



Warrior Connection

February 2022

12629 S 92nd Ave E. Sully, IA 50251



Sully Christian School

@sullychristianschool

THE CASE FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Case for Christ, by Lee Strobel, is one of my favorite books. Strobel, a former atheist and legal journalist, investigated Jesus and Christianity, determined to shred both to pieces. However, after thoroughly investigating common atheist arguments, he determined these held no weight compared to the proof of Christianity. Now I'm no Lee Strobel, but I have something to defend - Christian education. As a mom of two school-age kids and a teacher at Sully Christian, I've been jotting notes and capturing precious snapshots in my head for many years. With Christian education not prioritized like it once was, I feel compelled to share my observations. I'll present some arguments against Christian education and debunk these arguments with "data" I've collected through the years.

Argument #1: A Christian school just adds a Bible class and occasional chapel. How I wish I could show you all the ways the Biblical perspective is woven through curriculum! But for now, I'll just tell you of an abstract art piece centered on John 3:16, a STEM boat lesson focused on Jesus walking on water, a science test centered on God as creator, a junior high social studies curriculum that ties in Biblical history, a reading curriculum that connects to scripture, kindergarten geography that incorporates prayer for different countries, a second-grade skeletal unit that focuses on being "fearfully and wonderfully made", and meaningful music programs that praise Jesus. I could easily fill a book full of examples!

Argument #2: Christian education shelters kids and doesn't allow them to share their faith. We can't expect kids to be apologists out in culture when they're six years old. Instead, we must give them a safe, encouraging space where they can develop their faith. And within this kind of space, I think kids are even more encouraged share their growing faith. I think of our eighth grader who loves on all our younger kids and writes them notes and gives them candy. She shows them Jesus daily. I remember my grandpa dying and my second graders immediately asking if they could pray for me. I think of one of our teachers who went through such a hard time and received a video full of Bible promises from our students. I think of student-led chapels and Prayer Partner activities where kids pray for one another. I'm so glad our students have many opportunities to share their faith!

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Mission Statement:

The mission of Sully Christian School is to provide Christ-centered academic excellence with the Word of God as our foundation.

THE CASE FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Argument #3: "But I've heard this about (insert school name). I'm not interested if this is what happened years ago." Our school is not perfect. We never have been, and we sure never will be. But I can confidently say that in the last few years, the Spirit has been deeply at work. I can't capture this feeling in words, but I'll try to give you a glimpse: We have a school board dependent on the Spirit and the power of prayer. We have teachers so wholeheartedly committed to raising disciples, there's no time for gossip or negativity. We have such a kind, loving society that will give of its time and money so kids can know Jesus more fully. And we have kids who, though far from perfect, are generally kind and humble. The Spirit is at work, and I'm so thankful. Please don't let past mistakes, stories or rumors keep you from giving our school (or Christian education) a try.

And let me end with just a final snapshot, a precious one that's been lingering in my mind for weeks. A few months ago, a grandma of two of my students passed away from cancer. Both girls cried as they told our class, but then my precious little first-grader whispered, "But you know what? This is also happy news because Grandma's in a better place." How they suffered, yet how hopeful they remained! And how thankful I am to be a part of a place that constantly points children to this eternal hope. Because in the end, nothing matters more than this.

by Jana Van Zante
Second Grade Core Teacher



Important Information

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights from February Meeting

- Voted to increase teacher salaries by 2.5 % for 22-23 school year.
- Voted to raise student tuition by \$300 for 22-23 school year.
- Working on potential board nominee candidates for next school year.

OPEN TEACHING POSITIONS

3rd/4th Grade Combined Classroom Teacher



Sully Christian School is seeking a full-time third/fourth grade combination teacher for the 2022-2023 school year. We are looking for candidates that are ready to teach students about God through the curriculum and every day interactions. To help their students develop a Biblical worldview as they learn and grow through the subjects. Since this is a combination classroom, we teach our Social Studies, Science, and Bible on a 2- year looping program. Our core subjects are taught to individual grades. For more details contact **Candice Vos**, board representative, at clvos6@icloud.com or apply on our website, employment.

ACCREDITATION UPDATE

Current Accreditation Tasks:

- School Profile submitted on January 31st
- Site visit team has been chosen and approved by CSI. This team is made up of Christian Educators, who will spend three days visiting/evaluating our school in September.
- Compiling strand documentation.
- All Strand documentation is due in April

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 11

2:00 dismissal
End of 3rd Quarter

March 14 - 18

Spring Break - No School

March 25

Kindergarten Round Up (AM)
2:00 dismissal
Teacher In-Service

March 31

2:00 dismissal
Parent-Teacher Conferences

April 1

No School

April 7

Grandparents Day

April 14

Spring Program

April 15

No School - Good Friday

Know someone

interested in SCS?

Have them contact the school office for a tour and more information!

