



**Calgary
Christian
School**

**Learn,
to shape God's world.**

Dear Friends,

As we lead into the Christmas and Advent season each year Philip and I are reminded of how blessed we are to belong to such a glorious family, our CCS family. We have been members of CCS for 9 years and in that time we have built connections that we know we will have for a lifetime and we are beyond grateful for those connections and support.

After nine years as a parent and volunteer, it warms my heart to know that our relationships, built on faith, trust and devotion, continue to grow.

I think it goes without saying that at CCS, we are a community of members that celebrate one another's successes, achievements and growth and we are also there when support is needed and we want to ease a burden. CCS is not a school or community where we just see one another in passing at pick up and drop off. We are involved in some of the most important aspects of each other's lives, creating bonds and beautiful friendships that will last a lifetime.

Because of the trust we've built within our community of caring parents, admin staff and teachers, I know when I leave my kids at CCS they are supported as individuals, respected for who they are, and grow in God's love.

While our children are educated with a focus on academics, they are also encouraged and supported to be God's servants. Being educated with Christian values is a choice we have all made and a privilege we do not take for granted.

The last few years have been difficult ones for us personally. As a family, we were stunned by health challenges we never expected to face. But despite everything my family was going through, I never felt more supported by our community at CCS. We will never be able to thank you all enough. My story is one and I know there are so many others, this is a testament to our beautiful community and the faith, hope and love that surrounds our families and our campus.





As part of this community, I am thrilled to be working on the expansion project at CCS. This project is an inspiring one for our community. This project is an opportunity for CCS to take dreams and turn them into reality. Now, as we look to the future, these dreams of an expansion are right in front of us. This is an exciting step for our CCS family, the opportunities it will open up for the school and its students are immeasurable. Increasing building capacity, allows us to continue building on the legacy that began almost 60 years ago-a legacy that I am so proud to be a part of.

The Faithfulness Campaign is about enriching each student's learning environment and opening up new opportunities for discovery, growth, and joy. It is designed to strengthen our ability to fulfill our mission in Christian education - both now and well into our future. It's one more way we make God's world a better place.

Calgary Christian School relies on the faithful and sacrificial giving of many to provide for capital improvements, program enhancements, and family financial assistance.

Together, as stewards of God's resources, these intentional acts of generosity help ensure that a CCS education remains financially accessible and of the highest quality.

My hope is that you will prayerfully consider joining us in generously supporting our Faithfulness Campaign, your gift this Christmas season will have a powerful impact on our community and mission of making Christian education available for decades to come.

As I wrote this letter, I turned to my favorite passage in the Bible - I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Jeremiah 29:11

As you connect and surround yourselves with the love of family and friendships this Christmas, I know that I am filled with hope for our CCS Family's future and that amazing grace will see us through.

Merry Christmas to you and God Bless you and your family with peace and joy for the Christmas season and the year to come.

Sandy, Philip, Ilianna, Noah and Ethaniel Vander Ziel

