

Calling all CCS Grads !

10, 20, 25, 30 or 35 years since you graduated from Calgary Christian School! How the time flies? Wouldn't it be exciting to reconnect with old classmates and friends, reminisce about the good ol' days and see what everyone is up to now? It doesn't take too much sweat and hard work to plan a good reunion – [Karen Dees](#), CCS Alumni Relations Liaison is ready and willing to help.

All you need is a few ideas to run with and a few people to help make it happen. Here are some great suggestions to get the ball rolling:

- Start planning NOW! People are busy and need at least 4-6 months to schedule such an event into their busy lives. To maximize the number of people who would be able to attend your class reunion, form a committee of three to four people, set a date and a venue and then send out an email letting everyone know to book it and to plan on being there!
- After that, assign each person in your committee small tasks as you go, meet regularly and you're sure to pull off a great get-together.

Questions to ask yourselves:

- Family-friendly event or adults only?
- Will we charge each person and cater the event or to keep costs low and do a potluck/BYOB instead?
- Do we want to include memorabilia or photos from high school?
- Do we wish to hire a DJ to play music from our graduation year? Maybe we can create our own playlist instead?
- Will we hire a photographer to capture the reunion events?
- Can we decorate the venue inexpensively? Perhaps with school colors? Or maybe to mimic a dance/high school banquet from the past?
- Will people chat and interact easily, or is it wise to plan games, conversation starters and activities to get people mingling?
- Name tags?
- Can we find local businesses to provide door prizes or sponsorship?
- Reunion website or Facebook page? Get people to connect on the CCS Facebook page?
- Guest speaker?
- How will you spread the word and advertize the event?

Child friendly class reunions:

- Use the school grounds - just give us a call - there's blacktop for bbqs, playgrounds for kids, a soccer field, baseball diamond - we even have a couple of tents you can use for shade or rain. Bring ball gloves, soccer balls or Frisbees to get folks active or to engage your group.
- Plan to meet up at a home volleyball or basketball game. Cheer on the CCS Cougars together, and then use school grounds to have munchies and drinks after the game. You might even be able to book a time for a game yourselves!
- A weekend camping trip is an excellent way to reconnect and get to know one another's families. Book a group camp to ensure you can stay together and have adequate space for games/eating together.

Adults only:

- Reserve the gymnasium or other room at the school, cater a dessert or appetizer night and spend the evening catching up. There might be a group at the school that is looking to raise funds that would be willing to cook for you! Ask us to help you find staff members, and invite them to join you for part of the evening. Ask for tour around the school to check out the changes since you attended.
- Depending on the size of your group, a potluck at someone's home is a nice informal and inexpensive way to gather. On the other hand, reserving a section of a nice restaurant, or coming to the school with someone taking care of you, means no clean up or prep for anyone.
- If you're looking for a more formal event, we can do that too, or you can always reserve a banquet room at a local hotel and have their staff cater. Hire a DJ and dance the night away!

Other things to think about:

It is wise to create a registration form to know how many people plan to attend and to collect registration money if you plan to charge for tickets. Open a separate bank account to collect the money. At the same time, asking each person to fill out a questionnaire might be a good way to get to know one another again. You may possibly use this information to create a reunion memory book or class directory. Please share this info with CCS so that we can keep in touch and be sure you don't miss out on anything!

For more ideas and help planning your class reunions, please contact Karen Dees, CCS Alumni Relations Liaison. 403-601-2171 or kdees@csce.net

Links to help:

http://www.ehow.com/how_5101054_plan-class-reunion-six-months.html

<http://www.reunionannouncements.com/articles/3/Planning-the-Perfect-Class-Reunion.php>