



CEDAR VALLEY
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Board of Education Minutes

Thursday January 22, 2026

5:30 p.m.

CHS Rm #128

Elected/Appointed Board Members

Father Tom McDermott	Pastoral Rep - Saint Edward	Present
Eric Donat	Elect - Queen of Peace	Present
Jake Schaefer	At Large – Blessed Sacrament	Present
Father Tony Kruse	Appointed Rep - Blessed Sacrament	Present
Laura Schaefer	Elect - Saint Patrick	Present
Eric Bearbower	At Large - Saint Edward	Present
Ki Park	Elect - Saint Edward	Present
John Fitzpatrick	Elect - Sacred Heart	Present
Greg Stammeyer	Elect - Blessed Sacrament	Present

In Attendance:

Staff

Aaron Becker	K-5 Principal	Present
Tom Novotney	Chief Administrator	Present
Nick Miller	6th-8th Principal	Present
Katie Friedly	9th-12th Interim Principal	Absent
Dawn Pollastrini	Controller	Present
Stephanie Kane	Director of Curriculum, Assessment, & Instruction	Present
Sarah Smith	Advancement Director	Present
Kelly Christensen	Finance Committee Chair	Absent
Amy Peters	HR Director	Present
Annie Zeets	Waterloo Parish Faith Formation Representative	Absent

Guest: Charlie Donohue

Call To Order:

Jake Schaefer called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Cedar Valley Catholic Schools

3231 West Ninth Street | Waterloo, IA 50702
319.232.1422 | www.cvcatholic.org

CVCS Early Childhood Program

St. Edward Elementary School

Blessed Maria Assunta Pallotta Middle School

Columbus Catholic High School

Mission: To Provide an exceptional Catholic education to every student, built on the foundation of faith, discipline, knowledge and



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Prayer:

Eric Bearbower

Introduction of Guests-Correspondence, & Request to Address the Board

Charlie Donohue

Welcomed John Fitzpatrick to the Board as the Sacred Heart representative.

Adjustments to the agenda/Approve the agenda

Consent agenda:

- December 18, 2025 Board Minutes
- January 15, 2026 Finance Minutes
- Consideration of Monthly Revenue & Expense Reports
- Consideration of Personnel: hires, reassignments, resignations & terminations

A motion to approve the consent agenda.

(Fr. Tom- motion, - Eric B-Second) Motion passed

Information:

1. 6th – 12th Dress Code Semester Update- Nick & Katie
Revisiting based on the changes that were made in the Fall - seeing nice progress
No issues at BMAP – Nick
No concerns at the high school
Not recommending further changes at this time

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2. State of System Presentation – Board Discussion
Fr. Tony won't be able to be there – double booked
John also won't be there due to work conflict
Presentation was shared with the board
Board meeting Monday at 5:30 pm to do a run-through – actual State of the System is Wednesday at 6:00 pm
3. Enrollment Journey- Sarah/Nick Information shared with the board
Sarah will post the enrollment journey on the website
Nick went through the principal interview and vetting process
4. Activity Department Presentation – Julie Girsch Presentation and Brochure handout provided
5. 2026-2027 Budget Draft #2 – Dawn Pollastrini
Change in tuition is the biggest update – revisited the topic in New Business

Old Business - Action Items:

New business – Action Items:

1. Archdiocese Reduction In Force Policy- Amy Peters/Tom

“Per Archdiocesan Policy #4111.22, the CVCS school board requests the administration to conduct a review of staffing needs for the 2026-2027 school year. If necessary, as per policy, staff reduction recommendations must be made no later than the regular March board meeting.”
(Motion – Eric B, Second – Greg) motion passed

2. iPads w/ Apple+ Care proxy request – Katie & Ann Schmitz Quote for new ipads and Apple Care +

(Fr. Tony - Motion, Laura- Second) motion passed

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3. 2026-2027 Childcare Rates Proposed Childcare Rates –

PK4

Before/After Care - increase by 15%

Greg - motion to freeze childcare rates as they are for next year; no second

Motion: Wrap Care 2026-2027: morning \$50/afternoon \$50/no school days \$55,
Summer program - \$190
(PK4 – 5th Grade wrap care)

(Eric B - motion, Ki – Second) motion passed 8-1, Greg voted against the motion

4. OPAA –

- If we go thru RFP Process we can decide at anytime to not complete the process
- Advisory Board 2x per year
- Government Process
- Need our director and a director of their program
- RFPs Needs to be advertised for 6 weeks
- At least 3 bids: OPAA, Aramark, and a third
- Information will be brought to a Spring Board meeting

5. Strategic Planning Recommendations – Sarah

Board received the strategic planning committee’s recommendations at the last work session.

Motion for \$1,000 benefit dollars increase for certified and non-certified staff (for 30+ hours employees), 3% pay increase for Non-Certified Staff, and 5% increase for Coaches.

(Eric B - Motion, Greg - Second) - Motion Passes

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Motion for a 4.5% raise for certified staff and \$1,000 in benefits –
(Greg- Motion, John- second) motion passes 8-1, Laura voted against the motion

2026-2027 Tuition Motion to approve \$8,648 parishioners and \$9,398.00 for non-parishioners –
Projected ESA \$8,148.00

(Greg – Motion, Fr. Tom – Second) Motion passes

In-Service:

Fr. Tom

Additional Documents/Reports- sent in board packet

- Faith Formation Report
- Advancement Office Report
- Chief Administrator Report-
- News from Principals and Activity Department
- Board Announcements

Adjournment:

Motion to Adjourn: 8:42 pm (Greg- Motion, Eric- second) motion carried

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