



# Christ Lutheran School

caring ... excelling ... growing in Christ

## State of the School Report January 2017



*Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. Colossians 2:6-7*

### Growing Pains

When students and parents returned this fall, there was a very obvious gap on the campus. Everyone immediately missed the playground area. As part of the increased opportunity for ministry, the former playground area was taken down to make room for the new Helping Hands Child Care facility. We are excited about the ability to reach out to families with infants who are seeking a safe and nurturing place for the care of their children.



While construction takes place, we have increased the number of balls, jump ropes, have added new items to the parking lot surface, and made provisions for play at the park across the street.

Plans for the upcoming school year include moving the playground area to the North of the school. This is where the playground was before addition of the upper grade wing.



### Always Growing Always Learning

According to 2 Timothy 3:14 we are to, "continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it." Our school is built upon the foundation of God's Word. It is the root of all that we learn whether it be memorization of Scripture for the strengthening of our faith or the application of the Word to our everyday life and studies. We are not to become stagnant, but always growing in Christ.

Each morning the staff gathers together for devotions to help prepare us for the

day ahead. Prayers for students and their families are also a part of this time together.

Creating an attitude of being a life-long learner is key to education and preparation for the future. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average worker currently holds ten different jobs before age forty, and this number is projected to grow. Forrester Research predicts that today's youngest (*See Growing page 2*)

Preschool parents enjoy an activity with their child after the Christmas program.

Quick links to frequently requested information.

School website  
[www.clnorfolk.org](http://www.clnorfolk.org)

Principal email  
[stortz@clnorfolk.org](mailto:stortz@clnorfolk.org)

PowerSchool  
[clnorfolk.powerschool.com](http://clnorfolk.powerschool.com)

Accelerated Reader student progress and book list  
<http://tinyurl.com/CLS-AR-HOME>

School Phone & Address  
(402)371-5536  
511 S. 5<sup>th</sup>, Norfolk, NE 68701

**School Mission Statement**  
Christ Lutheran School partners with families to develop God-given abilities in students so that they can may grow in knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ and live as effective citizens in His kingdom.



## Rooted and Growing

This year's Bible verse refers to our faith life, but in March it takes on a different twist. March 6 is the kick-off for our Annual Plant Sale. CLS Students will be contacting family, friends, and neighbors to order their flowers and vegetables for the upcoming growing season.

In just one weekend over \$80,000 worth of plants go in and out of the Northeast Community College Chuck Pohlman Ag. Complex.

This is an excellent opportunity to see the cooperation that takes place between students, teachers and parents.

Place your order with any CLS student or online at JanetsJungle.com. Plants may be picked up at the college May 5-6.

Proceeds from sale help reduce the cost of tuition for all parents and also fund various projects of the school.



Mrs. Lisa Booth



Mrs. Donna Johnson

## New Staff Join CLS This Fall

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your understanding.*  
Proverbs 3:5

This summer, two of our teachers, Miss Blank and Miss Rathke accepted Calls to serve God in new schools. This provided an opportunity to bring new teachers on staff.

In August, a familiar face accepted the 5<sup>th</sup> grade position. Mrs. Lisa Booth, who has served as a substitute at all grade levels for many years became full time, teaching a fifth-grade homeroom and English class to students in grades 5-8. Mrs. Booth is married to Pastor Timothy Booth of Stanton. Their youngest son David is a 8<sup>th</sup> grader at CLS.

As part of God's plan for our school, He provided the right person at the right time for our second grade opening. While on a Lutheran youth group trip Mrs. Donna Johnson saw our opening for a second grade teacher. After an interview by the Board of Education, she accepted the position 5 days before teachers were to report.

Mrs. Johnson's husband is a buyer for Tyson of Madison. Her youngest daughter Lacey is a 5<sup>th</sup> grader at CLS and her son Seth is a student at Lutheran High Northeast.

We are also blessed to have Mrs. Joye Shaffer join our staff as a part-time kindergarten teacher. She retired from Madison public and brought her experience and expertise to our staff.



