

Sacred Heart School Commission
Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2026
6:30pm – 7:30pm
School Library

Welcome (5 minutes)

Opening Prayer (5 minutes)

Approval of Minutes (5 minutes)

- November 5, 2025 (Approved)

Parish Updates (5 minutes)

- Lenten Soup Supper Hosting (2/27, 3/6, 3/13, 3/20 or 3/27)
 - School commission was assigned 3/27 for dinner. Drop off at 6:00PM.

Committee Reports Questions (10 minutes)

- Health & Safety (Kelly Bach)
- Parent's Club (Kelsey Ashe)
- Technology (Orville McDonald)
- Catholic Identity (Kelly Surapaneni)
- Legal (Katherine Goodrich)

Principal's Update / New Business (10 minutes)

- Low Screen Initiative
 - David sent an initiative to make changes to our current curriculum to decrease the need and time on screens for the students. It will take some time and thought to see what changes we can make at home and in the classroom. Also, auditing the digital programs we use to make sure they are the correct programs to support our students and their time spent at home doing HW.
- Auction & Fund-a-Need
 - Raised over 950k before matching donations. Great attendance, successful night. Visitors from St. Monica were in attendance to see how we run the auction.
- Capital Campaign
 - Hoping to get in front of diocesan building commission by 3/28 to present plans and get approval. Feasibility study is saying we can raise \$12 mil, cost for project is looking at 13 mil (parish hall, adoration chapel, colonnade, two meeting rooms, three classrooms above Moore Theater.) We need 15 million to build three additional classrooms. Hoping commission will approve the higher amount so

that if we do raise 15 million, we can do the whole expansion. If we get approval, we will launch the soft phase of raising money and then go public.

- Bylaws Update
 - Katie is looking at our most recent draft to make suggestions.
- Staff Update
 - Emma Metzger is leaving 5th grade and we have just hired Grace Burroughs. Had a great math interview today and looking to fill the religion position.
 - Hiring is more challenging today then it has been in previous years.
- Social Assesments (pre-k and K)
 - This weekend assessments are being run
 - Enrollment interest is up

School Commission 2024-25 (10 minutes)

- Discussion topics
 - School Safety
 - Fund-a-Need Updates (Field, Scoreboard, Classroom Storage)
 - Capital Campaign / Feasibility Study Update
 - Mission Statement Discussion
 - Financial update
- Future discussion topics
 - Joint middle school dances
 - Attendance at St. Monica School Commission meetings
 - Collaboration ideas with St. Monica
 - Bingo Night
 - Chili Cookoff
 - Adoration
 - Catholic Identity Challenges
 - State of the School address – timing & topics
- Objectives for this year
 - Accreditation
 - 2025-2026: Self study
 - 2026-2027: Accreditation – new process Family group transition
 - Partnering with St. Monica's School Commission
 - Catholic Identity
 - Facilities

Next Meeting: March 4th

Committee Reports (February 4th)

- Health & Safety (Kelly Bach)

- Nothing to report
- Parent's Club (Kelsey Ashe)
 - Bingo Night- Successful event! Over 130 people signed up to attend the event. There were 18 games played. David Burroughs and Ethan Granlund kindly volunteered their time that evening to call out bingo numbers and keep track of the bingo screen. Many people commented that they like having the event in the winter time when we are all stuck indoors for the most part. We plan to hold Bingo Night next January on the 8th.
 - Teacher/Staff Appreciation Lunch- Another successful event thanks to everyone's efforts. We had 6 soups this year of all different kinds, 2 types of salads, rolls, and sparkling waters. The school commission board's dessert contributions were the favorite part of the lunch. There was a beautiful spread of different desserts to choose from. Thank you to everyone who was able to contribute and who offered. It was incredible. Many of the teachers commented that this was their favorite lunch and that they look forward to it each year. So it's good to know that all of your efforts were appreciated.
 - Father/Daughter Dance- Set to be held on Friday, April 24th. Theme is "Spring Fling", girls will be able to wear their Easter dresses. DJ confirmed.
 - Mother/Son Event- Set to be held on Sunday, May 17th after morning mass. Theme tbd. Kickball or Mother/Son Olympics
- Technology (Orville McDonald)
 - February:
 - With the transition from Lindsey to Tracey, we discussed how Tech Week ran in the past and what we should consider for 2026.
 - Although we encourage the use of technology, it is important to use it as a tool to support students and not as a hindrance to their education. We want to be more intentional about when to use technology and when to be more analog.
 - KnowB4 training, which focuses on secure IT practices, is being rolled out starting on February 6th.
 - January:
 - Technology Plan (Accreditation): Nancy began drafting the technology plan, focusing on more intentional use aligned with academic, behavioral, and spiritual goals.
 - Cybersecurity Training: Required training will be implemented for all staff; Nancy is coordinating with Archdiocese IT.
 - 5th Grade Devices: Teachers requested carts instead of personal devices due to distraction, cost/maintenance, and management concerns; inappropriate use and AI cheating were also discussed.

- AI Tools: MagicSchool.ai and student reliance on AI raised concerns about reduced depth of learning and inconsistent expectations across classrooms.
 - Intercom System: Pods 1–2 have intercoms; K and Grades 3–5 Pods do not. Admin wing speaker/zone issues from a prior incident appear resolved after summer system updates.
- Catholic Identity (Kelly Surapaneni)
 - Nothing to report
- Legal (Katherine Goodrich)
 - Nothing to report
- Marketing (Merrisa Claridge)
 - Nothing to report