

ACS BOARD NEWSLETTER

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ADAMS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL BOARD 2025-26		
Executive Committee	President	Joe VanOverloop
	Vice-President	Jared Langerak
	Secretary	Nate Bodbyl
	Treasurer	Ben Zandstra
Members	John Kalsbeek Justin Kamps Mike Kerkstra Jon Kuiper Tedd VanSolkema	
Administrator	Rick Mingerink	
Committees (first listed is chairman)		
Building	Mike Kerkstra, John Kalsbeek, Jon Kuiper, Tedd VanSolkema	
Education	Jared Langerak, Nate Bodbyl, Justin Kamps, Joe VanOverloop	
Finance	Ben Zandstra, Justin Kamps, Jon Kuiper, Joe VanOverloop	
Enrollment	Jared Langerak, John Kalsbeek, Justin Kamps, Ben Zandstra	
Federation	John Kalsbeek, Nate Bodbyl, Mike Kerkstra	
Foundation *	Justin Kamps	
Long Range Planning *	Mike Kerkstra, Tedd VanSolkema	
Publicity	Nate Bodbyl, Ben Zandstra	
Security	Tedd VanSolkema, John Kalsbeek, Mike Kerkstra	
Special Education	Joe VanOverloop, Jon Kuiper, Jared Langerak	
Technology *	Nate Bodbyl, Jon Kuiper	
Transportation	Tedd VanSolkema, John Kalsbeek, Jon Kuiper	
* These committees have additional members from among the staff and the broader constituency. Only the Board representatives are listed here.		

Education Committee Update

Mr. Jared Langerak
Education Committee Chairman

One year ago, I shared an update on the process and timeline for hiring a new administrator at ACS. Over the past year, much of the Education Committee's work has focused on this effort, including interviewing candidates and ultimately hiring our next administrator. On September 12, families were informed that Mr. Ryan Kregel had accepted the position. While the majority of the transition will occur over this coming summer, we are thankful that Ryan is already present in the building and able to become familiar with some of the smaller items that arise during the school year. We again express our sincere gratitude to Mr. Rick Mingerink for his many years of dedicated service and leadership for our school. Finally, we are grateful to God for His provision of a qualified new administrator for our school.

While the search for a new administrator has been the primary focus of the Education Committee over the last year, several other significant items also deserve mention. These include the approval of a new policy developed by a group of our teachers to guide the use of technology and artificial intelligence in the classroom, updates to our policies governing student sexual abuse and other allegations of gross misconduct, approval of the updated Psalter for use in the school, and a review of our wage schedules for part-time, hourly, and substitute staff to ensure compensation remains in line with other PR schools and the broader labor market.

Finally, although classroom visits and a review of visit reports represent a relatively small part of the monthly Education Committee agenda, they are of great importance and value. These visits allow Board members to see firsthand the day-to-day Reformed instruction taking place in our classrooms, as well as the faithful work of our teachers and staff. I believe I can speak for the entire Board in saying that these visits are one of the most enjoyable and encouraging aspects of serving on the Board. We hope that these visits and feedback are also an encouragement to our staff. We thank our teachers and staff for the excellent work they do in serving our school and covenant community!

Your Gifts at Work: Understanding the Support Drive

Mr. Ben Zandstra
Finance Committee Chairman

Adams Christian School is facing a significant financial challenge. Operating costs are rising quickly, while enrollment has been declining in recent years and it is projected to remain flat for the foreseeable future. This is not a favorable combination.

Despite this challenge, there is no reason to panic. ACS has a strong financial infrastructure in place. One of the cornerstones of this infrastructure is the Support Drive. The goal of this article is to provide an overview of the Support Drive - why it matters, what it's used for, and how you can help.

Is the Support Drive important? Yes! Outside of tuition, the Support Drive is by far the school's largest source of revenue.

How much does the Support Drive need to collect? As part of the 2025/26 operating budget, the Association approved a Support Drive goal of \$395,000. As of February, \$358,200 has been collected.

How does the Support Drive impact tuition? The Support Drive helps keep tuition affordable. On average, it lowers tuition for each of our 117 families by nearly \$3,400.

What are the funds collected by the Support Drive used for? The day-to-day operations of the school: paying teachers and staff, keeping the lights on, running the buses, maintaining the campus, and stocking classrooms with necessary supplies.

Who gives to the Support Drive? The Support Drive mailer reaches around 500 supporters, and in recent years we have received contributions from between 175 and 190 donors. Many are Association members, but a considerable number are supporters who are not members.

How is the Support Drive communicated? Mailers go out in May and November each year. While we have no plans to abandon that proven approach, we are exploring ways to supplement it. We have begun publishing regular Drive updates on the ACS website and via the Monday Note. Venmo has been implemented as a digital alternative to traditional paper checks. We are also exploring the use of email and other online platforms to improve communication and facilitate donations to the Drive more effectively.

How much should I give? Giving is a deeply personal decision - one to be made individually, prayerfully, and intentionally. To provide some context: based on our current number of active supporters, each donor would need to give around \$2,150 to meet our budget. Every contribution, no matter the size, helps bring us closer to our goal.

We continue to trust in God's faithful provision and are deeply grateful for your continued support.

Security

Mr. Tedd VanSolkema
Security Committee Chairman

Greetings ACS Families and Supporters! The security of our school continues to be an important topic, and the committee established by the board continues its work in this area. We meet most months to discuss issues that may have come up or new ideas that are worth considering. We often involve the administrator, a teacher, and members of law enforcement to assist us in these labors. Many steps have been taken over the last couple years from proactive lockdown drills to protective film on entry points. Recently, members of the Wyoming Police Department were on site to witness a lockdown drill and their feedback was all very positive. They were impressed with the measures that are in place and with how seriously the students and teachers took the drill. Many thanks to Rick and the teachers in their implementation of the committee's decisions, to the students for understanding the importance of practicing these types of drills, and to you as parents for your support of the board and the work of this committee.

We know that we are weak means that God has put in place at ACS, so our prayer is continually that He will continue to protect our children by His almighty hand. We also covet your prayers as a committee and as a board as we work to protect the children, teachers, staff and visitors to the school.