



## **Netherlands Reformed Christian Chooses Inclusion for Upcoming School Year**

*School partners with CLC Network to ensure children with special needs are included in mainstream education programs*

**GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. (July 2014)** – Netherlands Reformed Christian School, located in Rock Valley, Iowa, has partnered with CLC Network to more fully understand individuals with disabilities and to build support systems that enable their inclusion in all aspects of school life. CLC Network is a national non-profit committed to promoting the development of people with a variety of abilities and disabilities to live as active, integrated members of their communities.

“Our school has an effective, experienced, and well-educated special needs staff in place,” explained Daniel Breuer, principal at Netherlands Reformed Christian School. “But this partnership will advance our program’s procedures and processes as we look to better serve our students with equity and as we equip our general education teachers with the confidence they need to serve all students, regardless of ability or disability.”

The partnership will allow Netherlands Reformed Christian to more effectively welcome children with special needs into their educational community. A teacher consultant will be assigned to the school to assist with creating individualized student plans, curriculum assistance, transition plans, behavioral intervention plans, and general academic and social inclusion within the school. The school will also have access to best-practice online professional development sessions on Autism Spectrum Disorder, Behavior Management, Neurodevelopment, Bullying Prevention, Anxiety and Depression in the Classroom, as well as school psychologists to help understand and create strategies for struggling learners.

“I am looking forward to partnering with CLC Network,” said Sandy Hoefakker, Netherlands Reformed Christian’s resource room teacher. “The opportunity to bounce ideas off of one another and to have CLC Network’s backing when discussing student needs with parents will be invaluable.”

“Our team is excited to work with Daniel and the rest of Netherlands Reformed Christian’s teachers and staff to better serve students with varying abilities,” said R.H. “Bear” Berends, executive director of CLC Network. “We look to develop and integrate custom education plans that build on each student’s gifts, while still maintaining the integrity of the school’s educational standards.”

For interview opportunities and media inquiries concerning the above, please contact Gwen Bultema at 616.656.7500 or [gwen@bultemalambert.com](mailto:gwen@bultemalambert.com).

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**About CLC Network:**

CLC Network is a national non-profit committed to promoting the development of people with a variety of abilities and disabilities to live as active, integrated members of their communities. The organization partners with families and organizations to more fully understand individuals with disabilities and to build support systems that enable their inclusion in all aspects of life. For more information on CLC Network or a list of available resources, visit [www.clcnetwork.org](http://www.clcnetwork.org).

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