

**Holy Family Catholic Schools
School Board Meeting
Thursday, September 18, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.
Schrup Family Board Room**

Members Present: Kevin Mullen, John Callahan, Maggie Kramer, Fr. Dennis Quint, Isabelle Pattarozzi, and Jeff Weber

Holy Family Staff Present: Jeff Rusch

The meeting began with prayer at 5:28 p.m.

Facility Update

Jeff Rusch began the meeting by sharing his facility update. Jeff offered board members the opportunity to visit and tour schools in order to see recent updates and appreciate the hard work that has been put into renovating spaces.

At Holy Ghost Early Childhood, the goal is to improve the playground and remove trees with a plan coming together next spring.

At St. Joseph the Worker Early Childhood, there have been lots of updates with rooms, heating and air, the upper parking lot, and more. There are plans to construct a ramp on the North end of the building to help make the building ADA friendly.

At Resurrection Elementary, there has been updated kitchen storage and bathrooms with plans for further development next spring.

At St. Columbkille, all construction of the new school and faculty moves from St. Joseph the Worker and Resurrection were completed by August 1st. Jeff praised his team at the quality of his team's work and the efficiency of completing the move. Jeff noted that the school looks beautiful and is proud of how it represents Holy Family Catholic Schools.

At the Central Campus, the three main areas of focus are the outdoor athletic facilities, the OAC gym, and the new auditorium. Jeff noted that the OAC needs freshening up with plans to redo the ceiling, replace the floor and hoops, and to paint the walls. Jeff and Tom English are working on wrapping up meetings with coaches about what they want and need with the new activity space developments to make sure nothing is missed when all projects move forward. There is a plan to meet with Origin soon to enter the next phase of planning and schematics with the hope to begin

breaking ground in the spring of 2026. The intention is to begin all of these projects at the same time.

Jeff recognizes his committed and caring staff, sharing his appreciation for what they do and how they do it. He mentioned that they enjoy their work and they help make his job much easier.

Kevin asked Jeff about his background. Jeff's response was that he has a background working in facilities management and has been doing so for over 25 years. Jeff loves working for Holy Family Catholic Schools and feels blessed to work here. He is excited to give back to his community with these new projects.

Jeff took time to recognize Bob Noel's efforts to fundraise for these projects, noting that these changes will benefit everyone. Kevin Mullen and the board shared their excitement about the auditorium as it has been on the agenda for 12 years.

Fr Quint posed a question about hiring contractors for these projects. Jeff responded that he would like to be the general contractor for all projects except for the auditorium. He shared he has passion to do these things and is excited to see these projects through.

Fr Quint asked about changeovers and any potential future issues. Jeff responded that he plans to hire the right contractors and do it the right way the first time. He has been preparing in order to avoid and address problems that arise.

Fr Quint brought up some issues with the new St Columbkille school, even after counseling contractors for the job. Jeff responded that he wasn't as involved with that project and would have liked to have been in more of the day to day planning and construction. Jeff mentioned that it was a parish project with the parish choosing not to involve Jeff closely. He respects and trusts Portzen to do things right. Jeff said that the contractors are great and their own families attend these schools, which means they are going to make sure they do things right.

Jeff Weber asked about how these projects will disrupt school. Jeff said that he is hoping to have things graded by July 1st and to begin the construction process right after. The plan is to use Vets Memorial Park as parking for students and staff as every other area will most likely be used as a staging area for equipment and materials.

John Callahan asked about sports delays. Jeff shared that there is a lot going on and that it will be tricky finding spots for certain sports. He knows there are solutions out there, and he is working with Tom English to make it all work. Jeff said that only construction people will be able to access areas and that he is hoping it will be about a year and a half when it's done. Jeff is excited

to start working on some of the classrooms and labs so students and staff can be inspired by the good work that is being done.

John Callahan asked for transparency for the board regarding the scale of these projects and how Holy Family will fundraise and afford it all. Jeff responded that the plan is to start with the money raised and to complete the basics. If the money is not raised, then they can't do the extra things such as stadium lights and concessions. Jeff mentioned that if every family gave five to ten thousand dollars then we would have the money to complete every project. He hopes that we can rally as a school system, complete every project, and have it all properly paid for.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the August 21, 2025 School Board meeting were included in the packet for review.

- **Jeff Weber moved to approve the August 21, 2025 School Board minutes as presented. John Callahan seconded. The motion carried.**

Miscellaneous

Kevin Mullen encouraged everyone to read the Chief Administrator Report as he said there is good information in there about what's happening in the system. John Callahan asked about state IPERS for teachers and is thinking about recruiting for the future. Fr Quint shared a little bit about IPERS and said that he is surprised to see that there has not been a decision yet. Kevin shared his excitement about the 401K match increasing for teachers and that teacher wages are increasing.

A final blessing was given and the meeting was adjourned at 6:11pm.