

## *Guido de Brès Highlights, May 2018*

**Welcome** to another edition of the *Guido Highlights*. Life at the high school is busy and full and the Lord has blessed us richly once again. His faithfulness towards also this part of His Kingdom never seems to amaze all those involved in the running of the school.

### ***Grandparents/Founder's Day***

Last month our annual Open House for Founders & Grandparents was held and once again it was a rousing success. We had so many interested visitors that we had to scramble to put up more tables and chairs. Thanks to all who showed their interest in and enthusiasm for our school—it's so encouraging! Photos are up on our Facebook page and our website—check them out! You might even catch a glimpse of yourself, Oma!

### ***Living Waters***

*Arts Alive 2018* was also held last month and again a good crowd came out. The variety of gifts that the Lord has poured out on the staff and students were certainly on display and all glory was given to the Source of Life, the One who gives Living Waters, Jesus Christ. Thanks to all who participated and made this event possible, especially staff members Ms. VanEerden, Mrs. Morris, Miss. Tenhage, Mr. Tomlin, and Mr. Kingma.

### ***Membership Meeting Update***

On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Guido School Society gathered to hear about Guido's future. Thanks to all who faithfully attend these meetings, showing their interest and support. Board chair Dave Kampen ably walked us through the agenda (even though he could have been at home eating birthday cake!☺). Various committee reports revealed that a lot goes on behind the scenes

to help the school operate smoothly and responsibly. Where would we be without these tireless volunteers?? Thanks to Mike Tel, Tyler Vanderwoude, and Harold Kelly for their reports about what the Education, Promotion, and Maintenance Committees have been busy with.

### ***Guido is Growing!***

The Expansion Committee led by Adrian Bartels also reported and presented a clear picture of the growth in numbers the Lord is giving. By 2023 our current building is expected to exceed capacity! A number of options were presented to address these concerns. A lot of the information and details can be found in the membership package that was made available on the school website. Contact your local board rep if you need help retrieving this document.

### ***Financial Stress***

Andrew Chong and school treasurer Garrett VanIperen carefully walked us through the current fiscal situation and projections for the near and distant future. The reality is that the Guido family is expected to grow by quite a bit in the next five years and this will have consequences. In the short term, the growth is not represented by more tuition paying families. Therefore, for the next two years the budget is reflecting a deficit of approximately \$40,000 per year. The Finance Committee is requesting that a *Deficit Reduction Drive* for \$85,000 be launched across the 17 locals. This decision was taken in order to protect our current tuition payers from a significant tuition increase that would be burdensome for them, especially for those already currently struggling to keep up. When your local board calls or

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reaches out to you in some way to help the 'Guido Deficit Reduction Drive', please give generously. Our donors make all the difference for our parents.

### ***Guido's Teachers have a W.I.G.***

Mr. Ronn VanAndel, on behalf of current principal Mr. Tomlin (who was out of province), gave the Principal's address. Mr. VanAndel told his audience that this year the teachers at Guido had a WIG! No, not the kind you put on your head but a W.I.G. – a *Wildly Important Goal*. Last August the staff committed to this goal of "increasing the showcasing of student work within our churches and/or our local community". The overarching idea is that the students would reach outside of their classroom walls to not only "make their education relevant in a larger setting, but also to let others know who and what they are". This effort has been a success as students engage in ongoing SLT activities, Guido Community Action events; as they host events like Reformation 500 and Arts Alive 2018; and also drive Project Based Learning initiatives like the recent fundraiser to provide better drinking water for those in poorer parts of the world. The staff at Guido like to think that their WIG continues to resonate with all, including you, dear reader – as they continue to motivate our students and each other to a life of service in God's Kingdom.

### ***Where Would we be Without Teachers?***

Mr. VanAndel's presentation only highlighted how thankful we can be for godly men and women who teach our children at Guido every day. Where would we be without them? Appropriately, board member Mike Tel took some time to hand out gifts from the Board to

those teachers who had reached milestones in their careers, particularly thanking retiring teachers Warren Hoeksema, Tina Morris, Tom Zietsma, and Jake Ruggi. We certainly hope they will not become strangers in the halls of Guido even though they are moving on to this new stage of life.

### ***Accounting Isn't Boring!***

The final presentation of the evening was given by enthusiastic teacher Alida Spanninga. She introduced us to the newest course in the Guido Business Department: Accounting. Despite the commonly held perception that accounting is boring and not very relevant for the average person, Mrs. Spanninga gave an engaging presentation about how this course is quite relevant for *personal* financial literacy as well for the budding entrepreneurs in our school. Currently this new accounting course is only being offered every other year but already Mrs. Spanninga is advocating for it to be offered annually. Thanks for your leadership and enthusiasm, Mrs. Spanninga!

### ***Guido Alumni Association – signed up yet?***

If you haven't already done so, drop by our website to sign up. Plans are ongoing to make this group a vital part of the Guido family. Stay tuned for an e-newsletter coming to your inbox soon! It is our goal to keep you informed about what takes place in the halls & within the walls of Guido as well as what you can look forward to in the future.

### ***Commencement 2018***

One last word: don't forget the upcoming graduation ceremony on Tuesday, June 26! See our grads off at the McIntyre Performing Arts Center at Mohawk College @7pm. To God be all the glory!

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