

**Holy Family Catholic Schools
School Board Meeting
Thursday, October 16, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.
Schrup Family Board Room**

Members Present: Kevin Mullen, John Callahan, Fr. Dennis Quint, Fr. Steven Rosonke, Isabelle Pattarozzi, Maggie Kramer, Jeff Weber, Rennie Root, Mike Dodds, and Jon Sarrazin

Holy Family Staff Present: Phil Bormann and Rebecca Mueller

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

Recruitment and Retention Update

Rebecca Mueller shared her Recruitment and Retention update with the Board.

Highlights included:

- Enrollment has increased 3.6% this year
- Due to the new classroom addition at St Columbkille, TK numbers rose from 18 to 34 students this year
- Overall there is a 97% retention rate
- There are 56 new transfer students
- There have been four consecutive years of growth for Holy Family Catholic Schools
- The five year plan is to have 1800 students enrolled, with projections showing that this should be achieved next year
- When Rebecca started 8 years ago, Pre K and Kindergarten retention was 50%, it is now almost 70%
- 40 total exits and 56 entries system-wide
- 11% of entries are coming from out of state, Rebecca is working on creative ways to financially support these families as they do not receive ESAs

Strategic priorities are to

- Maintain retention
- Promote recruitment in middle school and high school
- Engage with parishioners who are not sending their kids through Holy Family

The largest class graduated in recent memory was 2020/21 with 124 students. There was discussion about Seton students going to Western Dubuque for school. Fr. Quint recommended that Fr. Garner, the pastor in that area, could share a message after mass about having kids attend Catholic schools. Rebecca mentioned she could work with Fr. Garner on this.

Phil commented that work is being done to get families back into their parishes to be active parishioners. Rebecca is working on drafting a letter for families to remind us all of the importance of participation in home parishes and the Catholic community.

Phil thanked Rebecca for the work she has done working two positions and adapting to the change. The Board thanked Rebecca for her work and dedication to serving in the Holy Family Catholic School system.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the September 18, 2025 School Board meeting were included in the packet for review.

- **Fr Quint moved to approve the September 18, 2025 School Board minutes as presented. Rennie Root seconded. The motion carried.**

Approval of Committee Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the September 22, 2025 Religion and Mission Committee meeting and the September 25, 2025 Finance Committee meeting were included in the packet for review.

Fr. Quint asked how the Religion and Mission is doing following through with their agenda. Kevin Mullen shared that they are doing well following through with their standards, and that the theme this year is focused on virtues. Phil added that it is helpful to have Andrea Kirby as she is doing a great job in her role.

Mike Dodds asked about the reasoning behind distributing money in different banks. Phil shared that it shows we are good community members. The banks treat us well and that we should do business with them to continue to serve our community.

Mike also asked for clarification on the pledge count comment shared by Phil in the Finance Committee Meeting about having a clear and concise plan moving forward. Phil shared that this was about what Bob is doing for first time givers and how to bring them in. Everyone is being asked in the community to contribute and participate in the Platform for Excellence campaign.

Maggie Kramer asked if there is an issue about pulling money from some banks and putting the money in banks that Finance Committee members work at. Phil assured the Board that Finance Committee members have recused themselves from this.

- **Mike Dodds moved to approve the September 22, 2025 Religion and Mission and the September 25, 2025 minutes as presented. Maggie Kramer seconded. The motion carried.**

Executive Session

- **Fr. Quint moved to begin the Executive Session. Jeff Weber seconded. The motion carried.**

The session began at 6:02pm and concluded at 6:12pm.

Approval of Email Votes

- **Jeff Weber moved to verify the Board's email votes. Isabelle Pattarozzi seconded. The motion carried.**

Approval of J-Term Service Trip

Phil briefly overviews info in packet, he trusts teachers to do a good job with this

- **Mike Dodds moved to approve the J-Term service trip. Rennie Root seconded. The motion carried.**

Acknowledgement of Archdiocese Review

The Board reviewed and acknowledged the Archdiocese Review.

Chief Administrator Report

Phil shared his Chief Administrator Report. Highlights included:

- Fr. Gross shared a Eucharistic Adoration lesson followed by adoration and family time at St. Columbkille, helping to link parish and school connections.
- The Hallow app has been great with good feedback coming from schools and families

- Lisa Krapfl hosted an Academic Innovation Spaces meeting with experts from various fields, helping to gather ideas and to think ahead about the design of future spaces/classrooms and programming of courses
- Finance is working on getting a proxy out to the Archdiocese for a loan, with a meeting hopefully happening in November
- The new St. Joseph the Worker School ramp is being worked on and is progressing nicely
- Eric Meyer (former principal at Seton) was hired as the new Wahlert math teacher and is considered an excellent hire as he did an outstanding job when Phil visited his classroom
- Heather Fitzpatrick was promoted to her new role as St. Joseph the Worker Early Childhood Director
- St. Joseph the Worker enrollment is growing with new leadership and there is hope that good projections be shown as we move forward

A final blessing was given and the meeting was adjourned at 6:22 pm.