

the school **Messenger**



**January is Prime
Time for Learning.**



One to One Computing

A commitment to our children's future

CCLS would like to be the first school in our area that offers one to one computing for our 7th & 8th grade students. Right now our junior high students use the school laptops several hours a day on average. Our goal would be to have the students in grades 7-8 have a laptop accessible during their entire school day, possibly using it both at school and home. This would also free up the current laptop cart to be used more often by other grades.

To get there and make it affordable for families we need to have your help! If you have contacts in the corporate world that would like to get involved with sponsoring this program, we need to have you help us make that connection!

Contact Mr. Boehlke for more information!

What we love about CCLS

**Isaac
Schmutzer**
Age 7
“Learning!”



**Jameson
Martin**
Age 6

“My teacher
and my friends.
I have a lot.”

**Matt
Binstock**
Age 12

“Easy, the
FOOD!”



January = Learning

One of the questions that we get at times as educators from parents is “how can I help my child learn?”

Over the years I think that while the question is well intentioned, a more useful and constructive question would be, “How can I mentor my child in how to learn?” There is a subtle but important difference between these two. The first often implies getting things done and getting a high score or a good grade. The second gets to the root of life long learning.

We know that we are on the cusp of a new generation of education. We are preparing children today for many jobs and occupations that do not even exist at the present time. Life, learning and work are all in transition. So our goal should be to help our children grow in their ability to deal with and handle new information, process it and use it for their (and others) benefit. What they need from us as parents is to pick up (through our modeling) some key points over time.

1. How to read things for a purpose.
2. How we set aside time for challenging work and take the time to carefully go through directions.
3. The way that we deal with “stress” related to new information.
 - a. Do we see learning “new stuff” as valuable and interesting?
4. How to problem solve. See page 5.
5. How to summarize ideas or what we read.

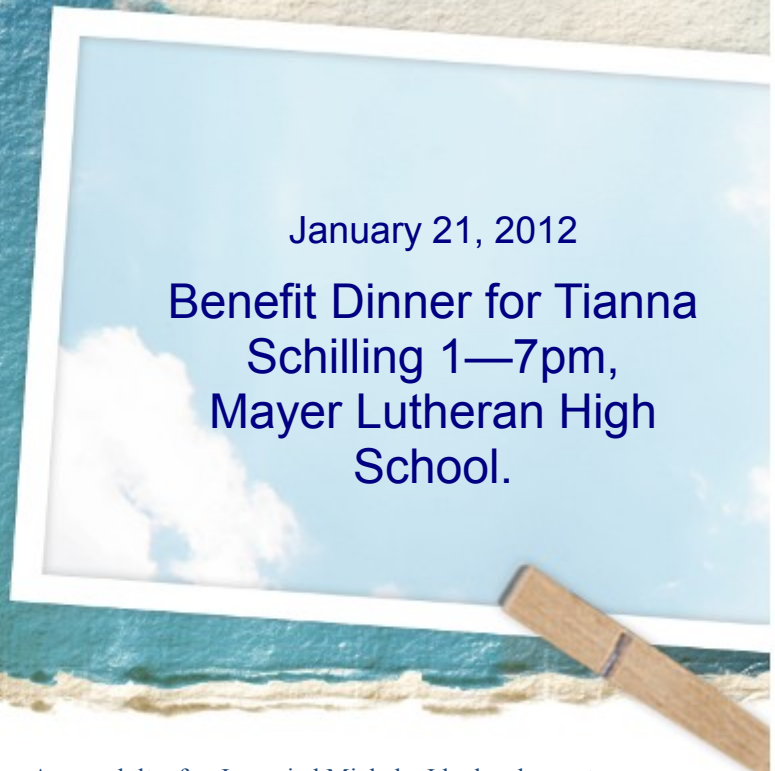
It is important to remember the skills that we model about learning are lifelong skills and take many years to develop. When our children ask us for help, do we take the time to help them solve problems or questions or do we simply give them an answer so that they get done? How we approach these ideas as parents, how we model them to our children is vitally important. They look to us every day to see how we are learning!



