

Guido de Brès Highlights, October, 2016

And We're Back!

Down on Crerar Drive in Hamilton, we are back in the swing of things! A month has already passed at Guido de Brès Christian High School and *Early Progress Reports* for the 93 Grade Nine Students are just around the corner. Time flies!

New staff members Mr. Justin Versteeg and Miss Rebecca Wolsley are making themselves at home as they get to know their fellow staff members and their students. The new chairman of the board, Mr. Dave Kampen, is already becoming a more familiar face. Thanks again to outgoing chairman Mr. John VanderHoeven! Dedicated volunteers, professional staff and bright, eager students: it all adds up to a great start under God's blessing and by His grace.

Heartfelt Obedience and Service

At both the opening assembly and the recent Commencement ceremonies of the Class of 2016, Mr. Kampen stressed the need to serve God and neighbour from the heart. Head knowledge is just not enough. Our principal, Mr. Vanoostveen, also encouraged the students to build one another up in doing good and to allow the blessings the Lord has showered upon them to really soak in and make a difference in their everyday lives. The call to serve God and neighbour with a thankful, heartfelt love, relying on the mutual support of one another is a great way to begin the academic year at Guido. *Soli Deo Gloria!*

Staying Connected

In an effort to increase the communication between home and school, the administration team has launched a new monthly newsletter to the parents on email. The ***Guido Gab*** comes out the last Friday of each month and with it they hope to keep you

informed and connected about what is going on at our high school and also noteworthy upcoming events. Occasionally you might also receive an *Office Memo* as well, filling in some more time-sensitive details you might need to know before month's end. If you are not a parent but are interested in receiving the ***Guido Gab*** in your inbox, please email promotion@guidodebres.org and ask to be added to the email group. We'll make it happen!

On a related note, this was the first year we were able to livestream the Commencement for those who were unable to attend. We hope many make use of this service and so stay connected. You can still view the ceremony on our website or FB group.

Fall Membership Meeting

Don't forget to come on out to the *Fall Membership Meeting* next month on Thursday, November 3rd. We start at 8:00 p.m. and would love to see you!

Parent and Teachers Together

Not too long from now you will receive your son's/daughter's *Request for Interview* sheet. *Don't throw it in the recycling!* Even if your Johnny or Susie is doing well, you should attend interviews. Why? Did you know that our teachers love meeting the parents of their students? Especially if they have never met you personally, this short interview can become a valuable connection to the home of their student, giving them a better sense of who that student is and what he might need. Did you know that by attending you will have a chance to meet the principal as well as many other supporting parents who have children attending Guido? It's a great way to put a name to a face, get a sense of

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what your child's day is like and just show you care! So come on out and meet the teachers and make that important connection between home and school more meaningful.

A Regional School

As members of a committee whose job it is to promote Guido de Brès, we often find ourselves chatting with folks who return our references to terms like 'regional board' or 'local reps' with blank stares or confused looks. After 40 years, it occurs to us that maybe it is time to explain again how Guido is supported and governed.

Did you know that Guido is supported by 17 local congregations, each one sending a representative (director) to sit on a regional board which meets at Guido the last Thursday of every month? People from Dunnville all the way to Toronto volunteer their time to help the high school run. That **regional board** of 17 also sets up various committees such as Education Committee, Compensation Committee, Building Committee etc. to help run the school. Each of the 17 regional directors is responsible to serve on one of these other committees in addition to his/her work at the monthly board meetings. Others members from out of the various congregations are approached and appointed to also serve on these additional committees. The director reports back to the Regional Board once a month to let the main body know what is going on at the committee level.

Local boards

In addition to that work, the director also serves on a **local board** for Guido in his home congregation. Every 6 to 8 weeks your congregation has a local Guido Board meeting where the regional rep meets with a local treasurer, a transportation rep, as well

as a promotion rep. Often there is a recording secretary as well. These five people make sure that Guido's interests and important relevant information are being communicated in the local congregation, that tuition and donations are being collected, that bussing is provided for the local students in the congregation who attend etc. We call this group, 'a Guido local'.

Do you have questions about Guido? Talk to your local rep. If he doesn't know, he'll find out! Your local rep can be your doorway into the halls of Guido de Brès and would love to help you!

