



CFIS
700 77th Street, SW
Calgary, AB.
T3H 5R1

February 2009

PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

February is here and this marks the half way point for students at CFIS. For our High School students, this represents a new semester: new courses, new teachers, new schedules, etc. And, for our Elementary and Junior High School students, this represents the mid-point between the beginning and the end of this school year. For everyone concerned, we still have 50% of the school year to make the 2008-09 school year one of the best for CFIS!

- Three-Year Education Plan: Like many organizations, we at the Calgary French & International School (CFIS) are guided by the school's vision and mission statements. Vision and mission statements have the purpose of capturing the essence of what an organization does and how it carries out its core business. In this time of preparing for the 2009-2010 school year, allow me to include in this publication our school's vision and mission statements.

Vision

- The students of the Calgary French and International School will graduate as global citizens with strong academics, positive character, and excellent language skills to provide them with choice and opportunity in their lives.

Mission

- Within a caring community, we immerse, educate and empower students.

It is within the framework provided by the Vision and Mission statements above that the staff at CFIS will convene on February 9th and 10th to begin to put together our school's Three Year Education Plan. Once the staff will have laid some of the ground work, Society Board members will continue contributing toward the final product during a Board Retreat scheduled for March 7th, 2009 at the school. The following Goals and Outcomes, as provided to us by Alberta Education, will provide the framework within which CFIS will establish its Three-Year Education Plan:

- Goal One:** High Quality Learning Opportunities for All
Outcome: Schools provide a safe and caring environment for students
Outcome: Children at risk will have their needs addressed through effective programs and supports
- Goal Two:** Excellence in Student Learning Outcomes
Outcome: Students demonstrate high standards
Outcome: Students are well prepared for employment
- Goal Three:** Highly Responsive and Responsible Jurisdiction
Outcome: The jurisdiction demonstrates effective working relationships with partners and stakeholders

Should you want to share your ideas with respect to our school's Three-Year Education Plan, may I take this opportunity to invite you to come in and speak with me in person or send me your thoughts via email at rslevinsky@cfis.com.

- **Student Placement for 2009-10 School Year:** At this time of the year, administrators at CFIS are busy planning for the upcoming school year. Experience tells us that parents often have valuable information that may influence the way in which we group students for instruction. Should you want to contribute as a parent to the class lists for the 2009-10 school year, please complete the form included in this Communiqué.
- **Parent Surveys:** As you may be aware, our school has opted for Level 2 Accountability. This means that CFIS is receiving more funding from Alberta Education, but it also means that our organization has agreed to a funding model that includes increased accountability for the government funding received. As part of this increased accountability, Alberta Education will be mailing a survey to all parents with students in grades 4 through 11. May we ask that you take the time to complete this survey and return it to Alberta Education. Students and teachers will also complete a 'survey'; however, this will be managed at the school level. All of the data gathered will be analyzed and a report of the findings will be sent to the school before the end of the 2008-09 school year.
- **One-on-One Meetings with all Grades 6 through 11 Students and Parents:** To assist students in making sound career decisions, I am meeting with all CFIS students that will be enrolled in a Junior or Senior High School program in September 2009. The focus of these sessions is to ensure that parents and students have the language of secondary school, know the requirements for high school completion, are aware of admission requirements of the post-secondary education system, and are informed as to the scholarships and bursaries available to them.

