church Related Activities (Organize FYSH activities, Vacation Bible School, Evangelism Committee)
- ✓ Mission Trips

**Ineligible Activities involve:**

- ✓ Playing on a sports team
- ✓ Extra-curricular school activities
- ✓ Duties normally performed by a paid employee or chores normally done at home
- ✓ Those that involves the operation of a vehicle, power tools, or scaffolding (liability issues)
- ✓ Those that involve the administration of medication or medical procedure
- ✓ Those that involve banking, securities, or other valuables
- ✓ Those hours required by a court-ordered community service program
- ✓ Those a student has not been trained to perform safely (i.e. electrical work)

As you can see, there are many opportunities for our students to develop, nurture and grow in their service to God and their neighbour. This project should not be seen as a daunting task but rather as a natural extension of the mission of DCS – *“for living a life of Christian discipleship in contemporary society”*.

Have a blessed Sunday.

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## **DCS Stingers: Serving God through Athletics**

Michael Raap

As we draw near to the end of another year of athletics, one has no choice but to think back to the last 9 months of competition and participation in sports and give thanks to the Lord that our students have been once again able to participate and be a light to the rest of the

communities we have visited. Once again we participated in zone 4 sports, which is part of Manitoba High School Athletics Association ([www.mhsaa.mb.ca](http://www.mhsaa.mb.ca)) which consists of schools from Portage La Prairie all the way down to Vita. Our school competed in soccer, golf, basketball, badminton and track and field.

Throughout the season of competition there were many opportunities for the athletes, coaches, our teams and fans to be a light to the communities we visited. There were many comments from other schools and coaches on the way we participated and played fairly. There were a number of positive comments made towards our boy's soccer team this year at provincials as we had our drivers drive other teams to their hotels and fields after their bus broke down. Our boys also attended the athletic banquet for soccer provincials and were the only team that followed all the guidelines in terms of dress and behaviour for which they received praise from other schools attending as well as the president of MHSAA. During basketball season, quite often we had other teams comment on our play as well as cheering for us during tournaments and league play. This is a testament to relationships built with other teams such as Elm Creek, Carman and others.

We are also in the process of creating a sports committee, highlighted below are the qualifications and some of the responsibilities of that committee. We are looking to start this committee by this coming school year and as a result are looking for interested individuals to be a part of this. If you would like to be a part of this committee and would like to see the sports program and our athletes to continue to grow please give me a call.

**Qualifications:**

- *Must be a member in good standing of a Canadian Reformed Church, or a church with which we have ecclesiastical fellowship.*
- *Must have an interest in and knowledge of school related sports*
- *Wanting to provide direction for the sports programs at D.C.S.*

**Responsibilities:**

- *To make certain that the focus of DCS interscholastic athletic program is consistent with the mission statement.*
- *Provide direction for the sports programs, working closely with athletes, athletic director, parents and the community at large.*
- *Search for possible professional development opportunities for our coaches.*
- *Attend the September meeting to go over guidelines for coaches, athletes, expectations etc...*
- *Attend meetings throughout the year to help organize fundraising activities for items for the sports programs.*
- *Help organize the athletic banquet (Including handing out awards)*
- *Help decide Male and Female Athlete of the year awards.*

In this report I must also make mention of all the many parent drivers who have helped make the athletics program a huge success again this year. Without the help and time of the many parent drivers our program would not be successful so THANK YOU! Our athletes do appreciate all the time and effort and sacrifices our drivers have done for them.

On another note, I would like to thank all of our coaches for the many hours of time they have spent with our student athletes. A big thank you to our coaches Laura V and Dawn V (girl's

soccer) Will H. (boy's soccer) Anje J and Nikki K (Varsity Girls basketball), Larry H (JV Boys basketball), Devon H (Varsity boy's basketball), Len L (badminton) and Marcy V (Track and Field). We also ran a 7/8 girls basketball with the guidance from Janae H. and Robin L., who helped introduce these girls to the game. The 5/6 boys also had a basketball club which was also an excellent way to introduce these boys to the game, thank you to Garret H and Richard L for coaching these boys. In this report I will not go into details on how well each team did but it is very encouraging as there were more than 120 students representing our school in these competitions and activities and as a result represented our school.

We are planning **our athletic banquet**, consisting of dessert and awards, which will be occurring on **June 17<sup>th</sup>**. At this event we hand out team awards, as well as male and female athlete of the year awards. We will also be having a key note speaker who tentatively has the subject of "Being a Christian athlete in secular society." This is also an opportunity for the athletes to reflect on the last year of competition and be recognized for those talents that God has so richly blessed them with. I encourage parents to attend as it is an evening full of fun and helps recognize the program that many of their children are involved in.

