

Newsline #19

February 17, 2021

FROM OUR BOARD

We are thankful to be back at school, learning face-to-face where we know our students thrive best. We are continually getting updates from the government regarding changes to be implemented. We don't always get much notice but we are doing our best to keep our school families up to date with the latest information.

One of our greatest challenges this year has been adjusting to the mask regulations. These regulations seem to change frequently and we understand the frustration parents and students have concerning masks. We are happy to share that CK public health has relaxed mask regulations in some ways (see details below). Our teachers will continue to exercise grace and give gentle reminders to students about wearing their masks properly. If any child needs a mask break they need to communicate that with their teacher and we can accommodate that.

While the Board respects our school families' personal opinions, we do have to consider the entire society and rules set in place by our governing bodies. Please use wisdom and discernment when conversing with your children. We want to promote respect, especially

to our staff who are in the tough position of enforcing the regulations. At the same time, our school will remain a safe place for children to voice their opinions and discuss the things going on in the world. It is a tough situation for everyone and we need to all be unified in the fact that we LOVE Christian education and we love our staff, students, and parents. We can not do anything to jeopardize our school, so while we may have differing opinions, we need to stress that in order to attend school, the guidelines need to be followed respectfully. We appreciate everyone's cooperation in navigating these trying times.

I want to encourage everyone to stay connected. I have personally been struggling with all the challenges Covid has caused. For all of us, it affects our work, our school, our church, our friends and family relationships, and it is a heavy burden at times. I need to keep reminding myself of the blessings God has bestowed upon us. We are so blessed our children belong to a Christian school community, and that they are cared for by our staff. I am humbled that we can go to Him with our struggles, anxieties, fears, questions, and

frustrations. His Word is a balm to our souls and is relevant in every situation. He is sovereign and

we only need to lean on Him for support and encourage others to do the same.

Jodi Miller, Board Chair

Masking Guidelines at WCS

As you know, the government requires students in Grades 1-8 to wear masks on the bus and at school. Physical distancing is still an important factor. Anytime we cannot properly maintain physical distancing students should wear masks properly (over nose and chin).

However, we have confirmed with Public Health of some ways we can work with our students to give them breaks during the day.

In the classroom:

- during nutrition breaks, students can lower masks while eating and converse while maintaining physical distancing
- while the teacher is actively teaching and students are in their desks, they can lower their masks below nose and chin. They must put them back up when they are communicating or when the teacher stops direct instruction.

Outside:

- because of the risk that masks wet with respiratory secretions can be a source of infection, masks can be pulled down below the nose and chin **during vigorous activity** (running, playing tag, soccer, etc.) .
- If students stop vigorous activity, or are in social groups talking, they need to wear masks properly (over the nose and chin). e.g. students playing soccer (vigorous - mask is down), students talking about playing soccer (not vigorous - mask is up).

Spring Break CHANGE

Recently the government has decided to move spring break to April. We have decided to also change our spring break to align with this. The new dates for **our Spring Break will be April 12-16th.**

We are also going to rearrange some PD / PA days to give us a much needed long weekend in March. We will now have **Friday, March 12** as a PD Day (replacing April 23) and **Monday, March 15** (replacing March 22). School will be closed these days.

Committee Updates and Needs

In recent months, gathering restrictions have made meetings for committees more difficult. Volunteering opportunities, however, are still available. Please take the time to intentionally consider how you can help in the areas of Fundraising, Promotion, Re:find, and the Building Committee. These are areas of our school that need our support to see the school thrive. Here are some suggestions of how you can actively get involved in one or more of these areas.

Fundraising Please share any fundraising event pages. Our Online Auction is March 1-5 on Facebook; please spread the word! Normally we all see each other at school and discussions get sparked and excitement spreads. It is more difficult this year and we want to make a point of asking our parents and society members to step up and help. The Drive Thru dinner is sold out!

Promotion: We are so thrilled that we have had

so many new families join our school this year. Though there have been many challenges placed upon our school, we continue to grow. Even more encouraging is the news of new families interested in our school for September. Praise be to God for his provisions and faithfulness. This is the time of year people are thinking about JK or SK registration. We were not able to do 'Ready, Set, Alphabet' last year but hopefully, there will be a chance this year. Encourage families with kids of all ages to look into the benefits of our school. We rely heavily on our parents to share personal testimonies with friends and family as a way to promote our school. Please encourage anyone you know who is interested in our school to contact the office for a tour.