- CFIS 2009-2010 School Year Calendar: The Society Board has approved in principle a calendar for the upcoming school year. The calendar reflects the input of parents, staff and Board members. A copy of this calendar is being provided for your information: notably, the first and last day of the school year, winter, February, and spring breaks, and statutory holidays. Final Board approval of the calendar is anticipated in March 2009 and will be included in the April Communiqué.
- Enrollment Summary: As of January 19th, 2009, we have registered a total of 595 children and students for the 2009-10 school year. I would like to thank all of the stakeholders – parents, students and staff – who have and continue to speak highly of CFIS. Keep up the great work!
- New Staff: We are pleased to welcome Mme Julie Germain, who will be replacing Mme Turmeau who had a beautiful little boy, and Mme Carbonell, who will be taking Mme Pierre's Pure Math 10 & 30's senior high classes. Also, a warm welcome to Katarzyna Szewczyk (under the auspices of the Official Languages in Education Program (OLEP) - a program that will see CFIS reimbursed for all of the costs involved. As a French "monitrice", she gives the school eight hours a week.
- Marcel Tremblay Learning Resources Centre: To follow up with the work that we are doing in the area of technology, we are pleased to inform our community that Mrs. Maria Bertucci has graciously accepted to offer her expertise as an architect with this initiative. Mrs. Bertucci will be working with staff, students and parents to complete a design brief for the Marcel Tremblay Learning Resources Centre. Many thanks, Mrs. Bertucci!
- Upcoming Events: The following is a highlight of some of the upcoming events here at CFIS.
 - a. January 28th: Semester 2 officially began on this day for Senior High school students. For most students, this means a new set of courses, working with new staff, etc.
 - b. February 5th: Open House and Winter Carnival for CFIS
 - c. February 9th through 13th: PD week – No school for students
 - d. February 6th through 14th: Grade 9 travel to Costa Rica
 - e. February 16th: Family Day – No school
 - f. February 25th: Junior and Senior High school students ski Lake Louise
 - g. March 19th through 31st: grade 10 & 11 travel to Cuba
 - h. April 25th: Mark your calendars for April 25th 2009! This is the date that has been retained for our annual CFIS Soirée. Although plans are well underway for this event, I will defer to the committee to provide you with the details.
 - i. I am please to remind everyone that next year will be extra special for two reasons: the first, CFIS will be celebrating its 40th anniversary and more importantly, CFIS will be hosting its first grade 12 graduation.

Dr. Richard Slevinsky
Principal

CFIS 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

24 PD Day (New Staff)
25 PD Day (All Staff)
26 PD Day (All Staff)
27 First Day School Students

Students = 3
Operational = 5

AUGUST '09						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

4 PD Day (All Staff)
7 Labour Day

Students = 20
Operational = 21

SEPTEMBER '09						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

12 Thanksgiving Day
22 PD Day (All Staff)
23 PD Day (All Staff)

Students = 19
Operational = 17

OCTOBER '09						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

11 Remembrance Day
27 PD Day (All Staff)

Students = 19
Operational = 20

NOVEMBER '09						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

18 Last Day Classes – 11:30
19 – 31 Winter Break

Students = 14
Operational = 14

DECEMBER '09						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

1 – 4 Winter Break
5 School Reconvenes
29 PD Day

Students = 18
Operational = 19

Semester 1 Summary
Total Students: 93
Total Operational: 100

JANUARY '10						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

8-12 PD Week
15 Family Day

Students = 14
Operational = 19

FEBRUARY '10						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

26 PD Day (All Staff)
27 – 31 Spring Break

Students = 20
Operational = 20

MARCH '10						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

1 – 5 Spring Break

Students = 19
Operational = 19

APRIL '10						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

24 Victoria Day

Students = 19
Operational = 20

MAY '10						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

18 Last Day of Classes K-6
29 Last Day of Classes 7-12
30 Report Cards & Appeals Day

Students K-6 = 14
Students 7-12 = 21
Operational = 22

JUNE '10						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

1 Canada Day

Semester 2 Summary
Total Students: 93
Total Operational: 100

Year Summary
Total Students K-6: 179
Total Students 7-12: 186
Total Operational: 200

JULY '10						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

ONE-ON-ONE MEETINGS

As some of you have already experienced, I am meeting with all grades 6 through 11 students and their parents to talk to them about career goal setting. During these sessions, students are asked to identify potential careers. Once one or more career paths have been identified, we look at post-secondary requirements and then take the students through a process that will help them plan a high school program that will allow them to meet all the high school requirements for Alberta and allow them to pursue their career choices at a post secondary institution of choice. During these sessions, we also look at the Rutherford Scholarship requirements and then look at the most recent report card to see how students are faring in the scholarship area. We always end these sessions underlining the importance of beginning now to establish a road map for the future. For those parents and students who have already met with me, I would encourage you to visit the following site to explore the world of post-secondary possibilities. The site is <http://www.aucc.ca/>.

