

# Reveal

Jenison Christian School Education Foundation Newsletter

## Remembering Myrna Van Beek *A Legacy of Faith*

Myrna Van Beek retired from Jenison Christian School in 2005, after 41 of her 50 years in teaching. She passed away in 2016, so why would we write about her posthumously?

Myrna taught in our 6th grade classrooms, middle school math, and later in our computer technology lab. She developed a curriculum for students to use that she designed and built, which far exceeded other computer curriculums available at that time to prepare students for the future. She was single all her life, as was her sister, Lois. They both dedicated their lives, time, and money, to teaching in Christian education, and believed wholeheartedly that children should know Christ just as much as their ABC's and 123's.



Myrna Van Beek

After Myrna's passing, Lois made yearly visits from her home in Florida to JCS, and she donated a tree and bench on our playground memorialized in honor of her sister. Every August, Lois would visit JCS to see the school, walk the playground to the tree and bench, and remember her dear sister.

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Something Extraordinary Capital Campaign *Summer 2022 Construction Plans*

As we continue on with updating our entire campus, we are excited to do another project this summer! We will be updating our Preschool and Childcare entrance (Baldwin Street). The new entrance will be more secure and safer for our school, and will also give JCS a greater visual presence from Baldwin Street.

Looking ahead, the next phase of work after the entrance will be an entire remodel of our existing preschool classrooms, as well as the construction of an additional three classrooms. The approximate cost for the summer 2023 project, the preschool and childcare wing, is \$2 million. Thank you for helping us update this 60-year-old facility, and meeting the needs of our growing enrollment, while remaining faithful to our heritage and the teaching of God's Word!

If you'd like to give to the Campaign online, you may visit our website at [www.jenisonchristian.org/somethingextraordinary](http://www.jenisonchristian.org/somethingextraordinary). If you are considering a pledge, gift of stock or other assets, please contact Liz Wiersema at [lwiersema@jenisonchristian.org](mailto:lwiersema@jenisonchristian.org) or 616-457-3301.



**February 2022**

*Remembering Myrna Van Beek  
A Legacy of Faith*

*Something Extraordinary  
Capital Campaign Update*

*Preschool and Childcare  
Beginnings*

*A Visit to the Principal's Office*

*Support Your Team, Support  
Your School!*

Psalm 78:4, 6 "We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, His power, and the wonders He has done...so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born..."



## Preschool and Childcare Beginnings

When the Jenison Christian Preschool program first started in 1989, it was just one 4's preschool classroom. In 1993, enrollment had grown so much that they moved locations to where we are located now to the east end of the building and added a second 4's class. Over the years, additions included another 4's preschool class, two 3's preschool classes, a new class offering (4-day preschool), and enrollment jumped from 96 students to 130 enrolled for the 2021-2022 school year. Throughout the day, students encounter God and His world in new ways through art, science, bible, and one on one time with the teachers.

Our preschoolers also host a variety of events in their classrooms including Christmas parties, Grandparents Day, and an end of the year Preschool Celebration. They enjoy being able to show their loved ones personalized art projects, favorite places in the classroom, and love introducing their teachers and other classmates.

In addition to our Preschool program growing, we saw the need for a childcare program. Twelve years ago, Stacey Christians started Jenison Christian Childcare which offers care to students before and after the Preschool, Elementary, and Middle school day. There are currently over 100 students enrolled that use child care throughout the year and many non-Jenison Christian students join us over the summer break. Children experience the love of God and learn about His world through songs, games and activities in all of our classrooms. In 2020, JCS Childcare added an Infant/Toddler room for kids aged 6 weeks to 3 years old. Parents have sought out our program throughout the years so their children can start at Jenison Christian School from the beginning and have one drop off for the whole family. We feel incredibly fortunate to be able to offer care to children throughout all stages of their life, birth through 8th Grade!



Stacey Christians reading in the JCS Infant/Toddler room



The 3's preschool learns about keeping their teeth healthy.



Book buddies with upper elementary students on Fridays.

## Preschool Enrollment is Open!

### 3's Preschool Options (9:00 AM-11:30 AM)

- Monday/Wednesday (\$835)
- Monday/Wednesday/Friday (\$1,195)
- Tuesday/Thursday (\$835)
- Tuesday/Thursday/Friday (\$1,195)

### 4's Preschool Options (9:00 AM-11:30 AM)

- Monday/Wednesday (\$970)
- Monday/Wednesday/Friday (\$1,295) \*\*FULL
- Tuesday/Thursday (\$970)
- Tuesday/Thursday/Friday (\$1,295) \*\*FULL
- Monday-Thursday (\$1,595) \*\*FULL

\*\*Waitlists are available for full classes.

To register, visit [visitjcs.org](http://visitjcs.org) or call the school office at (616) 457-3301.

