



# The Pathfinder

Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.  
*Psalm 119:105*

**Nurture - Develop - Educate**

## Principal's Message

### Prayers for the New School Year

It doesn't seem possible but another school year is almost here. This is definitely an exciting time of year, but it also is a very busy time of year. With another school year planned to start on August 23, we are asking for your prayers for our staff and students in regards to safety, wisdom, God's blessings, and prayers specifically that we can remember to say and do everything to glorify God. As we begin this new school year, here are some great ways to pray for our school:

**Students:** Please pray that our students learn and understand how they are fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14), learn about being made in the image of God (Genesis 1:27), pray that they continue to grow closer to God (II Peter 3:18), pray that they learn how to fulfill being the body of Christ (I Corinthians 12:27), and pray they learn how to use their gifts to glorify God (I Peter 4:10). Also, pray that they listen to their teachers and bus drivers, complete their daily assignments and homework to the best of their abilities, have good attitudes, cooperate and encourage one another (I Thessalonians 5:11), to remain healthy and injury free, and remember to do everything for the glory of God (I Corinthians 10:31).

**Teachers:** Please remember to pray that our teachers teach every subject from a Christian perspective, pray that they remember to have patience with our students, pray that they personalize learning for our students, pray that they can balance school and home, and pray that they remember to be Godly examples to our students (Matthew 5:16).

**Facilitators:** Please pray that our facilitators are able to come to our school each week as their role is vitally important to our staff and students in helping reach each child individually. Also, remember to thank our volunteers for their work (Ruth 2:12).

**Bus Drivers:** Pray for our students to listen and be respectful so that our drivers are able to focus on the road. Also, pray for God's protection as they drive many miles everyday to and from school.

**Janitors:** Please pray for our janitors as they have to keep up with cleaning our school and gym on a daily basis. Please remember to pray for strength and endurance as they keep our school clean.

**Secretary:** Please remember to pray for our secretary as she juggles many responsibilities at the same time. Also, pray for patience as she works with the society through many different channels of communication.

**Parents:** Please remember to pray for our parents of our students. Pray for them to continue to raise their children following the instruction of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4). Also, pray that God would continue to bless each of our parents as they work alongside the church and the school so that they are able to continue to send their students to Christian education.

**Board Members:** Pray for wisdom and guidance for the school board members as they make decisions for the school and remember to pray for the new school board members to make a quick transition.

We look forward to another year of Christian Education at Peoria Christian School, but we wouldn't exist without God's faithfulness, your prayers, and your financial support.

Thank you and God bless,  
 Jeremy Copenhaver

# Peoria Christian School Board News

## School Board Meeting: July 5, 2022

The Board sang from Psalter Hymnal 432, For the Beauty of the Earth. President Spencer Fynaardt read from Psalm 127:1-2 and opened with prayer. All members were present Eric Fynaardt and Kody Roos with notice.

- Minutes of the June Board Meeting were read and approved.
- From the Ed Committee, a discussion was had regarding the status of our open teaching positions.
- From the Ed Committee, a motion was passed to approve the field trip list for the 2022-23 school year.
- From the Promotions Committee, a few FYIs were brought:
  - They would like to encourage everyone on Facebook to like and share the school posts to continue to get what is happening in our school in front of more people.
  - The 4<sup>th</sup> of July parades went very well.
  - There will be ice cream after the society meeting.
  - From the Promotions Committee, a motion was passed to add a school Instagram account.
  - From the Promotions Committee, a motion was passed to use the Flamingo Flock Fundraiser as both a Fundraiser and a way to promote the school.
- From the Building committee, they have completed some items on their summer list. They are still working on other items.
- In New Business, the Society Meeting agenda was discussed and finalized.

Next meeting: Monday, August 8th, 6:30PM.

Jeff Vander Molen closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Van Der Hart, Secretary

## School Board Meeting: August 8, 2022

The Board sang from Psalter Hymnal 462, Amazing Grace. President Spencer Fynaardt read from Psalm 146:1-6 and opened with prayer. All members were present except Glenn Meinders and Kody Roos with notice.

