



SHEBOYGAN CHRISTIAN

 $\mathsf{S} \mathsf{C} \mathsf{H} \mathsf{O} \mathsf{O} \mathsf{L}$

Scholarship | Discipleship | Citizenship



















2020-2021 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TJ Hendrikse President - 2021

Jon Vrzal Vice President - 2021

> **Eric Grasse** Treasurer - 2021

Sandy VanEss Secretary - 2022

Ryan Moeller Vicar - 2023

Sarah Mueller Board Member - 2022

Angie Shaw Board Member - 2022

David CornetteBoard Member - 2023

Andy RosenthalBoard Member - 2023

ADMINISTRATION

Ann Steenwyk

Director of Academics and Instruction

Bryce DeRoos Assistant Principal

John Warmus
Director of Advancement
and Finance

Rudi Gesch
Director of Marketing and
Enrollment



In This Issue

- 3. FROM THE DESK OF ANN STEENWYK
- 4. BOARD DEVOTIONAL
- NEW STUDENTS
- 6. NEW TEACHERS
- 7. NEW BUILDING
- LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP
- SCHOLARSHIP
- 10. DISCIPLESHIP
- 11. CITIZENSHIP

The Flyer is a triannual publication of Sheboygan Christian School. The purpose of The Flyer is to keep you up to date on everything that is happening in our school and to unify our greater school community.

Please contact the SCS Marketing office if you would like to update your contact information or if you know of someone who would like to receive *The Flyer*.

SCS Marketing Office | 929 Greenfield Avenue, Sheboygan, WI 53081 community@sheboyganchristian.com

Design & Layout | Laura Hartgerink, Signify, LLC

From the Desk of Ann Steenwyk

IN WITH THE OLD; IN WITH THE NEW

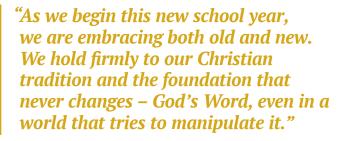


Dear SCS Community,

"What is this world coming to?" The other day, I caught myself asking this same question my grandma used to ask. Back then I would roll my eyes and work to convince my grandma about why change is good and how the world is becoming a better place because of it. (Really, how bad could MTV

be?) In my older and wiser years, I've learned that although the world is changing, complete with new problems and new cultural realities, we can be thankful for both the old and the new. Celebrating the old and welcoming the new is part of God's story for us, and we are called to appreciate both.

As we begin this new school year, we are embracing both old and new. We hold firmly to our Christian tradition and the foundation that never changes – God's Word, even in a world that tries to manipulate it. This truly has to be the center of what we do as we train up children in the Lord. This was the reason our school was founded so many years ago. Without this foundation, everything our children learn would be meaningless. So many of our older and wiser constituents have worked hard to maintain this for future generations. (my Grandma Otte was one of them!) Our new work with the Teaching for Transformation framework is firming up this "older" critical foundation.



As we get nostalgic about our past, we also welcome inklings of a new era. As I write this, large machines are beginning to move dirt on our Greenfield campus. A new campus is coming. We've welcomed our middle school to this campus, and we look forward to ushering in our elementary school students next fall. In our last year at the Geele campus, we are making lasting memories before we say our final goodbye. Even more exciting than anticipating a new building, we are growing a new community of learners. New students and new families are joining our loyal "tried and true" families to make our school community more diverse, richer, and stronger. While holding on to the legacy of our seasoned teachers, 8 new faculty members have brought fresh perspective, new ideas, and new gifts and talents to our school. I hope you've had a chance to meet all of our new community members.

Certainly each new change brings new challenges, but God has ordained this unique time for SCS. Whether amidst a chaotic or rather calm world around us, He has called SCS to persevere, to grow, to impart critical truths to our children. We are grateful for your roles in this work and ask for your continued support of acknowledging how both the old and the new work together for God's grand plan.

