

CENTRAL CABLE

CENTRAL MINNESOTA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

CENTRALBLUEJAYS.ORG



CENTRAL'S PORTRAIT OF THE "IDEAL" GRADUATE

Our ideal graduate carries the ethos of Central Minnesota Christian School by embodying faith and demonstrating these Christ-following characteristics:

God Worshiper: They live a life of worship, celebrating God's majesty, grace, and faithfulness in every aspect of their existence.

Idolatry Discerner: They discern and reject the idols of the world, prioritizing a relationship with the true God of the Bible and challenging societal norms that contradict divine truth.

Creation Enjoyer: They find joy through awe and wonder in the beauty of God's creation, marveling at his intricate design and finding peace in the interconnectedness of all that God has made.

Beauty Creator: Inspired by the creativity of their Creator, they use their talents to glorify God through acts of creativity and innovation, embracing variety and complexity in their expressions.

Order Discoverer: With eyes attuned to God's divine order, they exercise responsibility and find purpose in the intricacies of creation, reflecting the organization and structure of God's design.

Justice Seeker: With a biblical heart of wisdom, they confront injustice with compassion and courage, advocating for human dignity and honor in alignment with God's principles of righteousness.

Servant Worker: A life of service grounded in humility, they actively work to heal brokenness and bring the hope of Christ to others by honoring God through their gifts and abilities.

Earth Keeper: Recognizing God's creation as inherently good, they engage the world and steward it responsibly by promoting environmental sustainability and respecting all life.

Community Builder: Committed to fostering unity and belonging in Christ, they actively cultivate communities of grace where everyone is valued as cherished members of God's family.

Image Reflector: Reflecting the Imago Dei (image of God), they radiate love, joy, and kindness, embodying the fruit of the Spirit and the virtues of Christ in their interactions with others.

Our vision of success is the formation of effective kingdom citizens who are in the world but not of it. We are committed to fostering a learning environment that cultivates these traits in our students. We want to send out well-adjusted young adults who positively impact their communities and the world for the Glory of God.

Jon De Groot, Superintendent



KNOWN PERSONALLY



DISCIPLINED INTENTIONALLY



CHALLENGED ACADEMICALLY

HOW WE TEACH READING AT CENTRAL



Principal Stier

AMPLIFY CKLA: WHY THE SHIFT?



At Central, we are committed to our vision of providing an exceptional education delivered from a Biblical worldview. A key factor in living our vision is equipping students with reading skills. Reading is a foundational skill that prepares students for success in every area of life. As we researched best practices, the Science of Reading emerged as the standard for teaching reading. Through our curriculum review process, Amplify's CKLA best aligned with Central's mission and vision. You may have noticed that CKLA looks different compared to previous curricula. CKLA helps educators teach students to read through engaging lessons in Social Studies, Science, and Literature.

THE SCIENCE OF READING



"First, the body of work referred to as "the science of reading" is not an ideology, a philosophy, a political agenda, a one-size-fits-all approach, a program of instruction, or a specific component of instruction. It is the emerging consensus from many related disciplines, based on literally thousands of studies, supported by hundreds of millions of research dollars, conducted across the world in many languages. These studies have revealed a great deal about how we learn to read, what goes wrong when students don't learn, and what kind of instruction is most likely to work the best for most students."

-Dr. Louisa Moats

MISSION AND VISION ALIGNMENT



The Education Committee reviewed the CKLA curriculum through the lens of our mission, vision, and values and found that CKLA offers our teachers the ability to deliver an exceptional education from a Biblical perspective. CKLA also aligns with our value of Being Transformed by continual growth through building knowledge and skills so that reading is more meaningful.