Building Committee/Strategic Plan Our school has been extremely blessed by obtaining a grant for building new washrooms and a new accessible entrance. We felt the encouragement to move ahead with a building committee at our last society meeting. Mr. Matthew Charron is leading the Administration team and Board in creating a strategic plan for our school that will assist with the new build and other areas of our school. The strategic plan will outline a five-year plan with specific goals to ensure improvement in additional areas including education, community involvement, and faith. The plan will encompass information gathered from a professional assessment we had last year, society meeting conversations, and input from our entire society. A survey will be sent out soon to help streamline this strategic plan so please consider it carefully.

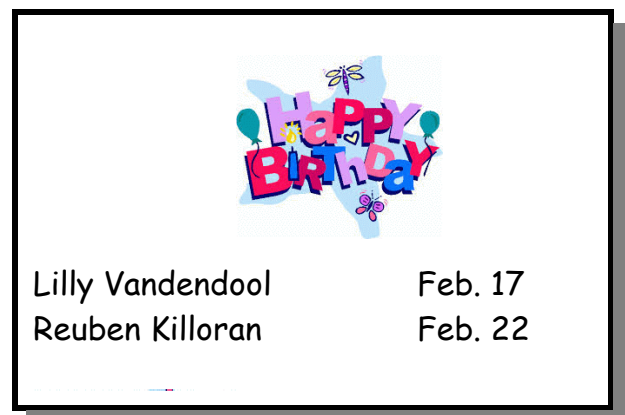
Re:find Despite the closure, we have had success doing some online sales with curbside pick-ups. When we do open again on

Wednesday, February 17th, we are going to be overwhelmed and will desperately need help on Saturdays. We don't want to close our doors due to a lack of volunteers. Covid has restricted our volunteers because we have many helpers who are elderly or have health issues. Therefore, we need more volunteers to keep Re:find operable. We will post our schedule in the Newline so people can see spots that need to be filled. We have so many different ways people can help at the store and many things can be done from home or during off-hours as well. Re:find brings in a lot of financial support for our school and builds great relationships with our local community. As a school society, we need to be involved in this ministry by helping out in any way we can.

We are currently looking to fill the following shifts:

- Friday February 19 from 1-4
- Tuesday February 23 from 1-4
- Wednesday February 24 from 1-4
- Friday February 26 from 1-4
- Saturday February 27 from 10-2, 3 shifts available

Anyone interested in helping out can contact Alisha Killoran at 519-784-6707 (text or call) or at refindthrift@gmail.com



Drive Thru Dinner Fundraiser - March 6

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7pm. You will be asked to drive up, show your ticket, and the meal(s) will be delivered to your car.

Online Auction - March 1-5

Our Online Auction runs from March 1-5 on our Facebook event page. Items will start being posted next week, with bidding allowed from March 1 through 5. **Please share the event page and get your friends and family involved in a bidding competition!** Thank you.

Registration 2021-2022

If you know of anyone who is interested in registering at Wallaceburg Christian School for the 2021-22 school year, please have them contact the office for more information, or let us know so we can reach out to them. Thank you!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

March 1-5

Saturday, March 6

5-7pm

Online Auction

Drive Thru Dinner at the Wallaceburg CRC

Friday, March 12

PD Day (no school)

Monday, March 15

PA Day (no school)

Friday, April 2

Good Friday (no school)

Monday, April 5

Easter Monday (no school)

April 12-16

Spring Break

WALLACEBURG CHRISTIAN SCHOOL – IN STOCK Gift Card Order Form

Name: _____ **Cheque #:** _____

RETAILER	\$10	\$25	\$50	\$100	\$250	\$ Total
Amazon 2%						
Canadian Tire 4%						
Ultimate Dining Card (Harveys, Swiss Chalet, Kelseys, Montana, East Side Marios) 5%						
Esso / Mobil Gas 2%						
Galaxy Cinema 4%						
Home Hardware 4%						
No Frills, Zehrs, Superstore 4%						
Shoppers Drug Mart 3%						
Sobeys / Foodland cards 4%						
Subway 4%						
Tim Hortons 4%						
Walmart 2%						
Wendy's 3%						