Persevering in His Story,

Ann Steenwyk – Director of Academics and Instruction



"BUT THE SEED ON GOOD SOIL STANDS FOR THOSE WITH A NOBLE AND GOOD HEART, WHO HEAR THE WORD, RETAIN IT, AND BY PERSEVERING PRODUCE A CROP." —Luke 8:15

2 | Fall 2020

Board Devotional



Bless the Lord Every Day for Everything

Please read Psalm 145

In the compilation of the Psalter over many years, at one point it ended with the comprehensive praise of Psalm 145. It is the final psalm of David and the only one

in the entire Book with the word "praise" in its inspired title. The last of eight acrostic songs, each stanza begins with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet, a pattern used to emphasize the theme. David's last song stresses comprehensive reasons, from A-Z, to bless the Lord every day for everything. This was the commitment of King David and God's people, who sang this song many times in biblical history. Psalms is the Church's songbook also, so blessing the Lord must be our commitment as well, regardless of what is happening around us, to us, and in us.

Bless the LORD for His Greatness. This song came easily from the voice and pen of David, who had personally experienced the greatness of God many times over. Throughout, he weaves in and out of Yahweh's attributes and acts in creation and salvation. Little did the king know, his vow to bless God daily forever continues to find fulfillment whenever this psalm is read! Successive generations declare God's greatness to the next. Let SCS also bless God's greatness historically, noting "generations" of graduates since 1898 who have gone forth in Christ's name. Bless God's greatness you personally experienced at SCS. Bless him for those who returned to invest in the next generation. Bless the Lord for yet another generation commending God's greatness to the next.

Bless the LORD for His Goodness. David blesses manifold aspects of God's goodness: grace, mercy, loyal love, patience, and his righteous rule as our King. David experienced God's goodness through the best and worst times. So has SCS! We see God's "abundant goodness" in giving us the exact administration and staff he planned for this challenging season. The SCS team is doing a phenomenal job navigating the COVID-19 reality. Think of it: endless meetings, difficult communications, plans for navigating the unknown; sleepless nights, prayer, weeping, frustration, uncertainty; the ever-changing dynamics of the situation; students, families, employment, health, etc. All of this is in addition to fulfilling their normal duties. In his goodness, God

"In his goodness, God gave us leaders and teachers with incredible resilience that runs deep, with a strong resolve, and a commitment to their call. Administration and staff labor diligently to maintain protocol, fulfill duties, model Christ, and carry on."

gave us leaders and teachers with incredible resilience that runs deep, with a strong resolve, and a commitment to their call. Administration and staff labor diligently to maintain protocol, fulfill duties, model Christ, and carry on. We are IN SCHOOL AND ROLLING! Bless the Lord for his goodness in blessing us with this administration and staff at this time in SCS history. In these times, daily cursing is a lot easier than daily blessing. Commit to blessing the Lord every day for something, including good things he is working at SCS throughout this COVID-19 era.

By His grace, for His glory,

David Cornette - Board Member Pastor at Calvary OP Church, Cedar Grove, WI



Mission

In partnership with the Christian community, Sheboygan Christian School uses a biblical perspective to integrate academic excellence with Christ-centered learning, preparing students' hearts and minds for service in God's world.



Vision

Sheboygan Christian School will impact the world, both near and far, for Jesus Christ.



Core Values

- Pursues Academic Excellence
- Develops the Christian Mind
- Cultivates Spiritual Growth
- Encourages Biblical Self-Image
- Builds Strong Social Bonds
- Involves the Supporting Community
- Serves the Greater Community

NEW STUDENTS



2020 has grown our school.

At the end of the 2019-2020 school year, we looked back at a completely unexpected, unavoidable experience that we all had to navigate together due to COVID-19. We also wondered what we

might have to face at the start of the 2020-2021 school year. In regards to enrollment, common questions were: 1) As family needs change in the midst of COVID-19, will our enrollment change? 2) Will families want to switch to a new school during this time? 3) What ways can we welcome new students and families to the SCS community while there are a variety of limitations in place?