ELA IMPLEMENTATION TEAM

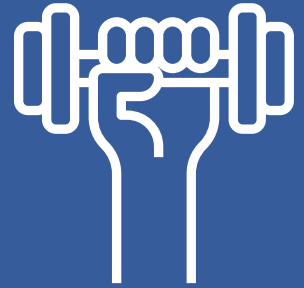


Dean Stier, Principal
Lisa Jerve, 1st Grade Teacher
Jamie Duininck, 3rd Grade Teacher
Marit Rheinheimer, 3rd Grade Teacher
Becky Berry, Academic Support

FITNESS CENTER UPDATES:

In conversation with coaches, the Athletic Committee has made a plan to update the fitness center in order to be more conducive to large-group strength training. The cost-efficient plan will reconfigure the current layout to maximize usable space and add additional weight training equipment.

As part of the update, the school will remove and sell two pieces of cardio equipment and the cable chest press. The fully funded project is expected to be finished by the end of September.



NEW TO YOU VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

New to You is entering its busiest season and is in need of additional volunteers. Available positions include retail or processing donations anytime between 9:00am-6:00pm on Monday through Fridays. If you are willing to help, please contact the New to You store at 320-231-1850.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

We are looking for individuals with a passion for Christian Education and a heart for discipling students toward a life of service.

- Part-time Custodian
- MS Girls Basketball Coach
- Part-time New to You Retail Care Associate
- Part-time New to You Donations Associate

For a full listing of our employment openings, please visit our website at www.centralbluejays.org under Employment Opportunities or contact Jon De Groot at 320-978-8700 if you or someone you know is interested in applying.



COMMUNITY CHOIR:

For those who love to sing, the Concert Choir invites you to join them for one of their songs at the High School Fall Concert on Tuesday, October 22. Prior to the concert, there will be two rehearsals in the evening, an opportunity to rehearse during choir class (if you are able), and a run-through before the concert. If you are interested in singing or want more information, please contact Kourtney Schwitters at kourtneys@centralbluejays.org.

STUDENT DISCIPLESHIP

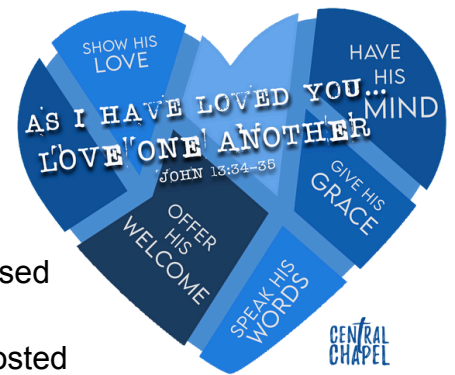
As I have loved you, so you must love one another. John 13:34-35

As you have hopefully already heard or seen around the school, our theme for student discipleship this year is based on John 13:34-35. We wanted to help students dig into what it means to live in community with one another well and felt this verse is a good summary of what it looks like to do that. The foundation of understanding we want students to grasp is how Jesus showed his love for us by taking our place on the cross to take our sins. In light of what Jesus did for us on the cross, we are called to love others and find ways to serve, encourage, accept, and pray for them. We are called to have the same attitude as Christ Jesus (Phil 2:5) and humbly think of others above ourselves. We look forward to seeing what God will do in and through our students this year. Please join us in praying for their hearts and ears to be open to what God has for them.

ELEMENTARY

Planning for Elementary Student Discipleship is one of my favorite parts of my job at Central. It is a blessing to have a front row seat to what God is doing in the lives of our Elementary students. I am excited to watch our students learn and grow as we talk about loving one another as well as several other “one another” verses throughout the New Testament. If you would like more information about what specifically is being discussed you can check the Cable for updates or the bulletin board which is in the hallway just outside the Elementary office. There will be more pictures posted here along with a summary of what we’ve learned or focused on.

- Mrs. Becky Berry



MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL

In my new role as Faith Formation Coordinator at Central, my vision for this year would be to encourage students to engage with the topics of Christ’s love for us and what it means to humbly love one another. We will do this by prayerfully setting the stage with chapel speakers and worship in addition to interactions within squads that allow for study, reflection, and space to wrestle with the attitudes of our hearts for the purpose of becoming people who love one another well.

- Mrs. Lorna Cook

2024-2025 Chapel Theme Verse:

“A new command I give you, love one another.
As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will
know that you are my disciples if you love one another.

