

# The SPECTRUM

THE CALGARY SCIENCE SCHOOL



## Principal's Message

The 2013-2014 school year has started with a flourish. As difficult as it was for some students to pry themselves out of summer vacation mode, everyone has settled in very nicely to another school year.

With the start of a new school year I want to talk about communicating with teachers. I understand that it can sometimes be difficult to know when to bring issues to your child's teacher and how to do that. Some parents I talk to tell me that they are reluctant to take up the teachers' time with what may be interpreted as a minor issue. I want to reassure all CSS parents that our teachers do not see such interactions with parents as a distraction or a nuisance. In many cases, without parents sharing information with teachers, the teachers would not know of a potential issue. The important message here is that if parents feel as though they may need to talk with a teacher, please feel free to do so – our teachers appreciate connecting with parents whenever possible.

As far as how to connect with the teachers, email is often the most expeditious means of getting in touch. Please don't hesitate to send a quick email to ask about homework, if your child has completed and handed in a particular assignment, to ask about how you can help your student keep on track, or other such issues. If the issue is more delicate, please make an appointment to meet. Again, our teachers recognize the importance of meeting with parents to discuss more

significant questions or concerns. My other suggestion in this regard is to not wait before connecting with a teacher. It is far easier to address an issue if it is dealt with early. Similarly, if you would like to contact any of the three members of our administration team, please do not hesitate to do so. Again, email is a great way to connect with us, but we welcome you dropping by for a meeting as well. Basically, when in doubt, talk it out.

Lastly in this Principal's Message, I encourage you to attend the School Council meetings this year, as it is a great way to connect with other CSS parents and to find out more details about what's going on in the school. The first one this year is on Tuesday, September 10. At each council meeting I do a *Dialogue with Darrell*, where I invite questions from parents and do my best to answer them right there. I also use this time to solicit feedback from parents on particular issues; in the past I have asked parents about their preferred method of communication with teachers, or about what criteria parents would see as most significant when selecting volunteers for overnight trips. Our School Council does a fantastic job of supporting the school and our programming and so, if you are looking for a way to be involved, come out to the meeting on September 10 at 7pm in our library.

Here's to another great year at CSS.

**Darrell Lonsberry**

# TRAFFIC SAFETY

— AROUND CSS



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## Drop Off/Pick Up Zone

The only authorized drop off and pick up zone for students in private vehicles is on the east (school) side of 34th St., south of the crosswalk at 58th Ave.

**\*\* Please do not stop or park in the crosswalk, the bus drop off zones, or in the lane at the rear of the school.\*\***

## U-Turns



Refrain from making U-turns in the intersection of 34th St. and 58th Ave. This action has resulted in many 'near misses' and the few seconds that may be saved by executing a U-turn are not worth the potential risk to student safety.



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## Driving In The Bus Zone



Be extra vigilant (and extra slow) when driving along Lewis Dr. in front of the school. **The roadway is narrow and visibility is very restricted when buses are parked;** there have been reports of students experiencing close calls as they are trying to cross the street at Lewis Dr. and 34th St.

## Respecting Our Neighbors



Please avoid parking or stopping in front of residential driveways; we enjoy cordial relations with our Lakeview neighbours but they do not appreciate having their driveway access impeded.

If you observe any unsafe operation of a vehicle around the school, please record the license number and report it to the office. The cooperation of all driving parents in ensuring the safety of our students is greatly appreciated.

*Phil Butterfield*  
Assistant Principal  
[phil.b@calgaryscienceschool.com](mailto:phil.b@calgaryscienceschool.com)

# SEPTEMBER 2013 — IN THIS ISSUE

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Cover Photo: Grade 4 students on their first day at CSS

# TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

Welcome to another exciting year at CSS! The Transportation Committee is a group of volunteer parents who help with the busing needs of our school. There are 11 buses in total and each parent volunteer oversees a specific route. We would like to welcome our newest volunteers Shauna Ernst and Jackie Davies. Additionally, we would like to thank Eeva Harrop for her wonderful input and past commitment to Route 1. Currently we require a parent volunteer for Route 8. We provide training and a 'transportation buddy' to teach you the ropes. Contact us today and join our transportation team!

