



# CURRENTS

Christian Principals Association  
British Columbia

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UPDATE ON THE CURRENT ACTIVITIES OF THE  
CHRISTIAN PRINCIPALS ASSOCIATION OF BC

*Editorial*

## THE JESUS WAY

*by G. Goertzen, Secondary Principal, Abbotsford Christian School*

We have been talking and trying restorative justice practices at Abbotsford Christian School over the past year. We had a significant issue which we sorted through last fall using restorative practices. Much of our motivation was garnered from the inspiring work that Mark Nill has done for many years with his team at Surrey Christian School. We are compelled to think that these methods are more consistent with "The Jesus Way" than traditional approaches to discipline. Many people don't know what these principles encompass so it is probably worth exploring a summary (some of this is taken from the Abbotsford RJ Association).

The early experiments in Restorative Justice in Canada were initiated by individuals embracing a Christian worldview.

Accordingly, Christian values find their place in Restorative Justice. Some of these values are peace-making, reconciliation, forgiveness, care and support for one another within a context of community, personal responsibility and accountability to one another. Restorative Justice practices are especially effective with regards to wrongdoing and restoration of the wrongdoer who is remorseful and willing to change his/her ways. These values are not unique to a Christian worldview, but the Restorative Justice movement has certainly been encouraged and fostered by individuals and groups who identify themselves with a biblical perspective.

Two of the values that resonate especially well with traditional Christian thought are reconciliation and forgiveness. Restorative Justice, though not specifically Christian in its premise, strives to bring reconciliation

between the affected parties, working to provide healing and closure for all participants. Sometimes resolution is possible without reconciliation, but greater satisfaction is experienced when the affected parties can achieve reconciliation with one another. Similarly, some of the most spectacular results in Restorative Justice have been achieved when the victims have been provided with what they have needed, to be able to find inner healing and forgiveness toward the offender.

Restorative Justice holds in balance these two needs:

1. To identify wrongdoing as such, and hold accountable those who have perpetrated the wrong
2. To allow for reparation of harm, restitution, and amends, and the healing of broken relationships through exploration of thoughts and feelings, so that forgiveness can take place.

Restorative Justice also harnesses the energies of the community to meet the needs of both victims and offenders, not stigmatizing either of them, but providing them the help they each need to move on in dignity. This resonates with concepts of fellowship and care within Christian community as expressed throughout the New Testament.

Many Christian leaders are willing to commit to the hard work of repairing brokenness in our communities. We know that we will not always be one hundred percent successful, but we want to have the courage to use methods which give us the potential to restore relationships which have been harmed by sin. Please continue to pray for wisdom as each leader guides their community toward faithfulness, truth and grace.

## FALL CONFERENCE 2013 – FOCUS ON MENTORSHIP WITH WALTER WRIGHT

*"The values and integrity of leadership shape the relationships of trust and respect that enable collaboration and cooperation in any organization. Character matters!"*

This fall we have invited Walter Wright to lead us in a one-day session on the keys to great mentorship relationships. This is timely as we plan to kick off our new CPABC Mentorship Program at this one-day conference. Plan to attend this worthwhile event at Surrey Christian School – note this change in location from our usual TWU meeting room. The registration fee is \$50.

*"There has been an inspiring 30-year mentoring relationship between Walter Wright and Max De Pree. Drawing on Max's wisdom and experience Walt navigated a leadership journey as administrator at Fuller Seminary, as president of Regent College in Vancouver, and as executive director of the De Pree Center. Deeply influenced by Max's assertion that "belief precedes behavior", Walt has practiced, written and spoken about effective organizations that create vital relational cultures, where men and women have space and encouragement to grow. His books, Relational Leadership, Mentoring: The Promise of Relational Leadership, Crossings, The Third Third of Life: Preparing for your Future, and monographs unfold that theme."*



## COURSES OFFERED THIS SUMMER FOR STAFF AND LEADERS

### Summer Unit Design Session

**Designing Formational Learning Experiences: An Invitation to a Better Story** (3 credit Christian perspectives course equivalent) Instructors: Darryl DeBoer, Vice Principal of Curriculum and Instruction, White Rock Christian Academy, Joanne den Boer, Director of Learning, Society of Christian Schools in British Columbia, Doug Monsma, Director of Learning, Prairie Centre for Christian Education. Date and Time: July 2 - 6, 8:30 am - 3:30 pm at Surrey Christian Secondary School.