MUSIC WITH MRS. ANSLEY

Music is a beautiful gift from God, and I truly enjoy sharing it and teaching it to the children of Sully Christian School! Here is a little look into our classroom that meets together twice a week!

Kindergarten- In this class, the focus is singing! We learn many "Sunday School" songs like Jesus Loves Me with some sign language and learn to sing the chorus in Spanish and Creole. We talk about the different voices we use (high, low, whisper, talking, silly voices...) and how we can use that high voice when we sing. This is an easy concept for some and very difficult for others. We talk about timbre and how God has blessed each of us with a unique voice all our own. We also learn basic rhythms using clapping and rhythm sticks. They also enjoy learning songs for our concerts where they get to sing with the big kids!

First & Second Grade- In this class we still do lots of singing! We always start class with our stretches and vocal warm ups, then sing a few fun Bible songs. Each week they enjoy listening to a different song and moving around the room with our colorful scarves to show how the music is "moving". We have worked on reading rhythms, reading some simple music with solfege, and figuring out time signatures in songs just by listening to them. They even got to use some candy hearts to point at to find the "heart beat" of the song. This class works hard on learning all their concert songs too for the Christmas concert and the Spring Concert we are looking forward to sharing with you in April. This class really enjoys learning songs that have fun games to go with them too.



Third & Fourth Grade- This class focuses more on learning to read the music they are learning for concerts. They started to learn to play the hand chimes for the Christmas concert and will play some more later this semester. This class looks forward to learning to play the recorders in the second semester! They love this unit and have been working hard at reading the music and learning the fingerings. This class still enjoys playing musical games after they have learned to read the music. They focus on reading music in this order 1. Rhythm, 2. Solfege, 3. Lyrics, 4. Game. Step number 4 is always their favorite part. In preparation for junior high music, where they will sing in different parts, we focus on singing different songs in a round. This helps build up their confidence in singing their own part in a smaller group.

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MUSIC WITH MRS. ANSLEY

Junior High Music- This class is more of a performance-based group. We start our first quarter by preparing for our big Fall Festival concert with the other District V schools. Students work hard on learning their soprano, alto, or tenor parts and have to learn and memorize five songs. Then we have the month of November to get ready for our Christmas concert and hopefully learn the songs, script, and a hand chimes song. Then they get to enjoy a rewarding week in music to celebrate a job (hopefully) well done on two big concerts. The second semester brings another concert type; we split into small groups to prepare a memorized song for Fine Arts. This year we have also enjoyed preparing for Sousa's March Mania put on by the Marine Corps Band. The students will have listened to 32 marches played by the Marines, and then in the month of March, we will be voting daily on which train we want to win. If you wish to participate, too, just visit the Marine Corps Band website! After Fine Arts, we will be working on preparing a Patch the Pirate adventure for our Spring Concert. We hope you will come join us in April!



Fifth Grade Band- This class focuses on reading their music and playing their instrument with good technique. They only perform twice, the Christmas Concert and the Spring Concert. They focus on playing individually and with a group.



Sixth through Eighth Grade Band- This group now participates in the large mass band at Fall Festival, which is so fun to hear all those instruments together! They also perform at our Christmas concert and Spring Concert. Since our group is small, everyone has to work hard to learn their parts. No one gets to "hide" in a section. We also get the opportunity to participate in a combined Tulip Time marching band and band trip! It is hard work but so much fun too. Look for the large band with the red wooden shoes at Tulip Time!

Music is everywhere in our lives and I pray that I can help all my students to know more about music so that their joy might be greater as they experience it and participate in it the rest of their lives!

Soli Deo Gloria,

Mrs. Carolyn Ansley

"Music is an agreeable harmony for the honor of God and the permissible delights of the soul."

~ Johann Sebastian Bach

TRIP SCHEDULE

The TRIP ordering schedule will remain every other week unless notified differently. The schedule for the next few months is:

- March 7
- March 21
- April 4
- April 18

If you have any questions regarding signing up or the schedule, please contact Candy Van Zante at cvzante@netins.net or 641-891-5975.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Would you like to volunteer in the Kitchen occasionally? Mrs. Sheila would love your help!

Volunteer Hours: 11am - 1pm

Contact Sheila Pleima

email: sjpleima@gmail.com | call: 515-720-1458

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Prayers of safety for all our bus drivers & staff. We ask Lord that you cover the drivers and students in protection as they travel to and from school.
- We praise God for continued financial support and the blessing of provision. Thank you to our donors for your compassion and generosity. We thank God for the great turnout at and time of fellowship had at Food and Fun Night.
- Continued prayers for the upcoming board meeting as they begin to discuss the next school year and continue visioning for the future of Sully Christian. May they continue to follow the Lord's guidance and lead the school well.
- Prayers for seeking a new administrator. Lord, bring to our door a person who will fit the vision you have for SCS. May the Board undoubtedly know whom you have chosen for the Admin position.
- Prayers as we seek a 3rd/4th-grade teacher. We trust and lean on you, Lord, that you will continue to provide and bless these students with the best mentor, teacher, and friend.
- Continued prayers for our SIT Team and Teachers as we work through the accreditation process.

