



From the Desk of Mrs. Hackert.....

Representatives from the Department of Education visit all accredited non-public and public schools in the State of Iowa every five years. Sully Christian School is scheduled for our Site Visit on November 17 and 18. The purpose of this visit is four-fold and includes the following:

1. To assess progress with the Comprehensive School Improvement Plan.
2. To provide a general assessment of educational practices.
3. To make recommendations with regard to the visit's findings for the purposes of improving educational practices.
4. To determine that the school is in compliance with the accreditation standards.

The State team will review school documents and interview instructional and non-instructional staff, students, parents, committees, and boards.

The State team will use the conference room for these two days. The conference room is a central location for their computers. We will provide them with snacks and beverages, lunch from our school menu, and a light supper for these two days.

God has blessed our school with His faithfulness. This State visit will be an opportunity for us to share with others the Christian principles that are the foundation of Sully Christian School. Many hours of work involving a variety of tasks have been completed in preparation for this visit over the last few months, but much work has yet to be finished. It is my prayer that the members of the State team will see in action these words from our mission statement: "A quality education that is based on the infallible Word of God."

The daily operation at Sully Christian School depends on teamwork. I thank each one of you for your commitment to Christian education. Praise God for His goodness!

"The Sully Christian School, together with the Christian parents and Society, will provide a quality education that is based on the Word of God. We will equip our children, through God's grace, to be active members of God's Kingdom."

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Years



We recently gathered the entire student body for a picture and wanted to share it with you. We're so blessed!

Student Science Projects



The school's foyer was full of activity last week thanks to Mrs. Lewis' K, 1st and 2nd graders and Mrs. Hackert's 5th and 6th grade science class. K, 1 & 2 had their class bug collection on display, along with some very informative posters about insects that they made themselves. The 5th/6th graders have been studying ecosystems and each made their own to bring to school. It was interesting to see the variety of ecosystems the students came up with for their projects. Students took every opportunity available to stop by and check out these awesome projects. Visitors loved it too and commented on how neat it is that our teachers find such fun and interesting ways to help our students learn about God's creation.

School Circle News

The School Circle would like to thank those who accepted nominations for the election of officers this year. The new officers are Joni Collins, president; Sheila Pleima, secretary; and Janae Van Soelen, treasurer. Throughout the school year School Circle has several opportunities to provide service to Sully Christian School. The activities include the following:

- 1.) Serve refreshments at the Christmas program.
- 2.) Plan the 8th Grade Banquet each spring.
- 3.) Serve food (provide a concession stand) at District V Fine Arts in the spring.
- 4.) Provide support to the teachers in the form of funds for minor classroom supplies and provide refreshments for the teachers during Parent/Teacher Conferences.

School Circle meets twice a year and the executive committee will meet as needed.

From the Barnabas Foundation

How can I include my favorite Christian ministries in my Estate Plan?

There are specific times and events in your life when planning your gifts can result in great benefit for both you and your favorite charities. Important events may include the sale of appreciated assets, the sale of a business or farm, or retirement.

Some ideas for charitable giving that are commonly used in Estate Plans are as follows:

- Add a charitable bequest in your will or revocable living trust.
- Create a charitable remainder trust which provides income to you for your lifetime or a term of years, and a gift to charity at your death.
- Establish a gift annuity which provides fixed income to you for a lifetime and a gift to charity.

Planned gifts may be made either during your lifetime or at death and usually involve the assistance of professionals such as your accountant, attorney or financial planner.

Remember, estate planning is more than just a financial exercise; it is part of our spiritual response to God.

Sully Christian School partners with Barnabas Foundation as they help Christians meet their family financial needs while supporting ministries that are close to their hearts. The attorneys at Barnabas Foundation are familiar with the documents used in an Estate Plan and would be happy to talk to you about preparing a new Estate Plan, making changes to an existing Estate Plan, or reviewing your current Estate Plan. Their services are free-of-charge. You can contact a Barnabas Foundation representative toll-free at 1.888.448.3040.

Barnabas representatives are in our area from time to time and are happy to set up appointments with anyone who would like to visit about estate planning. Remember, this service is free of charge. Watch future communications for that opportunity, or contact Nelson Nikkel at 641-780-0949 for more information.

LOG-STO News

The Legacy of Grace Student Tuition Organization (LOG-STO) is once again actively seeking donations. A 65% state tax credit will be given on the first 332,000 dollars donated. Please see the enclosed sheet which includes more information and a donation form. This year Sully Christian families who applied and qualified received a \$817.26 credit for each of their children enrolled here. What a blessing!

FUNDRAISING FOCUS

Thanks to all who supported our Schwan's Fund raiser! Over \$1,200 was raised towards reaching our goal \$40,000 for the year. Thank You!

