

Koinonia

Connection



Who We are...

Koinonia Connection is a bi-monthly newsletter published by the Koinonia Christian Education Society (KCES) to keep teachers, parents, students, staff & friends of our system informed & connected.

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SLAVE LAKE STUDENTS LEND HELPING HAND TO COMMUNITY...

by April Barton

Months after a fire damaged hundreds of homes and families became displaced last summer, the community of Slave Lake and its residents are pulling together and rebuilding. Grades 4-9 students from Slave Lake Koinonia Christian School are doing their part and recently handed out 'Welcome Home' care boxes to residents who are taking up temporary residence in town trailers.



As a project of local churches, the boxes contained cleaning products, stationery, Bibles and other necessary items. "Most boxes were very well received," reports school secretary/bookkeeper Tracy Fortin, who added that new basements are being poured daily while carpentry and house framing continues almost non-stop in the town. "We are recovering," she stated, proudly. Red Cross is also offering a helping hand to the school by funding \$200 monthly towards the Hot Lunch Program.

Mission support and fund-raising is big on the 'to-do' list at SLKCS. A fall bottle drive, held by the junior high students, helped fund seven students as they attended the recent Alberta Youth Leadership Convention. Classrooms for Africa and the local Northern Haven Women's Shelter also benefit from the school's weekly Chapel offerings.

The Gathering Place in Slave Lake was a busy place recently when more than 200 participants gathered for a Youth Convention. Music and speakers filled the air, along with cheers for hockey, skateboard and Battle of the Band competitions.

A Grief and Trauma Workshop was hosted by SLKCS October 13 featuring a presentation by a Christian psychologist. "Those who did attend learned a lot," said Mrs. Fortin.

October 14 was big-goofy-grin 'picture' day, followed by Teacher's Convention October 19-21. According to Mrs. Fortin, students are doing "very well" on their Bible memory passages this fall. "We have all the students doing the same verses, so that really helps the teachers, the parents, and the siblings," she added.

Midnight Madness will take over the town November 18th. SLKCS is offering free

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babysitting at the school while parents take an evening to support local merchants and do their Christmas shopping.

On December 3rd, students and families will host the Coffee House at the Abundant Life Worship Centre and will provide music and mouth-watering munchies for the evening. Funds received will support both the local Women's Shelter and the school.

Lastly, SLKCS would like to send a "HUGE" **thank you to everyone** for their overwhelming response, support and prayers during the aftermath of last summer's fires. "We so appreciate everyone. Their support has been incredible," says Mrs. Fortin. "We are so grateful."

SLKCS: *"Developing spiritual and academic excellence while ministering to a lost and hurting world."*



Each student received a teddy bear & handmade card from St. Luke's Catholic School (near Sherwood Park).... such a thoughtful gesture!

Sept 30th Enrollments

AKCS	29 ECS	237 Gr. 1-12
CCCA	1 ECS	33 Gr. 1-9
CCS	9 ECS	51 Gr. 1-9
HLCA	8 ECS	44 Gr. 1-9
LTCS	1 ECS	12 Gr. 1-8
NCS	5 ECS	53 Gr. 1-9
KCS-RD	27 Playschool 17 ECS	166 Gr. 1-12
SLKCS	0 ECS	23 Gr. 1-12
YKCS	10 Playschool 4 ECS	61 Gr. 1-12



What Permeates The Curriculum?

by Garry Anderson

The Toronto District School Board is forbidding parents from opting out of classes which address homosexuality. The rationale supposedly is that by opting out, parents are teaching their children homophobia.

Various organizations including the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada are countering that parents can teach their children respect and acceptance of all people without having to affirm lifestyles which violate their conscience.

The Board's policy violates the Ontario Ministry of Education's position which guarantees parents the right to opt out of controversial classes. The curriculum which begins in kindergarten, prepares students to engage in social action in favour of homosexuality including promoting involvement in the gay pride parade. This involvement includes the making of posters for the school's float at the kindergarten to Grade 3 levels. As one can imagine, it goes far beyond this by junior high and high school.

However, even if parents were given the choice to opt out, this would be difficult to do. In the board's own words, the anti-homophobia curriculum is deliberately designed as a long term process that "*permeates the curriculum in all subject areas*" and is not restricted to certain classes.

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Awards presented on Aug 25/11 at PD Day
Thank-you teachers ...we appreciate you very much !!



L to R: Teresa MacKenzie (CCS), Kim Harms (AKCS), Christine Wong (AKCS), Pam Graham (YKCS), Richard Fletcher (RD), Liesel Kaiser (AKCS), Yvonne Prins (RD)



Kim Dolan (r) receiving award from Vern Rand



Earl Driedger (left)



Garry Anderson (left)

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While much more could be said on this disturbing topic, I want to draw a couple of parallels for us in the Christian school.

First of all, whenever one desires to use the educational system to teach a certain philosophy or lifestyle, the most effective way is not to develop a course on the topic. Rather, it is to design a *long-term process* that will permeate the curriculum in all subject areas. This is just how evolutionary theory and other godless philosophies have permeated our culture – they permeate all areas of secular curriculum from kindergarten through university and have done so for decades.

Secondly, this is exactly the philosophy of Christian school education. We do not simply teach secular subjects and add in a Bible course. Instead we develop a *long-term, Christ-centered program and way of thinking that permeates the curriculum in all subject areas* with the truth of God and His Word.

As Christian parents, we all need to answer the question, "What permeates the curriculum that is taught to your children?"



*To all our new teachers and support staff ...
WELCOME to Koinonia!!*



NEW TEACHERS L to R:

Back row:

- Paul Lau (HLCA)
- Lauren Dahmer (CCCA)
- Danielle Penney (AKCS)
- Tim Krahn (HLCA)
- Shauna Knee (AKCS)

Middle row:

- Elizabeth Lund (SLKCS)
- Pam Hahn (SLKCS)
- Andrea Mammel (SLKCS)
- Victoria Campbell (AKCS)
- Carolyn McCracken (LTCS)

Front row:

- Jennie Young (HLCA)
- Esther deBoer (HLCA)
- Sheila Becker (CCS)

PD Day at KCS Red Deer

NEW SUPPORT STAFF L to R:

Back row:

- Vicky Alfred (NCS)
- Shelly Ulmer (RD)
- Judy Broda (CCS)
- Carol Dell (CCS)

Front row:

- Becky Amthor (RD)
- Kristina Scholz-Illsley (RD)