The Lord is good, He is faithful and He provides. Our school enrollment is the highest it has been in the last decade, surpassing the 300 mark with 306 students. We want to take this time to thank our families for your role in reaching this goal.

Returning SCS families – Your continual commitment through finances, time, service and prayer have helped strengthen our school and its future. We cannot thank you enough for standing with us and partnering with us through it all. We also want to thank you for the ways you have supported our new families and new staff members, whether it is rides to activities after school, encouraging notes or treats, our new Parent Ambassador program, and more.

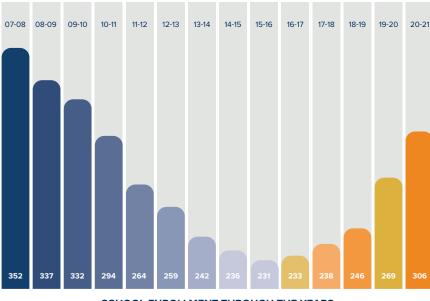
New families – Thank you for prayerfully deciding to take the bold step of joining a new school community during COVID-19. Thank you for your trust in our staff and administration, for the grace you are giving as we maneuver through changes in your first year at SCS, and for all that your family brings to our school community. We look forward to growing together in the years to come.

In His Hands,

Rebecca Flipse – Marketing and Enrollment Coordinator

NEW FAMILY FEATURE - MEET THE FORTUINE FAMILY

What led you to choose Sheboygan Christian School for your children this year? Our family recently moved from the La Crosse area when Heather accepted a faculty position at Concordia University. We considered settling in a few different areas, but even though it meant a longer work commute, we knew the Lord was calling us to Sheboygan. The area is beautiful, the people are friendly and welcoming, and our children immediately felt a sense of belonging at Sheboygan Christian School – "it feels like home here," they said. Sure



SCHOOL ENROLLMENT THROUGH THE YEARS

THIS YEAR, SCS HAS

REPRESENTED

COUNTIES **REPRESENTED** 1 IN 4

STUDENTS ARE NEW

at least **1 NEW STUDENT** per grade level

NEW STUDENTS

216 INQUIRIES

(a **60%** increase)

enough, the staff and families at Sheboygan Christian have been truly welcoming and friendly, with several staff members going way beyond the call of duty to help us transition to the area. The Lord is always faithful!

What are a few things you have enjoyed so far as a new family to **Sheboygan Christian School?**

We appreciate the focus on academics and character-building in the context of a strong Christian community. Every decision and emphasis is Christ-centered. We also appreciate that so many



different churches are represented at the school. We look forward to getting to know the school, the staff, and all the families more at Sheboygan Christian

New Teachers



In the late 1990's, a book titled, The Perfect Storm, by Sebastian Junger, came out and it was an instant best seller. It centered on a story about a fishing boat that was lost off of the East coast in what was called the "perfect storm" of 1991. The book describes how three storms converged to create a massive weather phenomenon and cause

chaos and destruction. That was an impossibly perfect description of how SCS felt in the spring of 2020.

We were about to lose 3 teachers to retirement with over 100 years of teaching experience, we were rapidly growing as a school, we were running out of space, and we needed to hire six new teachers and essentially replace 85% of the staff from 4K-3rd grade. This was our perfect storm and we had so many questions to be answered: How could SCS replace that experience and the legacy that they created? How could SCS maintain the high standards of academic excellence? How could SCS advance our use of technology to enhance learning? And finally, how could SCS integrate the collaborative culture with our new teachers?

No school could do this on their own and only with the grace of God's goodness can we say with the loudest voice, "God has provided!" Fast forward to the first day of school. We have hired a mixture of teachers with experience, new ideas and fresh approaches. We have hired teachers with proven records of getting students to achieve with the highest of academic skills. We hired teachers who continue to challenge us in the technology arena, bringing in new ideas on how to utilize technology within the classroom.

