



CEDAR VALLEY
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Board of Education Minutes
Thursday, May 28, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.
Columbus High School Room 128

Elected/Appointed Board Members

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

In Attendance: CVCS Staff

Tom Novotney	Chief Administrator	Absent
Aaron Becker	Saint Edward Principal	Absent
Nick Miller	Blessed Maria Assunta Pallota Principal	Present
Katie Friedly	Columbus Catholic Interim Principal	Present
Stephanie Kane	Director of Curriculum, Assessment, & Instruction	Present
Sarah Smith	Advancement Director	Present
Dawn Pollastrini	Controller	Present
Amy Peters	HR Director	Present
Julie Girsch	Activities Director	Absent
Annie Zeets	Waterloo Parish Faith Formation Representative	Absent
Kelly Christensen	Finance Committee Chair	Absent



Call To Order:

Jake Schaefer called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Prayer: Jake Schaefer

Adjustments to the agenda/Approve the agenda:

Administrator goal summaries will be submitted via email.

Motion: Approve the agenda.

(Greg - motion, Eric Second) Motion Carried.

Consent agenda:

- April 23rd, 2026 Board Minutes
- May 21st, 2026 Finance Minutes
- Consideration of Monthly Revenue & Expense Reports
- Consideration of Personnel: hires, reassignments, resignations, & terminations

Motion: Approve the consent agenda.

(Greg - motion, Fr. Tony Second) Motion Carried.

Information:

1. Enrollment/ESA/STO 2026-2027 update - Sarah
Contracts went out this week for tuition. Families still have a month to complete the ESA. Advancement will call/email families who have not completed the ESA in mid-June.
2. Curriculum Adoptions and Updates - Stephanie
Seeking approval of the new high school Theology curriculum. USCCB Theology standards for high school were updated in 2012 and our current curriculum is from 2008 and is outdated. The theology team considered three potential curriculums and determined that St. Mary's Press was the best option. This will cover all core content and three of the six electives. This purchase is coming out of the current budget and was accounted for in the 25/26 budget.

Motion: To approve purchase of the new Theology curriculum.

(Eric - motion, John Second) Motion Carried.



3. ISASP/ELPA21 scores - Stephanie

A packet of data scores was distributed. This included ISASP preliminary results, ELPA21, FAST (Formative Assessment System for Teachers), and myFAITH. For ELPA21, all 81 EL students grew overall when considering listening, reading, speaking, and writing. EL students across the system were 51% proficient (Lau Plan goal is 40%).

4. Consultant update - Sarah

The Activities Office is looking to create a program called the ANCHOR Leadership Program (Aspiring Navigators of Character, Humility, Outreach, and Resilience). Components include professional development for coaches, team development (first year pilot with football program), and monthly prayer group that is open to all students. This consultant program would not be a CVCS employee and would be a 1 year third party consultant contract.

Old business – Action Items:

1. New at-large Board member vote - Tom

Motion: To approve Heidi Larson as at-large Board.

(Fr. Tony - motion, Greg Second) Motion Carried. (8 yes votes - Eric D didn't cast a vote)

2. Out of State Choir trip request - Katie

Motion:

(Fr. Tony - motion, Ki Second) Motion Carried. John opposed.

New business – Action Items:

1. M.O.U. with Sheriff's Department (live feed camera access) - Tom

Motion:

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

2. 2026 School Board calendar - Tom

There was a recommendation of moving the board meeting start time to be earlier. The new board will need to discuss start time based on availability.

Discussion of moving the January board development to February since January is typically a longer board meeting.

Motion will wait until July to finalize dates and times with the new board members.



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In-service:

Fr. Tom

 Summary Magnifica Humanitas EN.pdf

Additional Documents/Reports:

- Faith Formation Report
- Advancement Office Report
 - June 7th is night at the ballpark for CVCS.
 - June 14th is Hall of Fame to celebrate Mr. Schnieder from 1-4 pm in the Columbus Cafeteria.
- Chief Administrator Report
- News from Principals and Activity Department
- Board Announcements

Adjournment:

Motion to conclude Board meeting at 7:00 pm

(Greg - motion, Eric B - Second)

Executive Board meeting:

Monday, June 15, 2026 - 4:30 PM

Prayer - Jake Schaefer

High School Office

Next Board meeting:

Thursday, June 25, 2026 - 5:30 PM

Prayer – Fr. Tony

Columbus High School Room 128