FUN STUFF

IN FEBRUARY



Junior High Students

Fine Arts Night

at Sully Christian



7TH & 8TH GRADES ROOTIN' TOOTIN' FUN SCIENCE EXPERIMENT

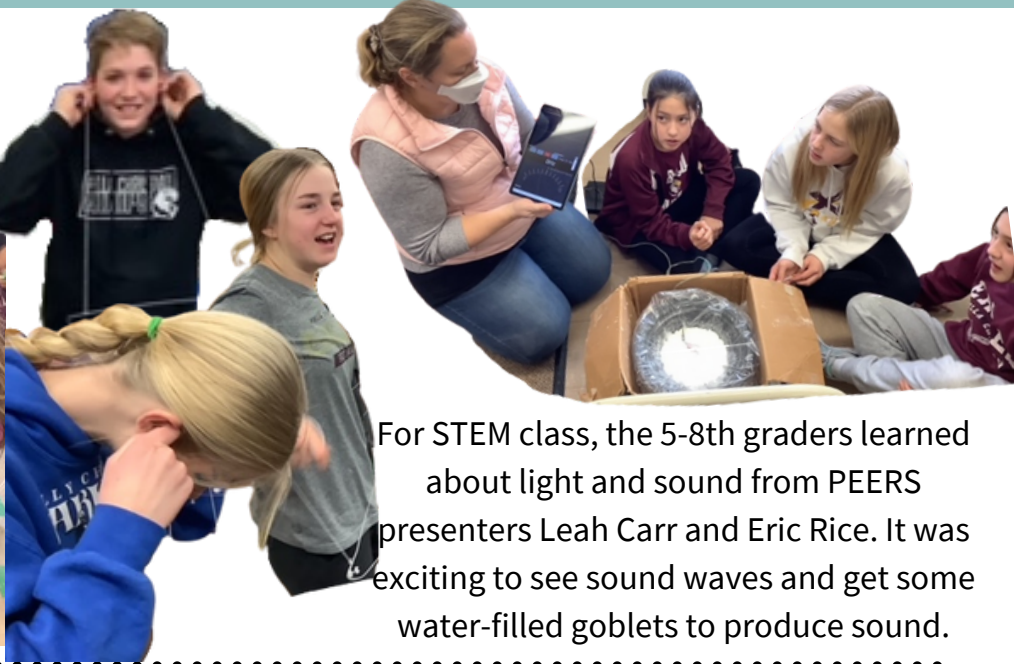
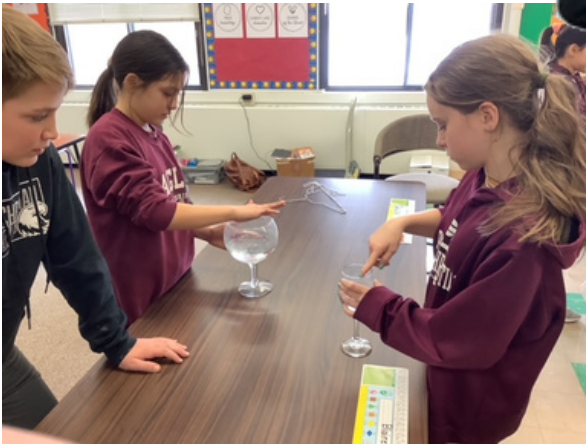


Students each made a liter of root beer from scratch using: water, sugar, root beer extract, and yeast.

FUN STUFF

IN FEBRUARY

S.T.E.M.



For STEM class, the 5-8th graders learned about light and sound from PEERS presenters Leah Carr and Eric Rice. It was exciting to see sound waves and get some water-filled goblets to produce sound.

Prayer partner service project

The kids spent a day packaging up 40 valentine treat bags and writing cards. They then set out to walk around town passing out valentines to people and businesses around Sully.



ATTENTION, ATTENTION, READ ALL ABOUT IT!

COMING YOUR WAY

Sully Christian School Book Fair

WHEN: THURSDAY, MARCH 31: 4:30-8:00 PM

Books will be on display and available for purchase in the Library and Science room at Sully Christian School.



USBORNE



DON'T WANT TO WAIT

SHOP ONLINE NOW!

Online ordering is available now through Monday, April 4, 2022.

Be sure to select " Sully Christian School." as the host while shopping.

Scan the QR code with your phone to jump right to our page or visit: <https://d6532.myubam.com/2336275>

**Orders help benefit
the SCS Library**

Contact: Jenessa Kaisand, Education Services Rep.

Phone: 641-891-0802

Email: jenessaleigh@gmail.com