In order to answer the final question surrounding the continuing of a collaborative culture, SCS took on the







idea of implementing an entire staff approach to mentoring. Our veteran teachers of Kathy Andringa, Joel Navis, and Jen Atkinson have so much knowledge and insight and we wanted that to be shared amongst everyone. As a result, every Monday, ALL elementary teachers meet together to review, discuss, and decide on everything from scheduling to curriculum to how to address students who are struggling academically. This all-hands-on-deck approach has transformed how we function at the elementary school. It is a group of educational professionals building upon the legacy and shoulders of the previous teachers and deciding together on how to continue to grow, develop, nurture and educate students at SCS.

This is one of the strongest examples of how SCS is different from other organizations and how we can demonstrate how dedicated our staff is in providing the best quality Christian education to the greater community of Sheboygan.

Bryce DeRoos – Assistant Principal



PICTURED: Snapshots of our elementary staff meeting on a Monday afternoon, sharing resources and insight with each other.

NEW BUILDING



I am writing this to you filled with HOPE.

In a time when many of us have felt depleted by the needs of navigating a unique season in our country, school, and personal lives, it has been easy to focus on the added stressors of today and the unknowns of tomorrow. I'll be the first to admit, I have been guilty of this. We were presented,

just like everyone else in the world, with an unexpected twist to the second half of 2020. As a school, we have strategized and focused on how to get through these months, deciphering what is best to provide to our students and staff to protect and advance their learning environments. It has not been easy, and it has not been without hardship. HOWEVER, it has also not been without HOPE. Why are we working so hard to protect the mission of our school, even through a global pandemic? Why are we pouring into our vision on a daily basis even on days when it is difficult to see the light at the end of the tunnel? Because we have the gift of HOPE that in all and through all, His plan is in progress for Sheboygan Christian School.

I heard a sermon recently that focused on "Hope". Our pastor articulated that in both Hebrew and Greek, the words used for hope meant "a strong and confident expectation". As I listened that morning, I couldn't help but think about my hope for SCS. We have experienced growth in numbers, progress in our building project, and strength in our team of staff. But what about times of uncertainty or doubt? We cannot withdraw because our circumstances are complex. When living with Christian hope, we must act in times like these. Hope should commit us to actions that connect us to what God is doing in our lives and community. SCS community, that is where we stand right now. We are calling you to hope, and to action. In the coming weeks you will be encouraged to participate and give to our community in ways like never before. Your dedication to the success of our school strengthens our daily hope of moving forward and building on the foundation of SCS's 122-year history. So be ready for the invite, be praying for wisdom about your role in this project, and be spreading the hope of Sheboygan Christian School.

We are living in a critical time and an important season of growth and progress for our school community. We need to hold fast to God and His plan for us not only as a school but as individuals. In doing this, there is no limit to what we can achieve and there is no limit to what we will achieve, in living out our mission to develop the hearts and minds of God's children at Sheboygan Christian School.

If you're feeling as hopeful as I am, please be in touch.

Hopefully and joyfully,

John Warmus - Director of Advancement and Finance

PICTURED: Before and after trees were removed to make room for our expansion.





"...we have the gift of HOPE that in all and through all, His plan is in progress for Sheboygan Christian School."





PICTURED: Before and after the red house at 823 Greenfield Ave was knocked down to make room for our expansion.

6 | Fall 2020 7

Learning and Leadership



FEATURING ANN STEENWYK

What is the Van Lunen Center?

The Van Lunen Center is an executive management training program for heads of Christian schools. It is designed for those who have been in their

leadership positions for at least one year and report directly to the governing board of their schools. They lead schools large and small, rural and urban, and in wealthy and underserved communities. Program Fellows are from around the world.

How did you become a Van Lunen Fellow this year?

Two of my colleagues, Kevin Vos, Head of School for Brookfield Christian, and Jackie Verhulst, former Head of School at Cross Trainers, gave my name to the Van Lunen Center for consideration. The Center contacted me and requested that I apply for the Fellows program. The application process required letters of recommendation and personal essays.

How long will you be in this program?

1 year + years of future networking.



What do you hope to gain from your experience?