#### Please meet our volunteers:

- Route 1 – Shauna Ernst
- Route 2 – Maggie Palka
- Route 3 – Colleen Poirier
- Route 4 – Glenda Shufelt
- Route 5 – Dawn Dixon
- Route 6 - Jackie Davies
- Route 7 – Robert Rahn
- Route 8 – **Vacant (Volunteer Required)**
- Route 9 – Yana Kuzmin
- Route 10 – Denise Neff
- Route 11 – Jodi Henderson & Annie Abraham
- Transportation Analyst – Margaret Mills

If you would like to volunteer or have any busing questions/concerns contact us by email at [transportationatcss@gmail.com](mailto:transportationatcss@gmail.com). Please remember to include the route number in the subject line so your email gets forwarded to the correct volunteer route coordinator. Additionally, you can contact us by accessing our "Online Request Form". Just login to the Family Zone on the home page of the CSS website (<http://www.calgaryscienceschool.com>) and on the right-hand side click "Contact Transportation" to access the form.

#### Don't Forget to Sign Up!



**How do I receive bus notifications if my child's bus is running late?** If you want to be notified via cell phone or email you MUST sign up for this service. Go to the CSS webpage, click on LOGIN (right hand corner), then pick FAMILY Log in. Once you have entered your user name and password, select Bus Subscriptions. Then just follow the instructions under: "Sign up to receive Bus Delay Text Messages". Remember you have to sign up again every new school year!

#### New Routes



Please note if you want to request any changes to the bus route your child uses, parents can send in requests until **September 18th**. Please send an email to: [transportationatcss@gmail.com](mailto:transportationatcss@gmail.com) and in the subject line please reference which route number you are discussing (ie R2 Stop Request Change). Additionally, you can also use the "Online Contact Transportation Form" as previously mentioned to submit your request.

The Transportation Committee will take all requests into consideration in accordance with the CSS Transportation Handbook (see <http://www.calgaryscienceschool.com/transportation>) and will meet by mid October to review all requests. We vote on each request as a group using the guidelines set out in the handbook which include factors such as safety, walking distance from stop, additional route time, etc. Requests are then given to Southland Transportation for final approval. Parents will be notified thereafter and new route sheets distributed.

Note: Transportation Handbooks were distributed on the buses last Friday so parents should have received a copy. If you still require a copy please email Kathy in the office at: [kathy.b@calgaryscienceschool.com](mailto:kathy.b@calgaryscienceschool.com).

#### Occasional Bus Trips

CSS policy allows occasional rides for students on buses that have space. Registered riders have to inform the office or the transportation committee in advance to use another route. Occasional rides may also be available for students who haven't registered for bus service and who experience an infrequent or unexpected change to their usual routine. Families are limited to 20 of these trips each school year since the service is not meant to replace full time registration. Contact the office as early as possible to make arrangements, as space is limited on many routes. The fee for non-riders is \$7.00 per day and applies whether the bus is used both morning and afternoon or just once.

Currently CSS has been assigned eleven full size buses due to a Southland mistake made this summer. Some routes may be re-assigned smaller buses later in the year but nothing is certain yet. CSS will only be invoiced for the size of bus that the passenger load requires independent of the bus size sent by Southland.

This will leave some buses with seats that can't be assigned, as CSS is not paying for them. Some requests for occasional trips may be denied for this reason. The transportation system is not in a position to cover any extra cost that would

be incurred by using these empty seats. This is an unfortunate situation and we hope everyone understands why some seats can't be used.

#### Questions

**How do I receive bus notifications if my child's bus is running late?**

- If you want to be notified via cell phone or email you MUST sign up for this service.

**What if my child is sick/absent and won't be taking the bus?**

- If your child will be absent from school please notify the school office. There is no need to notify the bus driver as the bus will pull away from the stop at the designated time according to schedule.

**Can my child occasionally ride a different bus home?**

- Usually the answer is 'yes' but it depends if there is enough space on the bus to allow it. You have to contact the CSS office directly to make arrangements.

*Sincerely,*

*CSS Transportation Committee*

# VOLUNTEER NEWS

We are pleased to announce that the "Welcome Back Coffee" proved to be another success this year. A big thank you to all the organizers and volunteers that made it happen. Our volunteer sign up sheets were full by the end of the morning! We are very grateful to all of you who signed up. It was nice to meet so many new parents as well, and we are grateful for your interest in becoming involved in CSS through volunteering! We look forward to working with you all very soon!