Snakes invade Science



Mrs. Joye Shaffer

## Growing – (cont.)

*Continued from page 1*

workers will hold twelve to fifteen jobs in their lifetime. Equipping students with the skills and desire to keep learning prepares them for an ever changing job sector.

Teachers are no exception to the need for ongoing education. This year we have been engaged in additional training of technology integration into lessons and will be studying Love and Logic later this year.

Several teachers and I have been attending Marzano training. Robert Marzano is a leader in educational research and what elements have the most effective impact on student learning. Training for the entire staff will be taking place next year.

***“Our children were taught by excellent teachers who helped them succeed academically and grow in their Christian faith.”***

*CLS Parent*



Teacher in-service



## Did You Know

Private & parochial school students are more likely to attain college degrees?

Of those students who were high school sophomores in 2002, the greatest percentage attaining a Bachelor's Degree by 2012 came from parochial or private schools.

High School	Percentage
Public	31.1%
Catholic	61.9%
Other Private	57.1%



*Mrs. Janice Johnson to retire at end of school year*

## Well Done, Good & Faithful Servant

At the end of this year we will bid farewell and God's blessings to Mrs. Janice Johnson. After 33 years of teaching various grade level homerooms and math to students in grades 5-8 she will be taking a well-deserved retirement.

During these last few years we updated our math curriculum. As part of that update, Mrs. Johnson created a flipped classroom to assist students and parents in learning the more advanced material. Each night the "homework" for the students was to watch an instructional video on the

upcoming lesson. Students then asked questions about the material the next day and had the remaining class period to complete the assignment with the teacher available to help with difficult questions in class instead of waiting until they got home.

Mrs. Johnson shared, "I am so blessed to have been able to do 33 years of ministry at Christ Lutheran School. My colleagues, the families and especially the students have become like family and have truly blessed my life. Thank you for entrusting me for so many years with the education of your students, It has been both an honor and a privilege to work alongside so many wonderful people. Truly, God is good!"

## Kindergarten Events Planned

As this State of the School goes to press, we are just weeks away from Kindergarten Open Houses on January 26, February 7, and February 16. Each event will be held from 5:30-7:30 in the kindergarten classrooms.

Kindergarten registration is scheduled for March 1 followed by Kindergarten Round-up on March 20.

Last year several families made use of our preliminary kindergarten readiness testing. We will again be offering that for parents who would like feedback on where their child is in relation to average kindergarten skills. This can be especially helpful for first time kindergarten parents.



*Kindergarten shares true meaning of Christmas*

## Students Acting Out

In addition to the many opportunities for academic and athletic experiences; there are also numerous chances to put acting talents to use.

This Fall students in grades 6-8 put on a two act play where the English teacher was kidnapped but nobody wanted her back. In March the students in grades 1 & 2 will put on a musical, followed by a play by kindergarten students in May.

This past summer, the upper grade students produced a mystery dinner theater. They are looking forward to a new mystery this summer.



*Dinner and a Murder – Upper Grade Theater*

*"Christ centered education so that my children learn to have Christ in their lives not just at church on Sunday. Excellent caring staff that go above and beyond for my children."*

CLS Parent



*Girls Varsity Volleyball and Boys Varsity Basketball team*



**Board of Education**

- Chair - Tina Bredehoeft
- Vice – Mellissa Begeman
- Secretary – Sara Blom
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- Nick Cleveland
- Robert Hafer
- Jodi Larsen
- Mysti Knoell
- Ivan Petersen
- Michelle Praeumer
- Brad Renslem
- Karri Wiederin