Enjoy your research travels!

OPEN HOUSE

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Open House on Thursday, February 5, 2009. All current CFIS families and new interested families are invited to visit the school from 10:00-12:00. Dr. Slevinsky will deliver a welcoming address in the Elementary Cafeteria while coffee and muffins are served. Parents and guests are then invited to observe the students hard at work in their classrooms. Please note that PRESCHOOL PROGRAMMES are FULL and that waiting lists are in place. **Formal Uniform** is required.

If you are parents of children in grades 4-6, this Open House is a fabulous opportunity to visit the Junior High and learn more about the programmes offered at CFIS and for our parents of Junior High, may we take this opportunity to encourage you to visit our High School classrooms.

New families are invited to meet with our principal, Dr. Slevinsky, and the vice-principals, Madame Triggler and Madame Garipey, over lunch in the north wing. If you plan on attending the luncheon, please contact Katharine Ray at 240-1500 ext. 329 by Wednesday, February 4th to confirm your attendance.

From 1:00 to 3:00 pm, please join us for an interactive carnival; a programme will be made available on Thursday in order for you to find out your child's venue. Fun will be had by all!

FUNDRAISING NEWS

Support the Soirée and the Sound of CFIS Music

Did you know that 100% of the proceeds from this year's fundraising Soirée will be going to the award-winning CFIS Music and Band Program? Some of the wish list items include chairs, xylophone stands, a sound system, electronic bass and drums, a carpet for the elementary students and much, much more. Through your generous support we can make our wish list a reality and grow our program to benefit our students and school for many years. Please join us at the 9th Annual CFIS Fundraising Event, the Soirée "A Night in French Polynesia" at Wild Ginger Restaurant Saturday, April 25th, 2009. Gather your friends and family for a casual evening of fun at a tropical inspired cocktail party with non-stop appetizers, silent & live auction, and dancing!

Special appearance by the CFIS Jazz Band.

Early bird tickets will be on sale February 16th to March 13th, \$65 each or \$485 for a group of 8. After March 13th prices will be \$75. To order tickets, donate an auction item or sponsor the event call 240-1500 ext 135 or visit www.cfis.com and click under Events - Soirée. Your support is greatly appreciated!

The Soirée Committee

Sponsorship opportunity

Do you want to help us raise money for our music program?

Sponsor our Night in French Polynesia

You can be part of it for only \$500

Possible benefits include:

Logo recognition on all promotional material
 Logo recognition during the event
 Verbal recognition at upcoming school event and at the event
 Complimentary tickets to the event

There are three possible levels \$500, \$1000, or \$1500

Please refer to www.cfis.com/events/soiree.php for more details and the sponsorship form.



ELEMENTARY NEWS

Dictée PGL

Our school is participating once again this year in the spelling contest called “La dictée PGL” which will take place this month. Our students will be able to test their spelling abilities in a competitive way.

The purpose of this pedagogical project (Fondation Paul Gérin Lajoie) is to combine enrichment of the French language and to promote an awareness of solidarity with children in Third World Countries.

Last year thousands of students participated in Canada including francophone and immersion schools. The pledges collected in the participating schools are used to support educational projects in francophone Africa and Haiti.

This year the theme is “Soignons les mots” (Staying Healthy) because a healthy child is more apt to learn. A magazine with different activities about that theme has been provided to everyone.

Teachers have provided guidelines and drills so students are well prepared. We will have an in-house contest and a possibility of sending a student to the provincial/national competition in the immersion category.