A date has been finalized for the First Aid course. The course will take place on September 28th. Information regarding registration for this course will be sent out via email soon. This is a great opportunity for parents to feel more prepared for off-campus field trips.

The Volunteer Committee is looking forward to another great year full of volunteering opportunities at CSS!

*Parent Volunteer Committee*



# 2013/2014

## CSS STAFF

# 2013/2014

## CSS STAFF



**Garry McKinnon**  
Superintendent

**Darrell Lonsberry**  
Principal

**Phil Butterfield**  
Assistant Principal

**Scott Petronech**  
Assistant Principal -  
Edu. Technologist

**Dan McWilliam**  
PD/Outreach Coordinator

**Abby Saadeh**  
Inclusive Practices  
Coach

**Jessica James**  
Educational Assistant

**Myra Penberthy**  
Secretary Treasurer

**Krista Brenner**  
Accounting Specialist

**Donna Johson-Alden**  
Teacher-Librarian  
8.1/8.2 Humanities



**Marla Paxton**  
4.1/4.2 Math/Science

**Jessica Kelly**  
4.1/4.2 Humanities

**Heather Melville**  
4.3/4.4 Math/Science

**Heather Fawcett**  
4.3/4.4 Humanities

**Amy Verclayen**  
Drama/Dance

**Greg Neil**  
7.1/7.2 Math/Science

**Chris Dittmann**  
7.1/7.2 Humanities

**Tanya Stogre**  
7.1/7.2 Humanities

**John Cadman**  
7.3/7.4 Humanities

**Jody Pereverzoff**  
7.3/7.4 Humanities



**Jocelyn Monteith**  
5.1/5.2 Math/Science

**Margaret Leland**  
5.1/5.2 Humanities

**Valerie Barnes**  
5.3/5.4 Math/Science

**Mike Neufeld**  
5.3/5.4 Humanities

**Lorrie Emin**  
Art

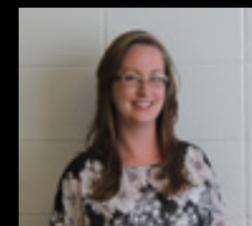
**Kevin Sonico**  
8.1/8.2 Math/Science

**Shashi Shergill**  
8.1/8.2 Humanities

**Garret Kutcher**  
8.3/8.4 Math/Science

**Jason Publack**  
8.3/8.4 Humanities

**Deirdre Bailey**  
Physical Education



**Carolyn Armstrong**  
6.1/6.2 Math/Science

**Rick Fawcett**  
6.1/6.2 Humanities

**Erin Couillard**  
6.3/6.4 Math/Science

**Jared McKenzie**  
6.3/6.4 Humanities

**Andrew Bolen**  
Music

**Patrick Tam**  
9.1/9.2 Math/Science

**Ivy Waite**  
9.1/9.2 Humanities

**Louis Cheng**  
9.3/9.4 Math/Science

**Jaime Groeller**  
9.3/9.4 Humanities

**Dean Schmeichel**  
Physical Education



**Nola Shewfelt**  
Administrative  
Secretary



**Kathy Babiuk**  
Receptionist



**Susan Miller**  
Office Assistant



**Michelle Hodgson**  
Library Assistant



**Jon van der Radt**  
Technology Specialist



**Felipe Calasin**  
Facility Operator



**Mingdi Fu**  
Caretaker



**Mirtala Campos**  
Cleaner



**Dila Galvis**  
Cleaner



**Oscar Lopez**  
Cleaner

# Welcoming Our New CSS Staff!

## **MS. JOCELYN MONTEITH** • 5.1/5.2 MATH/SCIENCE

Jocelyn Monteith graduated from the Master of Teaching Program at the University of Calgary in 2005. She accepted her first teaching position at the Calgary Girls' School, where she spent eight years receiving extensive experience working as both a generalist and math-science specialist in grades 5, 6, 7 and 9. In 2011, Jocelyn spent her summer volunteering for Tianjio International, delivering English through the Arts to school-aged children in Xiamen, China. In addition to Jocelyn's diverse teaching experience, she has served in a number of leadership roles. Most recently, she assumed the part time collaborative position of AISI (Alberta Initiative for School Improvement) Coordinator, establishing whole-school improvement in the areas of inquiry-based teaching and intellectual engagement.