**CLS Faculty**

- Principal
- Mr. Steven Stortz  
Grade 8
- Mr. Gary Weber
- Mrs. Janice Johnson  
Grade 7
- Mrs. Susan Harstad  
Grade 6
- Miss Jeanette Schipporeit  
Grade 5
- Mrs. Lisa Booth  
Grade 4
- Miss Myka Mayo
- Mr. Von Portwood  
Grade 3
- Mrs. Susan Colligan
- Mrs. Carey Portwood  
Grade 2
- Mrs. Donna Johnson
- Mrs. Christy Owen  
Grade 1
- Mrs. Nancy Weber
- Mrs. Lois Leckband  
Kindergarten
- Mrs. Marcia Bliss
- Mrs. LaRhea Voelker  
Preschool
- Mrs. Sarah Moje
- Mrs. Phyllis Glaser  
Art
- Mrs. Grace Hanft  
Band/Music
- Mrs. Earleen Gansebom  
Computer
- Mrs. Charlene Stortz  
Special Education
- Mrs. Bobette Ferguson

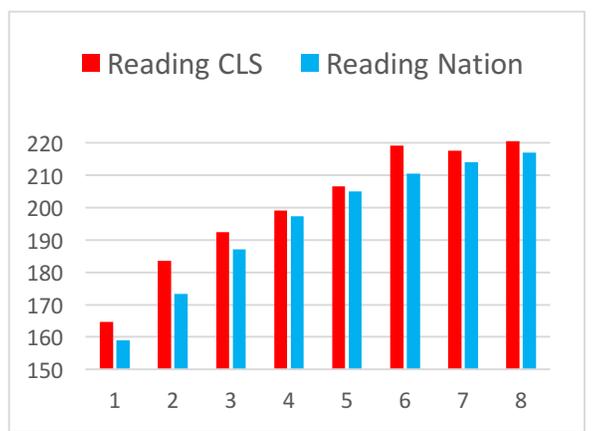
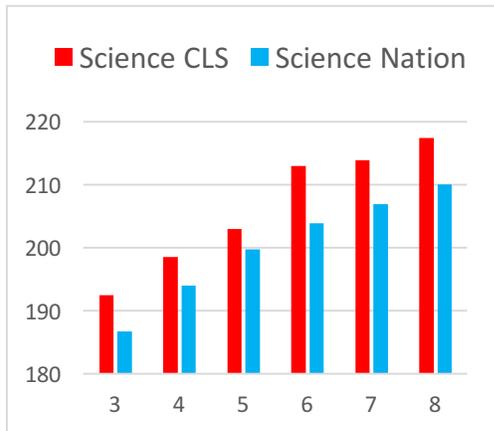
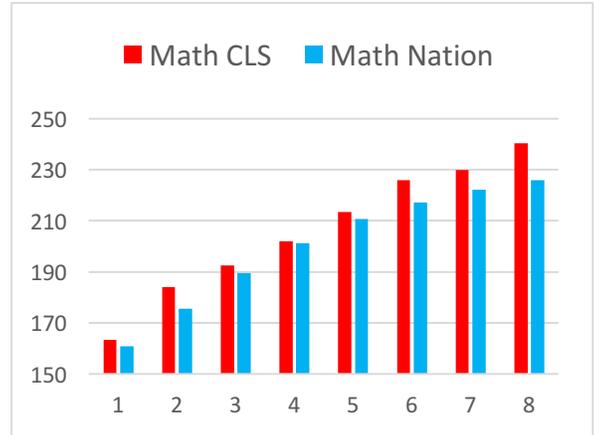
**Support Staff**

- 2 Secretaries
- 5 Teacher Aides
- 3 Kitchen Staff

**Academic Excellence**

Parents want their child to develop a strong relationship with their Lord Jesus Christ. Parents also want their child to be well prepared academically. Christ Lutheran School continues to excel in both these areas as a college preparatory school.

The scores to the right and below are from our Fall 2016 MAP (Measurement of Academic Performance) testing. Instead of percentile rank, they use RIT (Rasch Unit) scores. Most Nebraska schools (Lutheran and public) have switched to MAP testing. Students are assessed at the beginning of the year so the teacher knows what areas to work on, and at the end of the year to measure growth and evaluate curriculum.



Preparing the hearts, souls, and minds of the children of God.