- Minutes of the July 5, 2022, Board Meeting were read and approved.
- From the Education Committee: An update was given on the 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade teaching positions.
- From the Principals Report: Important upcoming dates were shared.
  - Thursday, August 18<sup>th</sup> - Back to School Night
  - Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup> – Prayer Walk Day
  - Tuesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> – Chapel at Peoria CRC on first day
  - Tuesday, August 30<sup>th</sup> – Culvers Night
- The Finance Committee reported that June Drive funds have been coming in but no final tally yet.
- From the Bus Committee: The plan is to service the buses this week.
- From the Building Committee: An update on building repair items was given.
- As New Business, the School Board conducted its election of officers.
- The Board created a list of names to fill open committee positions from the society.
- A motion was approved to form a Board Policy Review Subcommittee, which would report to the School Improvement Team.

Next board meeting: September 6, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

Adam Fynaardt closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick De Haan, Secretary

## 2022/2023 SCHOOL BOARD

**President:** Spencer Fynaardt

**Secretary:** Nick De Haan

**Building:** Andy Dunsbergen

**Bus:** Dan Hol

**Endowment:** Kody Roos

**Vice President:** Glenn Meinders

**Finance:** Adam Fynaardt

**Promotions:** Dennis Veenstra

**Athletic/Tech:** Drew Van Wyk



## 2022/2023 THEME VERSE

This year's theme verse comes from Isaiah 55:8-9. It says, "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts" (Isaiah 55:8-9). Please remember to pray that God would use this verse to encourage and challenge our students and staff this year.

## FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL, TUESDAY, AUGUST 23

## MEET THE TEACHER

Come join us on Thursday, August 18th, at 6:00 PM to meet your child's teacher, receive information regarding this school year, and bring your school supplies for the year. Please meet in the gym at 6:00 PM. See you there!

## CHAPEL SNACKS

The chapel committee is looking for individuals who would be willing to donate snacks for the students after our monthly chapels. It can be homemade, or prepacked. Please contact Heidi Van Wyk at [heidivanwyk@peoriachr.org](mailto:heidivanwyk@peoriachr.org) or 641-780-9755 if you are interested in helping with chapel snacks.

## CULVERS NIGHT

Please join us on Tuesday, August 30th, at Culver's between 5-8 PM. Our school can earn anywhere from 10-20% of the proceeds for all sales that evening. Our 5th-8th grade students will be there to help serve. See you there!!!

## WEBSITE/FACEBOOK/INSTAGRAM

Please make sure to visit our website and Facebook page to keep connected and up-to-date on what is happening at our school. We are excited to share what Christ is doing in the lives of our children and staff! Check it out!

Website: <http://www.peoriachr.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PeoriaChristianSchool>

Instagram: <https://instagram.com/peoriachristian?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>



## 2022/2023 TEACHERS & STAFF

In His perfecting timing, the Lord has provided teachers and staff. Join us in prayers of praise for these individuals who are willing to serve the students and society of Peoria Christian School. Please continue to pray for an additional part-time IXL teacher.

**PreK/K Teacher:** Krista Klaasen

**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teachers:** Melinda Vos & Krista Klaasen

**3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher:** Erica Taft

**5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teachers:** Laura Fynaardt & Lisa Ver Meer

**7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Teachers:** Heidi Van Wyk, Al Bandstra, & Jeremy Copenhaver

**Principal:** Jeremy Copenhaver

**Resource Room Teacher:** Teresa Van Wyk

**IXL Teacher:** Amber Fynaardt

**Spanish:** Heather McConnell

**Music & Band Teacher:** Carolyn Ansley

**Librarian:** Linda De Jong

**Janitors:** Maricel Anum-Higher & Marcia Van Gorp

**Secretary:** Michelle De Haan

**Bus Drivers:** Marcia Van Gorp & Larry Rozenboom

## CHAPEL

Lord willing, Mr. Al Bandstra will be speaking at chapel on the first day of school. Chapel begins at 8:30 AM and will be at Peoria CRC. Chapel Groups will plan to meet in the gym after chapel for a time of prayer. Parents are encouraged to join their student(s) to pray. Hope to see you there!

## IXL

Please remember to have your student(s) work in the diagnostic part of the IXL program prior to the 1st day of school. We are excited again for this program to help meet students' needs on his or her level. Please contact Mr. Cope if you have any questions.