John 13:34-35

Welcome JAKE ABRAMS

Family:

My parents are Scott and Barb Abrams, and I have one sister, Maggie.

Position:

High School Math Teacher

Church:

Willmar AG

Hobbies:

I like to read and write, as well as working with wood and metal in my shop at home.

How will you use your relationship with Jesus here at Central?

I will lead by example and help spur my students on to grow in their own faith. Practically, this looks like praying every day and relating classroom material to biblical principles when and where appropriate, as well as encouraging my students to honor Christ in all that they do.

**Family:**

My parents are Dan and Liz and I am the oldest of 4. I am from Devils Lake, North Dakota but my paternal grandma grew up in Clara City, so Central Minnesota is close to our family's heart! While I am in Prinsburg I am staying with Christy, Randy, and Morgan Groen, I am so thankful for their generosity and welcoming nature in this new step!

Position:

This semester I will be with Mr. Buteyn as a student teacher! This is my last semester of college at Dordt University. In October I will plan and teach the lessons in Mr. Buteyn's classes. I also will make an appearance with Mr. Vander Woude in speech class, Mr. Buehler's Church History, and be helping out with the drama department!

Church:

In my short time here I have attended Living Hope in Wilmar!

Hobbies:

Free time is a new concept to me, I tried to keep myself busy while on campus! There I was heavily involved in theatre and concert choir. I still love both of those activities but now in my spare time, I enjoy reading, trying out a new coffee shop, or listening to the latest music dropped from Taylor Swift!

How will you use your relationship with Jesus in your role at Central?

Throughout my walk with Christ, I have found he will continue to love and provide for you no matter what. His continued grace is something I strive to show any student I encounter. We are called to walk like Christ would, but that is a daunting task! While as teachers we should expect our students to join us in that task, that Christ-like attitude needs to come through when faced with the good and bad. I hope to provide the patience and understanding God has shown me, despite not deserving it, to each of my students.

Welcome ANNA JANSSEN



Welcome AUSTIN TEBRAKE

Family:
Recently engaged to Jeanette Speltz

Position:
C-Team Basketball Coach

Church:
Unity CRC

Hobbies:
Reading

How will you use your relationship with Jesus here at Central?

I am excited to grow in relationship with the young guys in the basketball program. It is a good opportunity to show how to be disciplined and humble in a Christlike way while living with the joy that we have in Him.



Welcome TARAN CASPERS

Family:
My husband Pete and I have 3 adult children and we have 5 grandchildren

Position:
Middle School Volleyball Coach

Church:
Our Saviors Lutheran Church

Hobbies:
Baking, canning, spending time with family

How will you use your relationship with Jesus here at Central?

I want to be able to stress to them that they are Children of God and should spend their entire life in the presence of the Lord on and off the court. I want them to find "Joy in the Lord" in their daily lives.



Welcome DAVID ZIGTERMAN

Family:
My wife, Rachael, and I have 4 kids: Evelyn, Obadiah, Serenity, and Eliot.

Position:
Middle School Soccer Coach

Church:
Emden Christian Reformed Church

Hobbies:
Biking, reading, playing board games

How will you use your relationship with Jesus here at Central?

I want to help Central be a Christ-centered school by displaying a servant heart, humility, and gratitude for God's daily gifts. As a soccer coach, I want to help the student athletes see soccer as a gift from God that can be an arena for worship and spiritual growth.



Central Minnesota Christian School

BOARD MINUTES

July 29, 2024

Members Present: Joe VA, Paul L, Heidi G, Matt H, Christy G, Luke M, Sarah VB, Ryan M, Trevor D, Chris S, Jon DG

Devotions: Joe VA started with devotions from New Morning Mercies challenging us to think about true ministry and that our lives are not our own but belong to God and life=ministry. Our work as members of the board is ministry. Joe VA opened with prayer.