**JCSPRESCHOOL**  
Loving. Learning. Leading.



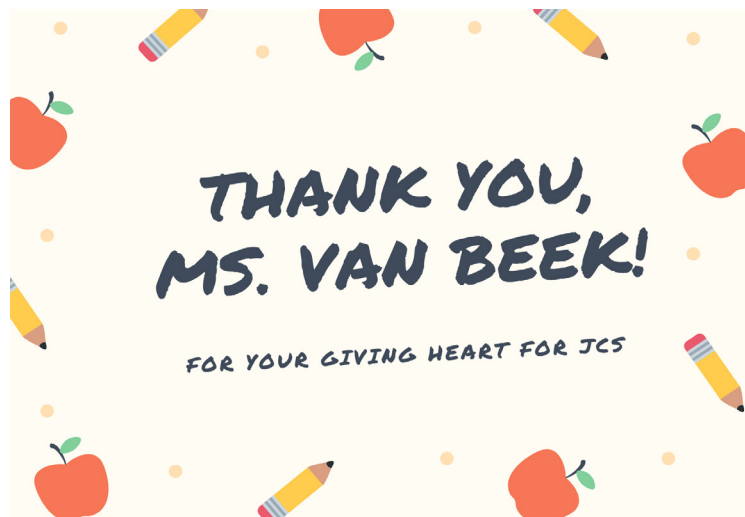
## Remembering Myrna Van Beek

(Continued from page 1)

In August 2021, Lois never called or stopped by. In September, we learned that Lois, too, had passed away. We were humbled and grateful to hear that the JCS Education Foundation was one of the beneficiaries of their combined estates, a gift that reflected their love of Christian education.

As both Myrna and Lois were single, and their family members have passed away, we don't have family to connect with, thank, and remember Myrna. We thought it appropriate to share these memories of Myrna with all of you, the JCS community.

*Myrna was honored to be a Christian Educator. She had a passion for knowledge, a commitment to parents and students, and a deep love for Christ, her Lord and Savior. Christian education, especially the many years she dedicated to Jenison Christian, was the way she combined her passions and served her Lord. She was fondly remembered as the 'old school' teacher by many. We've heard stories of Myrna's desire for structure and obedience in her classroom, and also her ability to connect with students on a personal level, especially in her weeks at 6th grade camp. She often became the mother figure to those 6th grade girls, offering hugs and love, as they would be away from home the entire week!*



We want to express our deep gratitude for Myrna's giving heart, and her love for Christian Education at Jenison Christian School. We are so thankful for her passion for kids and Christ, and know that JCS is better today because of the time, talents, and treasures she has given here.

## A Visit to the Principal's Office

Blessings overflowed at JCS in 2021! We added seven new staff members, and over 65 additional students and their families to our school. Our community was amazingly generous, and **we raised over \$750,000 toward our capital campaign fund during the last two months of 2021!** Thank you! To God be the glory! The outpouring of support to JCS will allow us to break ground on a new Preschool entrance and workroom this summer.

Looking even further into 2022, we are ready to continue, and, Lord willing, we will complete the Preschool and Childcare wing by fall 2023. Many steps need to happen between now and then, and **we are confident that the Lord will provide.** There are plans drawn and dreams that extend beyond this next phase; we are hopeful to completely renovate and expand the entire JCS campus in the years that follow.

There is excitement and anticipation that fills the hallways at JCS! The future is extremely bright and I am excited to lead our school into those new opportunities.

Mr. O

## Support Your Team, Support Your School! JCS Education Foundation Fundraiser



**Calvin vs. Hope. It's the rivalry of the ages.**

The Calvin Knights and Hope's Flying Dutchmen will battle it out on the basketball court on Wednesday, February 16 (Men's teams). The JCS Education Foundation invites you to participate in a virtual fundraising competition for a school we all support — JCS. Donate by mail or online by February 16, and don't forget to add "Team Calvin" or "Team Hope" to the memo/comments (online) line.

**Cheer loud, have fun and give generously! Thank you for your support! May the best team win!**

You can mail your donation to Jenison Christian School Education Foundation (7726 Graceland Dr. Jenison, MI 49428), or give online at [www.jenisonchristian.org/support/foundation.cfm](http://www.jenisonchristian.org/support/foundation.cfm), or by scanning the QR code on the right.



## Past Publications

If you are looking for past publications of *Reveal*, please visit the JCS website under the Parents heading, Newsletter on the right side, or use the link below.

[www.jenisonchristian.org/parents/newsletter](http://www.jenisonchristian.org/parents/newsletter)


## Upcoming Events

<b>Saturday, March 12</b>	<b>JCS Auction</b> JCS Gymnasium
<b>Friday, April 22</b>	<b>PK- 8th Grandparent's Day</b> JCS Gymnasium
<b>Friday, May 13</b>	<b>Eagle Walk</b>
<b>Monday, August 8</b>	<b>20th Annual JCS Golf Outing</b> The Meadows, GVSU
<b>Fall 2022</b>	<b>JCS Education Foundation 40th Anniversary Celebration</b>

**JCS Auction  
2022**

**Saturday, March 12  
School Gymnasium**

Silent auction begins at 4:00pm



**BE** Kind  
Faithful  
Joyful

**BE AN EXAMPLE**  
"Don't let anyone look down  
on you because you are young,  
but set an example for the  
believers in speech, in conduct,  
in love, in faith and in purity."  
1 Timothy 4:12

The Jenison Christian School Auction will be back IN PERSON this year, for the first time since our 2019 auction. There will be various food trucks on-site that will begin serving at 4 PM. Silent auction begins at 4 PM, and live auction begins at 6:30 PM in the JCS gym. We have so many great items to bid on this year, and can't wait to see you all in person!

**Our special project for the auction will be for special programs at JCS, including music and art!** If your child is benefiting from these programs now, or has in the past, it's an opportunity for you to keep them thriving for the next generation. For more information about the auction, visit our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/jcsauction](http://www.facebook.com/jcsauction).