The Fellows program includes Christian school leaders from all over the world. I hope to develop connections and networks that will help me to continue to grow and become a stronger leader. The faculty in the program are experienced school leaders who represent a wealth of knowledge and expertise. I look forward to learning from their stories and their knowledge. I also have to read about 10 books!

How will SCS benefit from your involvement in this program?

Part of the program requires me to complete a year long project that will benefit our school. I have chosen to focus my project on board governance, as this is a focus of one of SCS's strategic goals.

Why do you think it is important for everyone – including our head of school – to be lifelong learners?

As educators, we need to model lifelong learning for our students. Additionally, God requires us to use the gifts and talents He has blessed us with to make an impact for His kingdom. We can only do this by learning about His world and how to live and lead in it. We are called to be learners for His kingdom.

"As educators, we need to model lifelong learning for our students. Additionally, God requires us to use the gifts and talents He has blessed us with to make an impact for His kingdom."





SCHOLARSHIP

TEACHING FOR TRANSFORMATION – EARLY ADOPTERS

Our staff has been training through the Teaching for Transformation framework for the past three years. For those who are not familiar, the purpose of this framework is to help our students see God's story and practice "living" in God's story both in and outside of the classroom. A very important part of this training is to have a group of teachers act as our Early Adopters for implementing the framework in their classrooms. See below for a few of our Early Adopters and the deep hope and storylines they have for their students.



Juan Engels – High School Spanish Teacher

Deep Hope: My deep hope for myself and my students is that we will be able to see God's creativity and global plan of redemption when learning about other cultures and languages and become active participants in His amazing world while listening, speaking, encouraging and serving others.

Storyline: Be Authentic! / ¡Sé auténtico!



Joel Navis – Elementary/Middle School Teacher

Deep Hope: My deep hope is that students will engage and wrestle with transformational learning for God's glory.

Storyline: Using our words to say something



Lisa Abe – 1st-12th Grade Art Teacher

Deep Hope: My deep hope is that we will know God as the supreme Artist and live out our creative calling. **Storyline:** Creating for a purpose





LAKELAND UNIVERSITY ACADEMY OF ASPIRING ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Featuring Senior Bryden Doyle Team Awarded 1st Prize for Best Business Plan

What did the Lakeland University Academy of Aspiring Entrepreneurship entail?

We were introduced to area professionals who have businesses of their own who lent their knowledge and experience to the classroom education we were receiving. We were separated into teams with directions to create our own business and prepare a multi-tiered business plan to present to potential investors so we could gain capital for startup expenses, etc. My team developed a business plan for a government funded business that provides tutoring services to people who don't have access to education. While my teammates worked on marketing and other aspects of the business, I focused on creating a sustainable financial plan. On the day of the finals, I got to present the financial plan for our business and answer questions from area business owners about how I arrived at my numbers. Our team was awarded 1st prize for best business plan!

How did Sheboygan Christian School help prepare you for this program?

I have been homeschooled all my life up until my junior year at SCS. Prior to SCS, I never knew about this kind of thing and I'm the first one in my family to get to participate in it. SCS made sure I knew about the opportunity, answered all my questions, made it sound cool enough that I wanted to participate, and my classroom studies really did put me in a strong position to contribute to my team. The opportunity to network with students from other areas of the state who attended different schools was really revealing about the difference between what we get at SCS and what the other kids get at other schools. We swapped stories, but I think the SCS stories were the best. Maybe I'm a little biased.

Was this program helpful in determining or affirming your goals?

I want to go to school and study business and maybe political science. This year's election activity has captured my imagination and I've thought about what it would be like to act and speak on behalf of ideals and positions I support. I still want to get the business going, so I guess I'm hoping to do both. This summer business training helped take away some of the mystery about business for me and also introduced me to things business people have to know in order to run their own company. That was pretty special for me.