Serving as Family

CCLS is a family and we continue to hold up the entire Schilling family as they continue to seek healing and recovery for Tianna. Please continue to remember them in your prayers. Our God is a Mighty God and is capable of Great Things.

Thank you to the many school families for your continued support of the Schilling Family. The caring calendar remains on our website and there are still opportunities to help and make meals etc. A volunteer worker sign up sheet is in the school office for the benefit dinner on Sat. Jan. 21st.



January 21, 2012

Benefit Dinner for Tianna Schilling 1—7pm, Mayer Lutheran High School.



Administrator Spotlight

Mr. Boehlke shares some thoughts...

What attracts students to your school? What are they looking for? I think most families are looking for “something different.” That varies a lot and can be a

combination of several of the following. Some families are looking for a values based education. That could be defined as “Christian education” or just a school where Christian values are exhibited and shared. Others want small class sizes and individual attention for their children. Some are looking for a more challenging, rigorous education for their kids. Others are leaving something behind that was problematic for them, whether it was a feeling their children were numbers within a large system, or academic and social issues. What most everyone finds at CCLS is that our school is a family. Our staff and teachers know the kids and parents. They are able to develop a relationship with them because of that closeness. That has education benefits that are very real and lasting for kids.

What led you to go into private education? My wife Michele became a Lutheran teacher before I did. I went back to school to join the system. I had been raised in Lutheran home but went to public schools through high school. As a kid I had a sense after I got into Junior High, that I was just a number in a large system.

As an adult, after I married Michele, I had a chance to see up close and personal, the difference that a Lutheran Christian school could make in the lives of kids. I fell in love with the whole concept and decided to go back to school to get my teaching degree and ended up at Concordia University in Chicago (River Forest).

What is the biggest change you see coming in private education? We need to continue to do what we do now well, while we retool and keep focused on changes that are happening in education related to technology. The end game on changes in education is that there is no end game. It will continue to evolve during my lifetime. Funding will always be a challenge for private schools. There are assumptions made by many in our communities that our private schools are inhabited by wealthy children and families. That is far from reality. Our school is very diverse.

What is your biggest daily challenge?

I love my job. Time can be a tough one.

As a principal who also teaches 1/2 days, my day is pretty full of activity. Some days the teaching aspect is more challenging, other days the administration issues loom larger. There are days when I am still responding to emails at home and I look at the clock and it can get pretty late.

We have a strong and gifted staff. They do not require a lot from me on a daily basis, but I want to be there for them and support them in their work.

What we love about CCLS

Lauren- Hecksel

Age 5

“Math and play-
time. CCLS
rocks.”



Michele Boehlke

Age ?

“All of my pre-
schoolers! I get
lots of love &
hugs everyday.”

Olivia Corey

Age 3

“Mrs. Boehlke
and playing
with friends.”



Learning, Effort?

Did you know that research tells us that most people generally believe that they can attribute academic success to one of the four following areas:

1. Ability
2. Other People
3. Luck
4. Effort

Three of these beliefs can actually inhibit effort in learning! The belief that we succeed in school due to **ability** seems to be useful, but when students feel that they lack ability, they can talk themselves right out of success in learning. Educators sometimes refer to this as “Learned Helplessness”. Students can build a belief system that tells them that no matter what they do, they will fail to learn or achieve. Belief in the work of **other people** can inhibit learning when one is working by oneself. Belief in **luck** is obviously pointless.

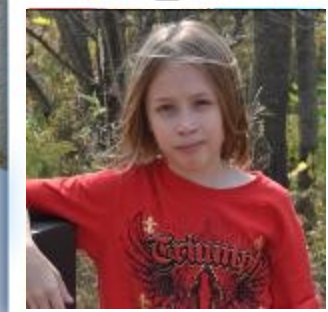
The truth is that one’s belief in the impact that individual **effort** can have on learning is very important. Teaching kids that their hard work pays off, that their time spent has value will enhance academic achievement!

