Holy Family Catholic Schools

School Board Meeting
Thursday, September 17, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.
Schrup Family Board Room

Members Present: Kevin Mullen, John Callahan, Maggie Kramer, Fr. Brian Delleart, Fr. Gary Mayer, Fr. Michael Schueller, Rennie Root, Mike Dodds, Isabelle Pattarozzi, Jon Sarrazin

Members Absent: Annie Murphy, Jeff Weber

Holy Family Staff Present: Phil Bormann Bob Noel

The meeting began with prayer at 5:31

Facilities Update

Phil Bormann and Bob Noel discussed the updates to our facilities, as Jeff Rusch has recently retired (seen in Chief Administrator Report) We are currently working with the city of Dubuque officials in order to finish our parking lot. We had some unforeseen issues with a gas line that needed to be moved that was not anticipated. We are in communication with our neighbors to troubleshoot the parking for students, staff, and visitors as construction takes up more of our parking lot. We are also in the process of getting more spaces available at Miracle Park. The renovations of the new fields are coming along nicely, with the grating mostly being completed. We are cementing the plans on the auditorium, just waiting on the final designs from Origin. Bob is working on furnishings and is forming a committee to work on it and spoke on his plans. He also mentioned that the EAC is getting acoustic panels. He is continuing to work with donors and look for more to help us get exactly what we want and need. “We get one chance to get it right, so people are willing to assist”. One fundraiser we will be doing is a seatathon, where you can buy a seat for $250.

Financial Update Preview

We are pausing on things that we are able to push back that aren’t a necessity. We are concentrating on getting things that we are in need of. There is an increase in cost for the auditorium, just due to rising costs and unforeseen things (such as the gas line needing to be moved). The electrical cost is higher than anticipated, due to underestimating the amount needed. The sporting complex's cost increased due to the rising price of concrete, but the scoreboard is coming in under budget. We also discussed how we are showing our potential donors, instead of just telling them about projects; showing the land, showing pictures, taking them for rides so they can visualize. Phase 1 is complete and Phase 2 and 3 are combined and active now.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the May 21, 2026 School Board meeting were included in the packet for review.

- **Mike Dodds moved to approve the August 20, 2026 School Board minutes as presented. Isabelle Pattarozzi seconded. The motion carried.**

Chief Administrator Report

Holy Family celebrates its 25th anniversary this year and each school celebrated with mass and other events. Our Brietbach Institute for Faith Formation was well received by staff and is continuing to grow. Community events are being held monthly for staff members to be able to an authentic Christian community and culture. Our enrollment is at 1809, with a 94% retention rate from last year. We are already looking toward the 2027-2028 school year, and we are fielding requests for enrollment. Depending on what the Dubuque Community School District decides, we may see an increase in enrollment, specifically for freshman and sophomore students. We also discussed the possibility of reinstating our homeschooling partnership.

The board discussed upcoming events, including the Homecoming Tailgate, which had over 1500 people scheduled, the central campus Little "EEK"gles Trick or Treat event, and the Discover Wahlert event, tentatively scheduled in November. Wahlert is offering 15 new courses this year, including Honors and AP courses, as well as Spanish, science and economics. There is also a partnership with NICC to have interested students be able to participate in their Automotive Academy. This just shows how much we are invested in the future of our students, whether they are going to college, trade school, or straight into the workforce after college. FASTBridges testing for K-8 started slightly delayed, as there was an issue on the state's end. Professional development is scheduled for October 2nd.

The 2025-2026 audit is still in progress, but it is coming along very nicely. The Grotto was delayed and we are now looking at new contractors. The orchestra pit will be started within the next 2 weeks.

Jeff Rusch announced that he would be retiring. He has nothing but good things to say about Holy Family and his time here. Phil, Bob, Nolan Funke, and Mary Sulentic are taking on different aspects of the role until someone is hired as a replacement. Doug Weig, our system maintenance staff, is moving to Elkader and has stated that his last day will be in the beginning of October. Zach Duerksen has taken on his role and will be training with him until Doug's last day. We had 30 non certified staff members hire over the past two months, ranging from early childhood staff, to food service, and support staff.

Language of the Constitution Amendment

The language for the constitution amendment was presented to the board. A new version of the constitution will be signed by the pastoral representative of the East and West Pastorate and the Chair of the Pastoral Council for each church.

- **Jon Sarrizan moved to approve the new language as presented. John Callahan seconded. The motion carried.**

Misty Auer Resignation

Misty Auer resigned for some health reasons. She is being released from her contract without penalties. We wish her all the best.

- **Maggie Kramer moved to approve the resignation of Misty Auer with no penalties. Rennie Root seconded. The motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm with a final blessing.

Next Meeting: October 15, 2026