Course website: <http://dflexp.scsbc.net/>

### TWU 2013 Summer Institute for Teachers

#### Online

**EDUC 540 OL:** Christian Approaches to Teaching and Pedagogy (3 sem. hrs.) Instructor: Elaine Brouwer, Director, Alta Vista. Date and Time: July 2 - August 9 Online

**EDUC 545 OL:** Assessing and Evaluating Student Learning (3 sem. hrs.) Instructor: Elaine Brouwer, Director, Alta Vista. Date and Time: July 2 - August 9 Online

#### TWU, Langley Campus

**EDUC 401:** Assessment and Evaluation for Learning (3 sem. hr.) Instructor: Kimberly Franklin, Dean, TWU School of Education Date and Time: August 19 - 23: M-F: 9 am - 3 pm

**EDUC 513 E:** Current Issues & the Exceptional Child (3 sem. hrs.) Instructor: Ken Pudlas, Professor, TWU School of Education Date and Time: July 2 - 10; Wk1: T-F; Wk2: M-W; 8 am - 12:30 pm

**EDUC 514 E:** Assessment of Students with Diverse Learning Needs (3 sem. hrs.) Instructor: David Carter, Consultant. Date & Time: July 15 - 23; Wk1: M-F; Wk2: M,T

**EDUC 569:** Curr. & Pedagogy: Teaching Biblical Studies (3 sem. hrs.) Instructor: Johanna Campbell. Date&Time: July 2 - 6; T-Sa: 8:30 am - 3:30 pm

**EDUC 624** School Leadership & Supervision (3 sem. hrs.) Instructor: Henry Contant, Exec. Director, Society of Christian Schools BC Date & Time: July 2 - 12; M-F: 8:30 am - 2 pm; (9 days)

TWU Summer Institute Website: <https://www.twu.ca/extension/program/teachers/summer.html>



# What Does the CPABC Do?

## **Our Mission**

Our mission is to promote, encourage and develop servant leaders in Christian education. We desire to foster fellowship among education leaders, to consider what

God is calling us to do in education, to shape a faithful response in our schools with a Biblical worldview and to relay relevant information to Christian school leaders. Our primary tool for implementing this mission is planning conferences in the fall and spring of each year which meet these goals. We also work on initiatives like the new contracts put out by CTABC/SCSBC, the leadership certificate, new programs and visits to principals in need of encouragement. The CPABC Executive meets five times a year to plan and consider new methods of meeting the goals of our mission.

## **What We Do**

We also visit schools. Over the past four years, our executive has met in 15 different SCSBC schools. When we visit a school, we spend time with school leaders, get a tour of the facility, take the leaders out for lunch and visit classrooms. It is a chance to engage, to encourage and to understand the contexts in which our principals and assistant principals lead their schools. It has been a highlight for all of us to visit these schools. And, we aren't afraid to travel. We have made trips to Penticton, Salmon Arm, Vernon, Gibsons, Duncan, Nanaimo and Agassiz. We have plans to visit the northwestern region of British Columbia as well over the next few years.

We serve on important committees like the Compensation Committee, the Leadership Certificate Committee and the Christian Schools Canada Executive Committee. Though we do not have an executive director for the CPABC, collectively we have found ways to serve our membership in a volunteer capacity during our tenure.