Parents can help by congratulating effort instead of grades. Praise your child for the time and effort they put into homework rather than its completion or the high score they receive. Give encouragement even when grades are lower than hoped for by praising them for what they have done.

Mission and Ministry Stuff

Hopefully most everyone knows that our school is a ministry. A ministry of faith, a ministry of connections and a ministry committed to sharing the love of Jesus Christ with the youngest members of our Father’s family. CCLS exists to lead children on their faith walk by building and fostering a solid Christian foundation. It is owned and operated by our member congregations, St. Paul’s Lutheran Church and St. Peter’s Lutheran Church (at great commitment by them).

As a non-profit, we run on a thin margin. We are very blessed by the support of our member congregations, the passionate support of donors and the love and care of our families. Thank you all for your commitment to this ministry! Everyday we see God’s amazing grace and power at work. We are truly honored by this mission and remain committed to fulfilling the work of preparing our children to walk within this world spiritually, academically and emotionally.



4 Steps to Problem Solving.

Most appropriate for grades 3-8

1. UNDERSTANDING THE PROBLEM

- * Can you state the problem in your own words?
- * What are you trying to find or do?
- * What are the unknowns?
- * What information do you obtain from the problem?
- * What information, if any, is missing or not needed?

2. DEVISING A PLAN

The following list of strategies, although not exhaustive, is very useful.

- * Look for a pattern.
- * Examine related problems, and determine if the same technique can be applied.
- * Examine a simpler or special case of the problem to gain insight into the solution of the original problem.
- * Make a table.
- * Make a diagram.
- * Write an equation.
- * Use guess and check.
- * Work backward.
- * Identify a subgoal.

3. CARRYING OUT THE PLAN

- * Implement the strategy or strategies in step 2, and perform any necessary actions or computations.
- * Check each step of the plan as you proceed. This may be intuitive checking or a formal proof of each step.
- * Keep an accurate record of your work.

4. LOOKING BACK

- * Check the results in the original problem. (In some cases this will require a proof.)
- * Interpret the solution in terms of the original problem. Does your answer make sense? Is it reasonable?
- * Determine whether there is another method of finding the solution.
- * If possible, determine other related or more general problems for which the techniques will work.

I am Christian

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not shouting "I'm clean livin'."
I'm whispering "I was lost,
Now I'm found and forgiven."

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I don't speak of this with pride.
I'm confessing that I stumble
And need Christ to be my guide.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not trying to be strong.
I'm professing that I'm weak
And need His strength to carry on.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not bragging of success.
I'm admitting I have failed
And need God to clean my mess.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not claiming to be perfect,
My flaws are far too visible
But, God believes I am worth it.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I still feel the sting of pain.
I have my share of heartaches
So I call upon HIS name.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not holier than thou,
I'm just a simple sinner
Who received God's good grace, somehow!



Order yours today!
CCLS Yearbooks
Available through
Jan. 26th for \$13 each
Orders should be dropped off at
school office.

Yes! It's coming and the planning has begun.

The annual CCLS Spring Event, complete with dinner, and an entire silent and live auction is a full evening event. This year, CCLS is going to do a *flashback* to the 60's & 70's for an *overflowing* night of Peace, Joy & Hope.

We are looking for a few things to help us set the "mood" so if you have any items buried within the recesses of your home or that of grandparents and etc. we'd love to borrow them for the night. Here's just a sample list of items we are looking for: lava lamps, fondue pots, macramé owls or plant hangers, jello molds, old records etc. Are you getting the drift? I'm sure you are and those of you who are too young to know, Google it baby.

A family information packet spells out all the specifics of this event and will be sent out in February. We've got loads to do and many people hard at work already. If you'd like to be a part of the planning for this event, just let us know. We'd love to have yah baby.

Also, if you know of anyone, business or individual, who would be willing to donate towards this event, have them get in touch with us. We've got a wish list of items we're looking for & can't wait to celebrate & showcase all that is so wonderful about our school. More soon.... Peace Out!



CCLS Groovy Gala

**Coming Sat. April
21st.**

**Mark your calendar.
You won't be disappointed.**