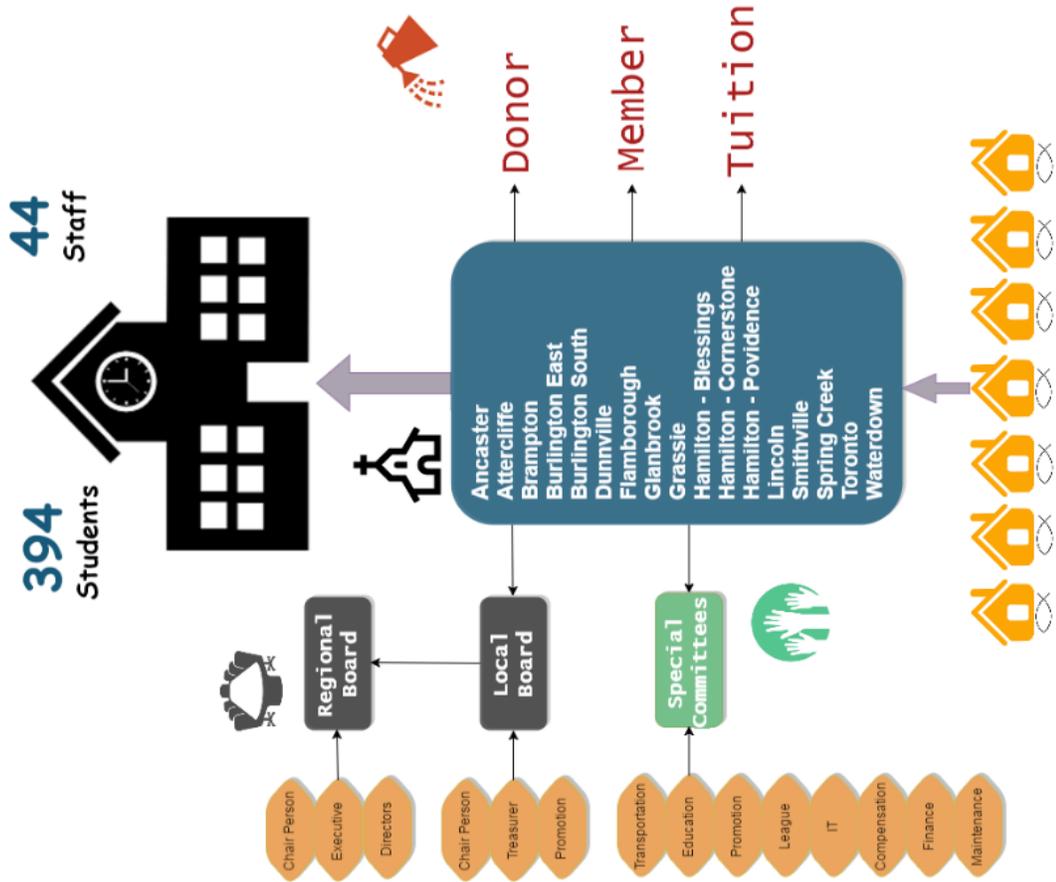
Do you even know who your Guido representative is? To find this information out, go to guidodebres.org to find the name of your local rep. Select the tab, 'Community' and look for 'Board of Directors'. It is that simple!

From Home to School

To help further simplify things, take a look at the attached diagram to help you understand how Guido is governed (it is also available to view in colour on the Guido website and FB group). From home to school, everyone plays a part. And then by His grace, God's covenant children are trained up in the way that they should go, serving God and loving their neighbour with all of their heart, soul and mind! Find out who your local rep is if you don't already know and shake that person's hand. They are working hard for you and your children. And when the time comes for volunteers for service on regional or local boards or on Guido committees, please prayerfully consider helping out. It's a big school, it's a great responsibility, it's an expensive undertaking, but it's the best investment of time and money all of us will ever make. *Happy Thanksgiving!*

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Guido de Brès Christian High School
At a Glance



Guido de Brès Christian High School - By the numbers

4,000,000 - Budget	6 - IT Committee
394 - Students	7 - Compensation Committee
43 - Staff	19 - Finance Committee
17 - Supporting Churches	6 - Maintenance Committee
70 (approx.) - Church local volunteers	11 - Transportation Committee
17 - Regional Directors	1 - League Committee
5 - Executive Committee	6 - Promotion Committee
7 - Education Committee	

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