1. Approval of Consent Agenda MSP

Motion- Chris S

Second- Paul L

- a) Board Committee Reports
- b) Leadership Team Reports
- c) Minutes from June 24, 2024 board meeting

2. Kaitlyn Link, Director of Advancement, attended to share about herself and answer a few questions from Board members.

3. The Board discussed the school's role in politics. Jon DG summarized conversations about comments on the new MN flag and the assumptions that are made when the flag is seen.

a) Comments were made by members. Overall, our mission as a school is to teach discernment and the truth about our rich, Christian heritage in our history classes and not direct families on their political views.

4. Exam Policy discussion. Jon DG started the conversation to summarize the Absence Policy following COVID about 10 absences and missing exams. After several appeals, Jon DG felt it should come to the board for discussion.

a) Board members made comments. Overall, it is the goal of Central to provide "quality, Christ-centered education." Jon DG will work on the verbiage used in the policy to allow some flexibility for families while still maintaining high academic standards.

5. Jon DG gave an update on the Zach Clark process which is helping to ensure that we are telling Central's whole story through Advancement and Foundation. Goal is to have advancement, finance, and foundation overlap.

6. Book Club was led by Christy G from Chapter 16 of Guiding Schools to Flourish on the subject of Thirty Years a Board Member...Some lessons learned.

7. Reviewed the rosters for Board Committees and the New to You task force.

8. Jon DG explained the VTO 5-year plan and how the annual goals are being worked towards strategically through the use of each of the leadership team annual work plans. Committee work plans will be reviewed next month.

9. The Governance Committee asked for a Conflict of Interest document to be signed by each member.

10. Roundtable:

- a) More discussion will take place on how to invite others to the upcoming Willie Robertson chapel in November.
- b) Jon DG will check with those responsible to ensure that the soccer field is ready for the upcoming season.
- c) Due to timing, administration will revise the exam policy with an email Board vote in order to get it into this year's policy handbook.
- d) Board members will continue to participate in the new family interviews and vote on approving these families.
- e) High School Math Teacher position is still available. There will be a promising interview this week.
- f) Jon DG and Malorie A have been in communication regarding the return of a student to Central following disciplinary action in May 2024.

12. Ryan M closed in prayer.

13. Next Board Meeting August 26, 2024

14. Meeting Adjourned.



NEW TO YOU UPDATE



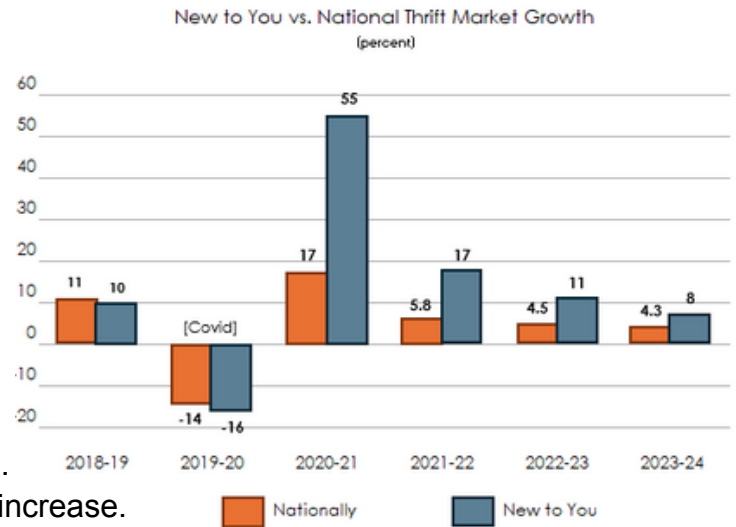
At Central, we value bridging the gap in our community through service. One of the most unique ways we are able to do that is through our thrift store, New to You.

As the need for affordable goods and desire for sustainable living continue to grow, New to You is rising to meet these demands and working with Central leadership on a vision for the future – including a possible second location.

With changing consumer habits, national research shows that thrift is a rapidly growing industry. New to You is not only in line with market growth but is outpacing national numbers.

