

**Guardian Angels Central Catholic
School Board Meeting Minutes
August 20, 2025 – 6:30 p.m. | Rectory**

The meeting was called to order by Leanne Ritter.

Father Weeder opened with a teaching on receiving spiritual direction, followed by prayer.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Leanne Ritter, Allyn Knobbe, Britney Kaup, Eric Klitz, Ben Borgmann, Carmen Schlickbernd and Fr. James Weeder.

Board Members Absent: Mark Wooldrik, David Karnopp and Tracy Schwer.

Leanne requested a motion to approve the minutes from the July meeting. Carmen made the motion; Britney seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Committee Reports

Booster Club

Shea Stokely reported a strong start to the school year, highlighted by a successful membership drive and mailing last Friday. Thanks to all who contributed to the great night. Upcoming fundraisers include:

- Tailgates at home football games only, due to their proven success
- The annual Jay Run
- The return of Trivia Night, hosted in collaboration with the Booster Club and SPA
 - Donors have secured funding for the Trivia Night MC (NVS), and speaker costs (Tyson Dinslage). Additional support is being sought for the Nielsen Center.

Football field upgrades include:

- A new scoreboard panel with “Blue Jays”
- New bleachers ordered
- Current home bleachers to be moved to the visitor side with a new concrete pad
- Additional bleachers from the fairgrounds to replace old wooden ones

Thanks to Tyler Tolene and Tyson Dinslage for their bus rental, which covered most costs; the Booster Club will handle the remainder.

Financial concerns were raised about covering activity center utilities and cleaning, especially with increased air conditioning costs. These will be paid for now, but reimbursement may be requested from the school at year-end if funds are short.

The Pasture Golf event is scheduled for September 13. No golf skills are needed—everyone is encouraged to form teams and join in for a great time.

SPA

Jessica Hagedorn reported a current bank balance of \$15,299, boosted by a recent check from t-shirt sales. Upcoming fundraisers:

- Drive-through dinner in September
- Family Pumpkin Patch Night on October 1 at Harvest Moon

Hefty Seed is sponsoring entry fees for students and faculty; parents will cover their own costs. Trivia Night is also planned.

SPA donated snacks for the Cuming County Fair parade and is open to assisting with future events with sufficient notice.

Capital Campaign

Lisa Eisnemenger reported:

- Cash in bank: \$9,125.33
- Edward Jones account: \$2,139,487.43
- Total cash on hand: \$2,148,612.76
- Pledges to collect: \$1,611,293.00
- Total pledges: \$3,759,912.06
- Matching grant: \$122,791.65 (goal: \$200,000 by year-end)
- Interest earned at Edward Jones: \$70,255

Positive feedback was shared about the new air conditioning system. Teachers expressed gratitude for its completion before the school year began. A grant letter is due by the end of September. Lisa proposed a bulletin or flyer to demonstrate progress since June.

Facilities

Leanne Ritter reported that the committee is ready to engage an architect to develop floor plans and renderings for narrowed-down options. The committee has assessed current programs, identified future needs, and compiled project priorities.

- Air conditioning installation is complete; final bill pending
- Boiler serviced yesterday; work nearly finished
- Next major project: high school air conditioning

Finance

Dave Karnopp was absent. Andrew noted no specific updates but said financial matters would be addressed in his President's Report.

Governance

Britney Kaup reported that the committee will meet Monday to begin discussions on employee experience, a key focus of the strategic plan. Progress will be reported at the September or October meeting.

Advancement/Development

Carmen Schlickbernd reported that a bulletin update for September is in progress. Andrew noted recent collaboration with the Capital Campaign Committee and expressed confidence in Phase Two planning with the Facilities Committee.

President's Report

Andrew Bradley emphasized the interconnectedness of development, capital campaign, facilities, and finances. He proposed:

- A five-year budget projection to assess Phase One completion and plan for high school air conditioning
- A one-sheet update with committee headings to improve public communication
- Weekly board updates, open to topic suggestions

Faculty returned last week. Paula and Justin led successful professional development. The Welcome Back Night was a success, with suggestions for next year including more booths, a shorter presentation, and better advertising.

Enrollment: 433 students (278 elementary; 155 middle/high, including two foreign exchange students).

Tuition grants were declined by 81 students, freeing up over \$24,000 for financial assistance to other students. A donor paid \$24,000 in tuition arrears for 2024–25. Tuition contracts are secured from 97% of families.

Facilities updates:

- Construction of a wall between the STEAM lab and Spanish classroom is complete
- HVAC system is functional

- Boiler is nearly finished

Strategic plan action steps are underway. Governance will begin employee experience goals Monday. Paula and Justin are working with teachers. Completion of full plan targeted for September or October.

Salary comparison shows starting salaries at 92% of West Point-Beemer's, dropping to 85% at higher levels. A facility usage map shows all rooms occupied, with some overcrowding.

Board housekeeping includes:

- Updating the website
- Creating a Google Form for public complaints
- Improving agenda structure
- Shared Google Drive for files

Budget update:

- Stable income
- Endowment contribution is conservative, but may increase due to the \$5.5 million Easterbrook brothers' donation
- Expenses increased due to two new positions, cleaning service, and iPad initiative
- Health insurance costs pending
- Classroom supplies need better categorization
- Curriculum adoption lacks a dedicated line item
- Non-guaranteed funding sources pose risks
- Stalp Foundation salary support ends after 2026–27

A livestock feeders grant MOU is proposed: \$400 per K–12 student, covering unpaid tuition balances by August 1, and unlimited scholarships for families paying partial tuition.

New Business

Motion 1:

To enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the donors of the Livestock Feeders Grant, renewable annually in June.

Terms: \$400 per K–12 student; unpaid tuition from the previous fiscal year paid by August 1; unlimited scholarships for families willing to pay something.

Motion by Leanne; seconded by Carmen. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion 2:

To enter into an agreement with Dustin Weichman to replace the roof and flashing on the activity center for \$81,000, while exploring volunteer help to remove shingles to lower this cost.

Motion by Carmen; seconded by Allyn. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion 3:

To enter into an agreement with Jackson & Jackson Architecture Firm for a Feasibility Study and Master Plan, not to exceed \$29,500, funded by the Capital Campaign.

Deliverables include:

1. Code Review Study with annotated plans
2. Space analysis comparison spreadsheet
3. Preliminary floor and site plans (two options)
4. Two exterior renderings
5. Statement of probable construction cost

Motion by Eric; seconded by Allyn. All in favor. Motion carried.

The School Board entered Executive Session.

The School Board exited Executive Session.

Father Weeder led the Guardian Angels prayer to close the meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Allyn; seconded by Britney. All in favor. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Eric Klitz