## **Who We Are**

Matt Beimers has been the chairperson of the CPABC Executive for the past 3 years. He completes a six-year term this spring. We will miss his leadership. Matt has been instrumental in securing fantastic speakers for our



conferences, gifted in providing up front leadership at our sessions, visionary at providing a plan for the future of CPABC and a motivator for our school visit program. As well, he has served as our representative on the Christian Schools Canada board.

John van der Leek has been the treasurer for the past

three years. He completes a six-year term this spring, during which he represented us on the SCSBC compensation committee. John contributed to the planning of our resources and has been an effective steward. With the funds we have acquired, we have been able to subsidize conferences, both in BC and Canada-wide, start programs, and travel to schools for meetings. We are excited about funding our new mentorship program in the coming year.

Darryl DeBoer has been the liaison for the leadership certificate which is a co-authored program with the SCSBC. He completes a three-year term this spring. Darryl has provided creative input into curriculum issues and our planning for the mentorship program.

Members remaining on the CPABC Executive are:

- Gerry Goertzen, Secondary Principal, Abbotsford Christian School
- Jeanette Berkenbosch, Assistant Principal, Unity Christian School
- Karl Boehmer, Principal, Penticton Christian School
- Kevin Visscher, Principal, Duncan Christian School (Langley Christian School in September)

Members being affirmed at our spring conference are:

- Edith Walker, Middle School Principal, Richmond Christian School
- John Slofstra, Assistant Principal, Pacific Christian School
- Danny Nagtegaal, Assistant Principal, Surrey Christian School

Please take the time to thank our members who have served the membership so effectively over the years on the CPABC Executive and welcome the new members who are joining the Executive. Pray for our association to continue the development and encouragement of strong, godly leaders in Christian schools in BC.

## NEW MENTORSHIP PROGRAM – SCSBC/CPABC COLLABORATION

Our plans for the mentorship program are made up of four strategic parts – serve, learn, collaborate and transform. The experiences of our leaders over years of service are invaluable resources for future leaders. We know that we need a vehicle to transport this information to the next generation of leaders. We hope to see experienced administrators serving new leaders by developing intentional relationships which guide toward faithful, competent and servant-based leadership in our schools. Learning occurs through many different methods, but perhaps one of the greatest methods for learning about leadership is through relationships. There is great value in studying materials together. We have a list of leadership books and we suggest our participants will choose one to three books to study together and discuss the implications of their learning. Part of the relationship will be a chance to collaborate on projects which are ongoing in each other's schools. Finally, we hope for transformation in both directions as we utilize our gifts to exchange wisdom and build stronger Christian schools in the process.

In a nutshell, the plan for the program consists of:

- establishing learning targets in the application process
- regular SKYPE or coffee shop half-hour meetings as it best fits the partners' schedules
- two separate one-day visits to the mentor / mentee's schools for shadowing
- one to three books to be read and be discussed together (books are selected by the partners from the mentor / mentee list)
- one CPABC spring conference to be attended together where the partners spend some intentional time together
- a reflection report to be submitted (just a few paragraphs) for the CPABC newsletter or a presentation made at a spring conference so that the membership can see the impact of these relationships
- an online evaluation of the program to be completed at the end of the program

We hope to provide the rest of the details for this program at the spring 2013 conference and have a kick-off with Walter Wright at our fall conference.

### WHO CAN BE A CPABC MEMBER?

Full membership in the CPABC is open to all educational leaders who subscribe to the constitution of the CPABC Society and are committed to the purposes of the society. Lifetime honorary membership is granted to retiring members. CPABC members are entitled to access CPABC resources, to attend and vote at CPABC general meetings and to a discounted registration fee for any CPABC conference.

### DUES

Membership dues for 2013-2014 are \$115 CDN.

### Suggested Reading and Listening from CPABC

*Imagining the Kingdom*  
by Jamie Smith

*What are People For?*  
The Wendell Berry Essays

*The Christian Atheist – Believing in God but Living as if He Doesn't Exist*  
by Craig Groeschel