Discipleship

"RADIATE LOVE" **ACTIVITY**

Over the summer, I had an idea to create a "Take What You Need" message board in the Middle School hallway to keep students' spirits up. It would have inspiring messages and Bible passages, focused on certain attributes, that I would supply. I decided the students could be more involved by supplying the messages for fellow classmates. At the teacher inservice on August 18, I changed the list of attributes to be consistent with our







"Radiate Love" theme from Colossians 3:12-14. These attributes included: compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forgiveness, and love. This idea has continued to evolve over time.

We were excited to present this as an activity for our b1 groups (K-8 groups that partner older students with younger students). Middle school students wrote inspirational notes for the elementary students, and the elementary students wrote similar notes for the middle school students. The notes could also include a Bible

passage, colors, and pictures. As they were thinking about what to write, they picked an attribute from the theme verse to focus on. The notes were posted on the boards based on the category. The students' devotion and creativity surprised and impressed me. The classes I got to witness do this activity talked with each other about what the other campus might need to see. They really put their hearts into each note they wrote, and some even chose to write multiple messages.

Jeanette Morris – Middle School **Teacher**

BIBLE STUDIES & CHAPEL

Soon, I will be leading a Bible study for the 6th grade girls at SCS. It hasn't started yet, but I am excited to help the girls grow in their faith and their identity in Christ. I have always wanted to do something like this, so when Mrs. Steenwyk approached me, I said yes. I remember middle school brought feelings of trying to find my place, who I was, and new challenges. When I was younger, I participated in GEMS (Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior), and it was awesome growing with other girls and leaders. My hope for this Bible study is to start with a general study of the Bible, but as the year goes on, dig deeper into identity. I look forward to giving the girls a safe, trusting environment to talk and grow in.

I also have the opportunity to be a lead on the Chapel team. Worship in the form of music has always helped me feel God's



presence. My hope is that everyone can experience that together. What some people might not know is that every song, scripture verse and piece of chapel planning is on purpose. This year, we are focusing on our school theme, "Radiate Love." We then split the theme verse into subcategories that we

cover each month in our chapels. This helps our school dig deep into the verse and theme throughout the year. The chapel planning experience also helps create leaders within the chapel committee.

Grace VanEss - Senior



Natelie recently attended The Salvation Army awards ceremony, where she was awarded Volunteer of the Year, a regional award in their youth category. Natelie has been volunteering there since 2016. She has stocked food pantry shelves, sorted outerwear for Coats for Kids and toys for Christmas distribution, stuffed backpacks for the back-toschool giveaway and served food and cleaned up at the Salvation Ride bike fundraiser.







CITIZENSHIP

Cameron and Zeke spent a Saturday morning raising awareness of human trafficking in Sheboygan County. Did you know that Sheboygan County is ranked #2 for the highest number of trafficking cases reported in Wisconsin?

Maddie and Grace chose to think positively and make a difference in the midst of COVID-19. They founded the company, Masks That Matter, selling handmade masks to their customers, with all profit going to The Milwaukee Children's Hospital of Wisconsin.

All of the high school Spanish classes decided to sponsor two students, Jim and Jostin, from Tesoros de Dios, a nonprofit in Nicaragua that serves children with disabilities. Their goal is to raise \$60 a month (\$30 per child). They already raised over \$90 in the first 3 weeks!

Through these acts of service, our students show their true citizenship is in heaven as they respond to God's call here on earth to love their neighbors.









High School Campus | 929 Greenfield Avenue, Sheboygan, WI 53081 **Elementary & Middle School Campus** | 418 Geele Avenue, Sheboygan, WI 53083

Address Service Requested

THANK YOU!

Thank you for your support for our 50th One Walk for Christian Education!

Our middle and high school students walked from the high school to the elementary campus (6 miles), with the elementary students joining them as they walked to the finish at South Pier Parlor (4 miles).

With student pledges, donor matches, and sponsorships totalled together, our 50th One Walk raised over \$50,000 for Christian education at SCS!



Stay Connected with SCS



Like us on Facebook facebook.com/sheboyganchristian



Follow us on Instagram @sheboyganchristian

www.sheboyganchristian.com