



Palliser Regional Schools

Palliser Centre

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April 19, 2016

APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPAL TO CALGARY CHRISTIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

We are pleased to announce that Mike Thiesen has been appointed to the role of Principal, Calgary Christian Elementary School, commencing August 29, 2016.

Mike grew up in Winkler, Manitoba, and has been principal at South Oaks Elementary School, in Grunthal, Manitoba since 2001. Mike has a Bachelor of Arts in Biblical studies from Providence University College, a Master of Arts in Biblical Studies (Old Testament) from Providence Theological Seminary, a Bachelor of Education (Elementary) from University of Winnipeg, and a Bachelor of Arts (History) from University of Winnipeg.

His prior teaching experience includes teaching Hebrew at Providence Theological Seminary in 1990-91, High School English and History at Landmark Collegiate (part of Hanover School Division) from 1995-97, Grade One at South Oaks Elementary from 1997-2001, and Primary Physical Education at South Oaks from 1999-2001. Mike also taught third year Biblical Studies courses in the evenings – the Post-Exilic Period and Peoples of the Old Testament – at Providence University College in the Fall and Winter of 1999-2000.



Mike was married in 1988 to his wife Karen, who grew up in Coaldale, Alberta. She is an ELL & Literacy Support Teacher at Mitchell Elementary School, in Hanover School Division. They reached their 25th wedding anniversary in 2013, and celebrated it by achieving a dream of snorkelling at Grand Cayman Island in the Caribbean. They have two young adult sons, Taylor 24 and Adam 21.

Mike enjoys travelling and has backpacked around Europe. He spent a year working on a sheep farm in Victoria, Australia, and has been on a short term missions trip to India, where the team he was a part of visited churches in various parts of the country, but mostly in the state of Telangana.

Mike loves the vision statement of CCES, "God's Children Making the World a Better Place," and his educational priorities can be formulated as ABC's:

- That **A**ll students develop intellectually, socially, emotionally, artistically, and physically.
- To **B**uild capacity in all staff members.
- To partner with the CCES **C**ommunity for the benefit of both students and staff.

Mike is excited about working at CCES, and being a part of Palliser Regional Schools. He is absolutely thrilled with the diversity represented within the division, and delighted that community schools, Hutterian colony schools, faith-based alternative schools and Low German Mennonite alternative programs are all together under one roof. Congratulations Mike!

Ken Garinger, Associate Superintendent
(Human Resources)

*Together we will ensure learning success for all students
to develop their unique potential as caring citizens in a changing world.*