Each student will be asked to collect pledges as is done for any spell-a-thon. Please ensure to keep the pledge envelope (inserted in parents' brochure) in a safe place until the week of February 2-6, 2009. ALL ENVELOPES MUST BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL REGARDLESS OF THEIR CONTENT.

We believe that this experience will be rewarding for each participant. Good luck to everyone and you will hear from us in the near future.

Dictée PGL committee:

Louise Mayes
Carole Solanki

Puppets and the Environment

The grade five students in Mme Mitra's class performed a puppet show on global warming. In this French project, they practised a play on how global warming could affect the lives of different species, polar bears in particular. The students also learned what kind of measures they can take to limit usage of fossil fuels. They created their own puppets and the theatre stage out of recycled materials. Then, in pairs, they shared their show with the grade ones and twos. At the end they stimulated a discussion by asking some key questions.

Elementary Library

A big thank you to all students, families and staff who have donated to our library: Veronica Lee, Emily Ramos, Dawson Gall, Faith Gow and Mme McLennan.

Band Concert

Our Band Concert held on Wednesday, January 28th, once again showcased our students under the brilliant direction of Amy McLennan, Intermediate Music Educator and Director of Bands.

This was the first time that our Grade 5's had ever been featured and they were superb, especially given that they only started band in November of this year. The Jazz Ensemble, grade 6's and Junior High Options Band were like professionals. Our grade six clarinet trio: Kodie Becker, Lara Kattler and Perri Burrage were wonderful. Congratulations to all of you budding musicians

Our band program keeps getting stronger and stronger, and it is a real pleasure being able to listen to such a variety of music so well played. No wonder they are winning awards! We have to thank Mme Amy McLennan for her talent in this area and wish her continued success with all of our bands.

A special thank you:

We would like to thank those who donated to Hoi An Orphanage the night of the concert. This was a last-minute project that seemed to be well timed with our concert as we had just found out that one of our families, going to Vietnam, do humanitarian work during their vacations and teach their children the meaning of 'one person can make a difference'. It continues to add to our reasons why we call our school 'international' when we are able to see visible proof of our students becoming global citizens. The Bhatla family would like to thank you for your kindness, which will be passed on in March when they visit the Hoi An Orphanage. A total of \$668.00 was contributed the night of the concert which will go towards the purchase of needed items. Other supplies were also donated that were on their wish-list: tea-tree oil, sweat bands and armbands, craft supplies. Merci beaucoup.

Cécile Triggle
Vice-Principal, Elementary

JUNIOR HIGH & SENIOR HIGH

Punctuality: A Positive Start to the Day

CFIS junior and senior high classes begin promptly at 8:30 in the morning. We encourage our students to make every possible effort to be on time. Realistically, students should be in school no later than 8:20 in order to have enough time to go to their lockers, get their materials ready for the day, have a couple minutes to say hello to friends and teachers, and get to class before the 8:30 bell without being stressed out.

Summer Exchange Program with SEVEC

In collaboration with SEVEC, The Society for Educational Visits and Exchanges in Canada, CFIS is organising, for junior and senior high students, a two-week reciprocal home-stay exchange with a group of students from a French community in Canada during the summer of 2009. All interested CFIS students between the ages of 12 to 17 are invited to submit a letter of interest to be part of this exciting program. Letters should be submitted no later than February 9, 2009. (An information letter has been sent home via e-mail to all junior and senior high families)

Science

NEWALTA Corporation and ICTC step up to the plate to help CFIS Science... Who's next?

The new senior high school is growing with teachers developing new courses in the best interest of students. The science department is a major part of this development and focus, as it wishes that its students have a strong academic standing and abilities to do lab work.

Seeing that we've only moved into our new science laboratories this year and are in the process of building new courses, both junior and senior high labs need new equipment. Thankfully, we were able to obtain some of this with the generous and important help of Mr. Craig Wilkie of NEWALTA corporation and Dan Skibinski from ICTC. Together, they donated \$6,000 to the science department. These funds were used to supplement our labs for chemistry, biology and grade 9 science courses.