With thankfulness, the Lord has blessed our athletics program for another year. Let us continue to use athletics to serve our Heavenly Father and enable our students to use this as an outlet and an opportunity to continue to be a light within our community. If you have never attended an event before, I encourage you to make next year the year you come and cheer on our athletes.

***The Board of Dufferin Christian School,  
Carman, MB***

*is inviting applications for the following position:*

**Special Needs Assistant**

- work one-on-one with a Special Needs student
- work in a team setting with the classroom teacher, the resource teacher, and the parents to develop and implement an Individualized Education Plan (IEP)
- full time position with duties to commence September 2010
- Applicants must be willing to undertake various professional development opportunities.

**If you are interested, please contact  
the principal for further information:**

Mr. Andy Huisman  
Phone 204.745.2278 (school)  
E-mail: [dcsprincipal@mts.net](mailto:dcsprincipal@mts.net)

**Applications can be sent to:**

**Mr. Jeremy Kamminga, Secretary**  
P.O. Box 1450  
Carman, MB R0G 0J0  
Email: [dcssecretary@mts.net](mailto:dcssecretary@mts.net)

# Upcoming Events

## June Membership Meeting

Thursday, June 10,

**Time: 8:00 p.m. Canadian Reformed Church Carman WEST**

## Fine Arts Gala

**Friday, June 4, 2010**

Doors open at 7:00 p.m. to view the displays, and Program begins at 7:30 p.m.

**At Canadian Reformed Church, Carman WEST**

**EVERYONE WELCOME, and we hope to see you there!**

## DCS Grad

*"And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ – to the glory and praise of God." Philippians 1:9-11*



**Tuesday June 22, 2010**

**Ceremony at 7:30 p.m. (Carman WEST)**

Grad dinner: 4:30 p.m. at Canadian Reformed Church, Carman WEST

**Please call the secretary ASAP to order your tickets**

**Supper tickets: \$17.50**

## Dufferin Christian High School June 2010 Exam Schedule

All exam rooms will be opened at 9:00 for opening devotions. Exams will begin after opening devotions.

<b>Thursday, June 10, 2010</b>	P-Math 40S Provincial Exam		Final	9:00 AM
<b>Monday, June 14, 2010</b>	ELA10F	LD	Final	9:00 AM
	Geography 20F	MR	Final	9:00 AM
	History 30S	ABH	Final	9:00 AM
	RS41G	LL	Final	9:00 AM
<b>Tuesday, June 15, 2010</b>	Math 10F	MR	Final	9:00 AM
	Math 10T	JL	Final	9:00 AM
	RS21G	LD	Final	9:00 AM
	Bio30S/40S	MVB	Final	9:00 AM
	<b>Chemistry 30S</b>	<b>WH</b>	<b>Final</b>	<b>1:00 PM *Note</b>
<b>Wednesday, June 16, 2010</b>	SS10G	LL	Final	9:00 AM
	PMath20S	MVB	Final	9:00 AM
	CMath20S	JL	Final	9:00 AM
	RS31G	LD	Final	9:00 AM
	Chemistry 40S	WH	Final	9:00 AM
<b>Thursday, June 17, 2010</b>	Science 20F	WH	Final	9:00 AM
	PMath30S	MVB	Final	9:00 AM
	<b>Physics30S</b>	<b>WH</b>	<b>Final</b>	<b>1:00 PM *Note</b>

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## Dufferin Christian School 2010 Citizenship Award Nomination Form

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This award is presented to a student to recognize his / her characteristics of Christian friendship, respect, and compassion for others in the school as well as in the community at large. He / she shows a willingness to assist and support others without expecting reward or recognition and works well in partnership with fellow students.

Nominations will be based on a student's

- Christian regard for others
- general attitude toward academic work
- extra-curricular activity involvement
- involvement in community activities

For further information, please contact Mr. Andy Huisman at 745-2278 or dcsprincipal@mts.net

Nominations can be submitted to the school office **on or before Friday, June 11, 2010 – 4:00 PM.**

I hereby nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for this year's Citizenship Award based on criteria from the following four areas:

(a) Christian regard for others

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(b) General attitude towards academic work

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(c) involvement in community activities

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(d) extra-curricular activities

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Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*If you need more room Please write on the reverse side as well. Just indicate a/b/c/d. Thanks!*