In recent years, New to You has worked hard to set itself apart from other merchants with its mission-driven message, Good News retail department, and donation incentive program.

Community support and the store’s ability to adapt to change are reflected in their most recent earnings report. In 2017, New to You’s revenue was \$474,500. This year, the store exceeded \$1,003,000 – a 211% increase.



But growth comes with its own set of challenges. Currently, maxed out at the 1st street location, New to You is faced with turning away donations and limiting their marketing. To continue serving our community and unlocking new possibilities, the New to You Task Force has begun to explore future opportunities – including the prospect of opening a second location.

An expansion could not only help manage the demand for service and influx of donations but also allow the store to delve into wholesale baling. Currently culled and vetted clothing is given away at the store's cost, to a wholesaler. Implementing their own baling could raise an additional \$10k-12k per month in revenue.

Based on current metrics and trend data, New to You expects opening a new store could increase revenue by at least 80% and the monthly payout to Central by 100%.

With every new donation, New to You has worked creatively to make the existing space work. In the interim, as long-term solutions are explored and the store approaches it’s busy season, the task force is looking for additional storage space.

Recognizing the need for expansion, leadership is considering an array of solutions and asks for the prayerful support of the Central community as they determine the best way forward for both our community and school.



New to You was voted the #1 Thrift Store two years in a row by West Central Tribune readers.

MORE NEW TO YOU NEWS

The Monthly Minute

August

Number of items processed:

21,778

Sell-through rate:

74%

Total Sales:

\$93,058

Compared to last year:

\$92,071

Total Volunteer Hours:

614

Volunteer Hours last year:

729

Contribution to Central:

\$12,000



We're looking for **HELP**
in all kinds of ways!
Big ways, small ways,
Sideways, **ALL** days.

Can you do puzzles
or lift heavy things?
Do you know good shoes?
You could price our Redwings!

Or maybe it's people
that you love to serve;
don't fear mistakes...
we grade on a curve.

We've got who's-its and what's-its
There's so much to do.
It's our busiest time,
We need a full crew!

Have you thought about it?
We just can't wait,
Come join the fun,
don't hesitate! (please)

TRIP Schedule



| | |
|-----------|--------|
| September | 9 & 23 |
| October | 7 & 21 |
| November | 4 & 18 |
| December | 2 & 16 |

Save the Dates

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| September 6 | Middle School Retreat |
| September 6-8 | High School Retreat |
| October 3-4 | No School (Heartland Conference) |
| October 22 | High School Fall Concert |
| November 7-8 | Parent/Teacher Conferences |
| November 13-16 | Fall Drama Production |
| November 11 | Veteran's Day Assembly |
| November 23 | Harvest Festival |
| November 28-29 | Thanksgiving Break |

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MISSION

To provide a Christ-centered, quality education to equip students for a life of service.

VISION

Surrounded by our community of believers where God's presence is evident, our students will find their calling in God's world through an exceptional education, delivered from Biblical worldview. Students will be known personally, disciplined intentionally, and challenged academically.

VALUES



Better Together: God created us in his image to live in Community. Therefore, we honor and care for the well-being and success of all. We value encouragement and helpful communications while speaking the truth in love. We celebrate the individual gifts and character of each member and provide an environment for them to struggle and grow. (Rom 12:4-5; Gen 1:27; Col 3:12-14)



Building Trust: We strive for Excellence in our character and proven-ness in our work. We do our best to earn respect by exceeding expectations, maintaining high standards, challenging complacency, and aiming for full potential. (Matt 12:12; Titus 2:7)



Being Transformed: We value whole-person Growth and practice continuous improvement through learning, personal reflection, and Christian development. We are open to new ideas and seek God's kingdom dream for our lives and the world. (Rom 12:2; II Cor 5:17; Ps 51:10)



Bridging the Gap: Through Service, we identify needs and address them. We see God-possibilities and obediently follow the Spirit to make them our reality. In humility we give of ourselves, investing in the cause of Christian education and thus, the future. (I Peter 4:10; Col 3:23, Is 58:10)