NEWALTA is a Canadian company that deals with chemical recycling. They find innovative methods to manage waste. ICTC also belongs to the chemical industry by breaking new ground in chemical technological research.

We thank NEWALTA Corporation and ICTC for their benevolent generosity in aiding us to make our labs truly contemporary and state of the art.

Successful Fundraising

Last December, the junior and senior high students successfully raised \$1500 for the Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter through the gingerbread man cookie-decorating sale. To stimulate donation, we also had a little competition going on between each grade class to see which one would raise the most money, and the grand winner was the grade 8C1 class. Thank you to everyone for your generous donations.

Goodbye Spike

In March 2008, the grade 10 students (currently in Grade 11), embarked on a big biology research project to obtain and fully take care of a living organism (besides themselves). This living organism was a bearded dragon known as "Spike". The students lead this project with great autonomy by selling a lot of cookies to fundraise for Spike's needs, developing a schedule to maintain Spike's home and feed him as well as actually doing so during the whole of the summer holidays. They showed our community their amazing leadership skills and sense of autonomy.

Since September, Spike was housed in the Senior High Laboratory and became an unofficial member of the senior high student body. He paid his tuition fees by happily sitting in his warm terrarium, eating crickets and learning about biology and chemistry.

After the Christmas break, Spike seemed more skinny and lazy than usual (He did like to sit a lot). He also caught an infection in one of his eyes. We decided to check with the family that donated Spike and consult a veterinarian in order to help Spike. After a day of testing, it was found that Spike had leukaemia (cancer of the red blood cells) and there was no other choice but to put him down.

The senior high students showed a lot of emotion after receiving this news but understood that there was really nothing they could do about it. Cancer is always difficult to deal with but the veterinary reassured us that the students did a good job keeping and caring for him.

I would like to emphasize the fact that the students acted as a group and on their own initiative to make this project happen, despite its early end. For this, we are proud of them and are looking forward to the possibility of our next "unofficial" senior high "student".

Nicolas Aubert
Science Teacher

Debate

On Tuesday January 26th, CFIS hosted the annual **Calgary Stampede Junior Debate**. This annual competition celebrates excellence in the areas of academic research, skilled oratory, and structured debate. The event clearly highlighted the breadth of talent and social awareness that exists among our students here at CFIS.

The following students are to be commended for their hard work and determination: Junior High team; Irfan Ibrahim, Wayne Dang, Ben Makarchuk and Andre Tertzakian, and Elementary team; Maddie Clark, Ben Roizes, Hannah Ovenden, Cortney Yeo, Cole Pollard and Lucas Lehmann. The following students volunteered their time as either chairperson or timekeeper: Marie Boyd, Tess O'Hara, Karys Hildebrand, Sabrina Tseng, Zoe Machado, Hannah Lomas, Natalie McDougal and Kevin Tupper. Thank you so much for your help, time and efforts! This would not have been a success without volunteers!

A special thank you goes out to Mr. Tupper for always being a great supporter of the Debate Club.

Calgary Trojan Cup Junior Debate Tournament

Two junior high teams proudly represented CFIS at the Trojan Cup Junior Debate Tournament held at William Aberhart High School on January 30, and 31. Beginner junior team Irfan Ibrahim and Wayne Dang came in second place for best beginner team, and were awarded respectively 3rd, and 2nd best speaker prizes. Junior high team Kevin Tupper and Isaac Zyto placed 8th best team over all.

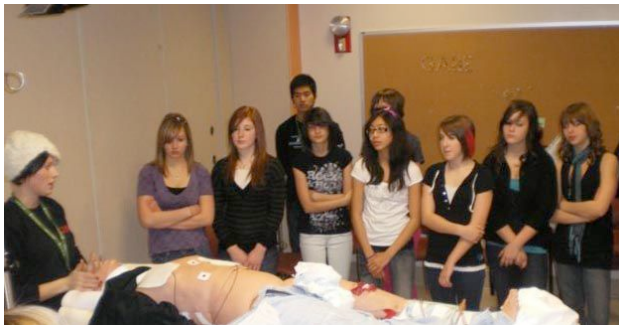
Congratulations for your excellent participation debaters.