## PATHFINDER SUBMISSIONS

All announcements for the monthly Pathfinder need to be turned by the last Friday of every month. All announcements for the Weekly Pathfinder need to be turned in by 3PM on Tuesdays. Announcements can be sent to [office@peoriachr.org](mailto:office@peoriachr.org) with specific instructions and should contain all necessary information. All announcements are subject to approval.



## GRACE COUNSELING

We are excited to announce that we are using Grace Counseling again this year. We feel that this is another great way to encourage our students when they are dealing with life's difficulties. We again are blessed to have Jora Van Maanen lead these sessions for our students. The first session is scheduled for the afternoon of Monday, September 19th. If you are looking for your child to receive individual sessions, please contact Mr. Cope for available options.

## ALL SCHOOL PICTURE

An all school picture is scheduled for Tuesday, August 30th at 10:30 AM and will include all students Pre/k-8th grade and all staff. This photo will be used to update our Facebook and website pages. Please make sure your student(s) wears his/her new teal blue Peoria T-shirt on this day. Any questions, please contact the office.

## MAP TESTING

Fall map testing is scheduled for August 29th - September 2nd. Please try to have your student(s) arrive at school on time on these days and avoid making appointments during these mornings to help try and avoid the student(s) missing any of the tests.

Here is the breakdown of the testing:

- Monday: Science
- Tuesday: Reading
- Wednesday: Math
- Thursday: Language Arts
- Friday: Make ups

## FLAMINGO FUNDRAISER

There is a large flock of flamingos planning to arrive in the area on August 22. They will stay in the area until they migrate to their next destination on September 24. They will be making appearances in local yards to spread the word about Peoria Christian School! Not interested in hosting our flock? Insurance is available for purchase by contacting Stacie Fynaardt 641-780-1894. The maximum stay the flamingos will have in one yard is three days before they have to move on to their next destination. As these are fragile birds they must be handled with care. One of our trained professionals will remove them for you and bring them to the next yard of your choice! Follow the instructions taped to your door and have fun with us while we spread the word about Peoria Christian! And don't forget to take pictures!

SCHOOL



CALENDAR

AUGUST	
August 17-19, 22	Teacher In-service
August 18	6PM Back to School Night
August 20	7AM Prayer Walk at School
August 23	First Day of School, 8:30AM Chapel at Peoria CRC
August 29-September 2	Fall Map Testing
August 30	10:30AM All School Picture
August 30	5-8PM Culver's Night
SEPTEMBER	
September 2	8:15AM 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Pumpkin Picking
September 5	No School – Labor Day
September 9	11AM Bike Field Trip
September 14	2:40PM Dismissal
September 23	8:30AM Chapel, Pella Historical Field Trip
September 28	8AM See You At The Pole
September 30	1PM 5 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Soccer with Sully Christian

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

The entire school calendar can be found on our school website by clicking on the Calendar tab. Once there you can find directions for adding the entire calendar to your personal calendar. Any questions, please contact Kevin Van Der Hart, tech@peoriachr.org.

## UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

- Friday, September 2: 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade pumpkin picking at Arvin Roose's (8:15 AM)
  - Friday, September 9: Bike field trip to Lake Red Rock (all students)
  - Friday, September 23: Pella Historical field Trip (all students)
- \*\*\*\*\*Parents: see weekly email for additional details

## PCS WISH LIST

Looking for an unique way to support PCS? The Wish List is a list of items that we need. Items can be purchased and dropped off at school. This month we are requesting donations of these items:

- ~ 8oz Styrofoam Cups
- ~ Forever Stamps
- ~ Sidewalk Chalk
- ~ Ziploc Baggies – Sandwich size

## SCHOOL DAY START & END TIMES

For students that walk or parents that bring their students to school, please try to have your student(s) arrive between 8:00 and 8:10 AM. Please note that there is no one on duty for recess until 8:00 unless a bus arrives earlier. The first bell rings at 8:10 AM and the late bell rings at 8:15 AM. School dismisses at 3:20 PM. If you need to pick up your student anytime between 8:15 AM and 3:20 PM, please make sure to sign them out in the front office.