All Hands and Rollers needed! One of our most important and delicious fundraisers will be happening on Friday, October 23rd from 9:00 am to 10:00 pm & Saturday the 24th starting at 7:00 am until we are done. We encourage one and all to join in the fellowship and help us in creating these tasty treats. This year we will be making **3,528 LETTERS!** Join us on the production line - you will be welcomed with open arms!

Also of special note....

Extra freezer space is need to store finished letters until they are sold. If you have a large freezer that is currently empty, that we can use, please contact Karla Vos.

Save the Date!

Sully's Annual Haulin' in Christmas celebration will be held on December 5th. The school will be hosting our annual Cookie Walk and offering an evening meal.

We also request your prayers, for our children, parents and volunteers as we work towards reaching our financial goal.

Thank You,
The Fundraising Committee

New Mural at SCS



Our many thanks to Mrs. Janae Vander Wilt who volunteered her time to paint this beautiful and meaningful mural at the east end of the upper hallway. The mural features the cross, which signifies Christ our Saviour, centered in the triangle, which is a representation of the three chief ways that children learn about our God: Church, Home and School. The banner across the cross reads, "Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord."

Calendar

October 20	Soccer vs. Oskaloosa (H) 4:00
October 21	5th/6th Chapel 8:40
October 22	Soccer @ PC 4:15
October 23	1:30 Dismissal - 1 st Quarter ends Dutch Letter rolling day
October 24	Dutch Letter rolling day
October 26	Soccer @ Oskaloosa 4:00
October 27	Soccer vs. PC (H) 4:15
November 5	Jr. High Music Festival @ PCHS
November 6	No School - Teacher inservice
November 9	Education Committee meets
November 11	2:30 dismissal - P/T Conferences
November 12	Parent/Teacher Conferences PM School Board meets 7:00
November 13	No School
November 17-18	State Accreditation Site Visit
November 24	Basketball vs. Oskey (H) 4:00
November 25	2:30 Dismissal
November 26-27	Thanksgiving Break
December 3	Basketball vs. ICA (H) 4:00
December 8	Basketball vs. PC (H) 4:15
December 14	Christmas Program
December 17	Basketball @ Ankeny Chr. 4:00
December 23	1:30 Dismissal - 2nd Quarter ends

October Board Highlights

October 8, 2009

Education Committee

- Discussion continues on next year's School Calendar.
- Many policies from the Board Policy manual were reviewed, some required changes, all were approved.

Building & Grounds Committee

- Repairs to the roof over the kitchen area seems to have successfully taken care of all the leaks.
- The memorial pictures from the foyer have been removed and will be hung in the lower hallway, across from the graduates' pictures.

Finance Committee

- The 2008 STO funds have been received and applied to tuition accounts. Each family that applied and qualified received a \$817.26 credit per student.

Fundraising Committee

- Plans are underway for the Haulin' in Christmas celebration which will be held the evening of December 5.
- Dutch Letter days are coming up and we will be increasing the number of letteres made to 3,528.

Promotions Committee

- Reported on the blue promotion bag/service project details.

Technology Committee

- Memory cards have been purchased for several of the teachers' classroom computers which were freezing up. This should eliminate the problem. The committee will follow up.

Administrator's Report

- A report from the teachers about the Heartland Teachers' Convention was shared with board members. Five of our teachers attended.

SCS Wishlist

From time to time the School Board or staff members are asked about school/classroom needs by individuals who desire to gift the school by fulfilling a specific need. The board has decided to publish a "wish list" in this area of the newsletter each month to keep our supporters aware of various needs. As you can see, this list includes different levels of expense to provide options. It will be updated as needs arise.

1. \$ to purchase chair/desk slippers - cost: \$1.00 each
2. ELMO Visual Presenters - cost: \$600-\$700 each
3. CD Listening Library for 5th grade- cost: \$70

Food Drive Underway



At a special assembly last month the entire student body and all SCS staff received the blue fabric bags pictured above, compliments of our Promotions Committee. The bags have the SCS logo on them and are big enough to hold lots of good stuff! That makes them useful in two ways: 1) they're a great way to let people know about SCS and, 2) since they can be used over and over again for groceries and/or other purchases, they are good for our environment. Mrs. Hackert challenged everyone to put them to good use right away for our school project this fall. We have been collecting nonperishables for the Jasper County Food Pantry and will continue until Thanksgiving, so everyone is encouraged to take their SCS bags to the grocery store and fill them up with items to help fill the donation table in the school foyer.

Prayer Warrior's Corner

1. Prayers for safety and patience for the farmers who await good weather to continue their harvest.
2. Prayers for the staff as they continue to prepare for the State site visit in November.
3. Prayers of thanks that SCS students have not been hit too hard by seasonal illnesses so far.
4. Prayers for the family of Marlene Runia, a former teacher at SCS, who passed away recently.

