

Guardian Angels Central Catholic
School Board Meeting Notes
July 16, 2025
6:30 p.m. Rectory

The meeting was called to order by Matt Ridder.

Andrew Bradley opened the meeting with a prayer.

Roll Call was taken:

Board Members present: David Karnopp, Matt Ridder, Leanne Ritter, Tracy Schwer, Allyn Knobbe, Mark Wooldrik, Britney Kaup, Eric Klitz.

Board Members not present: Ben Borgmann, Dan Woodbury, Carmen Schlickbernd, and Fr. James Weeder

Matt requested a motion to approve the minutes from the June meeting. Leanne made the motion. Allyn seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Booster Club: No Update

SPA: Jessica Hagedorn reported that there is currently \$14,320.01 in the account. SPA has decided to discontinue the cardboard trailer and will now focus solely on aluminum cans. The recent can drive brought in \$1,839.60 while the last paper drive brought in between \$300-\$350. The treasurer's role has changed a little. A representative will be the signer on the account. The t-shirt shop will open in July with a new logo designed by Kylie Kai. SPA will be providing all staff with new t-shirts at a cost of \$877.50

Last Saturday was the can drive. There was a nice turnout of students and parents to help. There will be a drive-thru dinner fundraiser in September. Hoping to do one more can drive before everyone gets busy with harvest.

Capital Campaign: Joanne Kreikemeier reported:

Cash in the bank: \$9,125.33

Edward Jones account: \$2,139,487.43

Total Cash on Hand: \$2,148,612.76

Pledge amounts to collect: \$1,611.29.30

Pledge total: \$3,759,912.06

Matching Grant: \$122,791.65 we have until the end of the year to hit \$200k

Interest earned at Edward Jones \$70,255.

Cindy Stratman and Michelle Ulrich reported on their April trip to NCEA Convention. They attended many sessions on AI and have found ways to incorporate it in their classrooms. They will also present to the staff, both high school and grade school, what they learned and how each teacher could use it in their class. They wanted to stress that it is only a tool and will not replace how they teach. Michelle was able to use some of what she learned when she came back to the classroom at the end of last year. Cindy stressed this will help with teacher prep time. Leanne asked if all the sites they were given at the conference were approved by the Archdiocese. Both Cindy and Michelle said they were.

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Facilities: Leanne reported they are still meeting every other week for an hour. They hope to have a campus master plan ready to share with the board at the next meeting. In the Activity Center, they are still working on bringing electricity and gas to the new A/C system. The new system in GA will be operational by August 1. The boiler project continues to progress. Paula shared that the library shelves have been moved to create space for the teacher's area. The parish has not decided on the convent. Whatever happens to the convent, it would not be school-related.

Finance: Dave shared that the finances are currently in the black. When compared to the budget, items were in line. The Purchase Order system is in place for the coming school year.

Governance: Vicky Kauffold, superintendent, presented an orientation meeting this past Monday for the new school board members and the existing school board members. Vicky is asking us to look at the bylaws we gave her and work through them again. Once the committee has reworked them, they will go back to Vicki and, with her approval, be given to the school board for final approval. She stressed that as a Board of Limited Jurisdiction what the focus should be. It should be more long-term things. She suggested we have a new commitment to the Capital Campaign.

Advancement/Development: Planning a back-to-school bash at the beginning of the school year. August 30th and September 6 are possible dates. A mass would be offered at 4:30 with food and fellowship to follow.

President's Report: Andrew reported that roughly 80% of the families have returned their Tuition Contract and Tuition Grant & Financial Assistance Form. 15% of families have asked about tuition assistance for the coming year. Sixty-Five GACC Tuition Grants have been declined, which equates to nearly \$20,000 in tuition assistance to give out to other families. There is still \$15,000 from the Opportunity Scholarships of Nebraska. This week, they will be communicating with families with new incoming Kindergarten or Freshman students, letting them know of the second round of awards. Andrew continues to communicate with the families who are in arrears. The goal continues to be to have each family with a clean state to begin the new school year. It was discussed that we need to come up with a process of following up with families who fall behind in their payments, whether it is tuition, lunch, or the after-school program.

The construction of the wall in the STEAM Lab is almost complete. This will provide two classrooms.

The class schedule for GACC middle and high school students has been completed. The leadership team did their best to meet the needs of our students while recognizing the concerns and questions of our faculty and staff. Justin Wardyn is already working on next year's schedule. As part of the Strategic Plan, we will begin reviewing our Graduation Requirements and course offerings, starting with the Class of 2030. The Junior High structure is also being evaluated to determine if there are more effective ways to serve students, support staff, and use resources. The goal is to have an outline of this completed by the end of October.

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Andrew attended the Institute for School and Parish Development (ISPD) conference in New Orleans. One takeaway was from Frank Donaldson, who has run the ISPD for 30+ years. He, Frank, recommended steps on how to run a Capital Campaign. Is there an opportunity to readjust our process? Andrew was able to attend 11 different sessions. Andrew will also, virtually, attend The Catholic Schools and Democracy Summit hosted by the University of Notre Dame.

Reorganization of the Board: Mark Wooldrik was nominated for Chairman by Dave. Allyn and Carmen (via text) declined the nomination. Dave made the motion to elect Mark as the President. Tracy seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried. Leanne Ritter was nominated for Vice Chairman by Dave. No other members were nominated. Dave made the motion to elect Leanne as the Vice Chairman. Eric seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. Eric Klitz was nominated by Mark for Secretary. No other members were nominated. Tracy seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

The school board went into Executive Session.

The School Board came out of Executive Session.

Matt led us in the Guardian Angels prayer to close the meeting.

Leanne made a motion to adjourn. David seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Schwer