Thrilled to be joining the teaching staff of the Calgary Science School, Jocelyn is committed to promoting creativity, curiosity, critical thinking and independence in her students. Remaining true to research-driven best practices in education, she is committed to inquiry-based learning to inform her teaching. Her good sense of humour creates a climate of mutual respect with her students. Developing strong relationships with her students is pivotal, particularly being able to relate to them and see the world through their eyes.



## **MS. JESSICA JAMES** STUDENT SUCCESS SPECIALIST

Jessica joins CSS as our very first education assistant/student success specialist. She previously taught at Guy Weadick Elementary School in Temple. A native of Toronto, Jessica has lived in Calgary for almost 20 years. Jessica holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Classics. As well, she is currently in the process of completing her Masters of Arts degree, also in Classics. Jessica's role at CSS is to support teachers in developing specific learning strategies for individual students and to assist students and teachers in working these strategies in the classroom. Outside of her work and studies, Jessica enjoys reading and travel.



## **MS. KELLY NESBITT** • MUSIC STUDENT-TEACHER

Ms. Nesbitt is the music student-teacher working with Mr. Bolen. She is currently in her fifth year and final semester of her combined B. Mus/B. Ed degree from the University of Lethbridge. Ms. Nesbitt has a passion for singing and traveled to Ireland to perform with the University of Lethbridge Singers in the International Cork Choir Festival last April. She is excited to teach at CSS for her last teaching practicum and looks forward to learning as much as she can from the other staff members and students. When she is not at school she likes playing the ukulele, going to yoga, and playing soccer.



# SEPTEMBER 2013

1	2 LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY SCHOOL CLOSED	3 PD/PLANNING DAY NO CLASSES	4 DAY 1 CAMP SWEET 6.1/6.2 DEPART	5 DAY 2	6 DAY 3 6.1/6.2 RETURN TERRY FOX RUN KICK-OFF ASSEMBLY	7
8	9 DAY 4 CAMP SWEET 6.3/6.4 DEPART	10 DAY 5 PARENT LAPTOP ORIENTATION FOR NEW CSS PARENTS 6:00 - 7:00 PM SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING 7:00 PM 9.1/9.3 P.E. ROWING/CYCLING TRIP	11 DAY 6 6.3/6.4 RETURN CAMP SWEET 4.1/4.2 DEPART 9.2/9.4 P.E. ROWING/CYCLING TRIP	12 DAY 1	13 DAY 2 4.1/4.2 RETURN	14
15	16 DAY 3 TERRY FOX RUN AT NORTH GLENMORE PARK GRADES 4-6 AM GRADES 7-9 PM	17 DAY 4 CAMP SWEET 4.3/4.4 DEPART BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 5:00-8:00 PM	18 DAY 5	19 DAY 6 4.3/4.4 RETURN	20 PD/PLANNING DAY NO CLASSES	21
22	23 DAY 1 CAMP SWEET 8.1/8/2 DEPART	24 DAY 2	25 DAY 3 8.1/8/2 RETURN	26 DAY 4	27 DAY 5 GRADE 9 BAMFIELD TRIP RETURN 8.3/8.4 RETURN	28
29	30 DAY 6	1 DAY 1 INTERNET SAFETY INFO SESSION 7:00 PM CSS LIBRARY	2 DAY 2 CAMP SWEET 8.3/8.4 DEPART	3 DAY 3	4 PD/PLANNING DAY NO CLASSES	5

# OCTOBER 2013

29	30 DAY 6	1 DAY 1	2 DAY 2 "H204U" FREE THE CHILDREN PRESENTATION	3 DAY 3 8.1/8.3 P.E. FIELD DAY CAMP HORIZON	4 DAY 4 8.2/8.34 P.E. FIELD DAY CAMP HORIZON	5
6	7 DAY 5 7.1/7.3 P.E. KAYAKING/CYCLING TRIP	8 DAY 6 7.2/7.4 P.E. KAYAKING/CYCLING TRIP	9 DAY 1	10 DAY 2	11 PD PLANNING DAY NO CLASSES	12
13	14 THANKSGIVING DAY	15	16 FALL BREAK	17	18	19
20	21 DAY 3	22 DAY 4	23 DAY 5	24 DAY 6	25 PD PLANNING DAY NO CLASSES	26
27	28 DAY 1	29 DAY 2	30 DAY 3	31 DAY 4	1 DAY 5	2