We are proud of you!

Chris Bowers, Marlene Wilson and Michelle Gariepy
Organizers

P.A.R.T.Y. programme (Prevention of Alcohol Related Trauma in Youth)

Our grade 9 students spent a full day at the Foothills Hospital listening to guest speakers who work with trauma victims and support the services provided to trauma victims during their recovery. The most touching and impactful words came from the survivors of trauma. These brave individuals tell their stories in hopes of preventing kids from taking unnecessary risks that may cost them their life, mobility and freedom.



Sports

Basketball season is in full swing. Prior to the season we sent five students, Isaac Zyto, Christopher Prosper, Nicole Carswell, Derek Moreau and Juan Trujillo) to a referee clinic hosted by Webber Academy. These students have been gaining work experience and helping us out throughout the season. We have four teams participating in the ISAA league (Independent Schools Athletic Association). Thank you to our coaches Mme. Redmond (grade 7 girls), Mrs. Neil (grade 7/8 boys), Mme. Bourque (grade 8/9 girls) and Mr. Jackson (grade 8/9 boys). Our next competitive season is Badminton.

Pancake Breakfast

Thank you to all Jr. High families and staff who supported the fundraising efforts for the Senior High Travel Studies Program. We sold a record breaking 185 breakfasts. Thank you to the Wilkie family who donated two Calgary Flames tickets to raffle off and to the parents who helped in the kitchen. Congratulations to Irfan Ibrahim for winning those tickets. All monies raised will be used to purchase supplies for the school our students will be visiting and working with in Cuba.

Take Our Kids To Work

It was mentioned in a previous communiqué that our grade 9 students participated in the national Take Our Kids To Work program. Recently an article was published at the University of Calgary about three of our own students (Sabrina Poonja, Shoshanna Weiss and Christopher Stys) who visited the Hotchkiss Brain Institute. Follow the link below to read about the day these students had at the institute.

www.hbi.ucalgary.ca/sections.php?cid=98

Sabine Crandall
Junior High Teacher

Rob Anders

In December, the grade 9 students had the opportunity to meet with Rob Anders, Member of Parliament for Calgary West. Mr. Anders spoke passionately about his role as a parliamentarian and of our government. The students were able to ask Mr Anders a few questions regarding parliamentary business and legislation.

Asper Holocaust & Human Rights Program

A group of our grade 9 students (Dariana Al-Salam, Nicole Carswell, Alex Lee, Nicole Riddy, Eliza Kraus, Olivia Genereux, Michela Juergens, Catherine Boyer) will soon be participating in the Asper Foundation Holocaust and Human Rights Program. To participate in this program, students will be attending 18 hours of educational sessions on the History of Human Rights and the Holocaust. They will be meeting with approximately 100 other students from Calgary on a weekly basis to discuss the significance of these events. In addition, they will be doing 16 hours of community service. The program will culminate with a 5-day trip to Washington D.C., where they will be visiting the National Holocaust Museum, meeting with Holocaust survivors, and visiting historical sites in and around the city.

This is a fantastic, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our students. It is a great way for them to learn much more about important issues that we are facing today, as well as it being an ideal chance for them to meet and share with students in their age group. Look for further details in future Communiqués about this trip and the journey that a group of our students have decided to embark upon.

BOARD NEWS

On January 21st, 2009, the Board of Directors of the CFIS Society held its first meeting of the year. The Board's new executive officers were appointed at that time, including John McVicar as Chair, Joanne Weninger as Vice-Chair, and Dmitrios (Jim) Leonidas once again as Secretary-Treasurer. Former Chair Kristan Strate became Past Chair, and grateful thanks to her are in order for her outstanding efforts and dedication to the school over the past two years as she fulfilled the dual roles of Chair and President.

Other matters attended to at the January CFIS Society Board meeting involved work on the school's policy manual to keep it up to date and comprehensive, as per Alberta Education requirements; 2009-2010 school calendar, which is being provided to parents in this Communiqué; preliminary planning for the school's 40th anniversary celebrations; and a number of annual "housekeeping" items.

The CFIS Advancement Society's Soirée Committee (formerly the Gala Committee) is well under way with its plans for this year's event, "A Night in French Polynesia", which will take place on April 25th at Wild Ginger. Early-bird tickets will be on sale between February 16th and March 13th, at a cost of only \$65 each. The previous "gala" concept has been changed to a less formal "soirée" format without a sit-down dinner component (the evening will have more of a "cocktail party" feel, with appetizers available through tray service and table walk-up). Live and silent auction components are still incorporated into the event. Proceeds from the evening will be directed toward the school's band and music programs.

Karen Nesbitt
Board Secretary

SECURITY

Doors

Effective Wednesday, **February 4nd**, 2009, all guests (parents/guardians, parent volunteers included) will be required to sign in at the front office between the hours of 9:00 am and 3:15 pm.

Guests will be required to pick-up an identification badge acknowledging to all students and staff that they have signed in at the front office. For parents/guardians picking up students in the preschool, the badges can be left in the classroom from which the student was signed out.

Guests may then exit via the Kindergarten/Pre-school/Childcare doors to avoid congestion in the hallway and/or front office.

Please Note: Access through the Kindergarten/Pre-School/Childcare doors will no longer be available between the hours of 9:00 am and 3:15 pm.

The Junior High/Senior High doors will be locked at 8:30am and remain locked all day.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you and hope you will understand that this is a short-term solution to a complex and important issue, which of course is the safety and security of our students and staff.

We are currently working on a long-term security plan and we will make available to you all of the details at a time when the best course of action has been determined.

CAFETERIA NEWS

FIELD TRIPS AND CAFETERIA LUNCHES

Parents:

All field trips that conflict with designated lunch times will be indicated on the monthly Cafeteria order form and menu. Please watch for dates that affect your child's grade/class and DO NOT ORDER A LUNCH on that day. As a rule, refunds will not be issued if the field trip has been indicated on the menu. If a field trip has been scheduled after meal orders have been placed then a Cafeteria "Raincheck" will be issued. Rainchecks may be used as a credit towards any future preordered lunch program purchase. Lastly, a non-microwaveable bag lunch is required when a field trip runs over the lunch time period.

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.CFIS.COM

REMINDER

Please be advised that pre-ordered meals are not transferrable from day to day or from person to person. Food is purchased based on the monthly/daily orders received. If a student is away on a day where they have ordered a lunch, due to illness, a doctor's, or dentist appointment or vacation etc, as a rule, refunds will not be issued. Special situations do occur, so please speak with me directly if needed.

SPECIAL LUNCH DAY & VESTI CHOIX
FRIDAY, February 27th.

Cathy Rivard
Elementary Cafeteria Manager

Parking Lot Safety

The good news about our parking at CFIS is there is a lot more of it! The bad news is that we still experience congestion issues around drop off and pick up times. Please be mindful of a few issues to ensure no accidents ensue:

Follow traffic flow:

- Obey all directional signs and crossing guards.
- Avoid walking behind parked cars and be mindful of reverse lights and teach your children what they mean.
- Remember, it's difficult, when you're in a bigger car to see small people; parents with small children, please stay close to them so the driver can at least see you.
- Whenever possible, use areas in front of parking spaces to get to a clearly marked pedestrian path or crosswalk.
- Avoid letting children out of your vehicle while in transit.
- Park first or proceed to the loading zone to avoid stopping traffic flow.
- Park in designated parking areas only.

By working together, we can make sure our children stay safe and out of harm's way. For any ideas or suggestions on how we can improve traffic flow and parking at CFIS, please submit them to Brad Macey via e-mail (bmacey@cfis.com) or hard copy and label your correspondence 'Parking'.

Thank you
Brad Macey