

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
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.		

75 Years of Faithful Education

Mr. Jared Langerak
Education Committee Chairman

This coming school year marks a milestone in the life of Adams Christian School. Having opened its doors on September 1, 1950, Adams will celebrate 75 years of Christ-centered education this coming September! As we approach this significant year, we pause to thank God for His faithfulness and pray His continued blessing on our school. We also express our gratitude for generations of supporters, teachers, and staff who have faithfully served the school and our covenant children.

Adams remains committed to fulfilling the mission and purpose set forth by our fathers many years ago: to prepare students for lives of joyful service to His kingdom - lives whose end is to glorify God. We continually look for areas to improve our curriculum in support of that mission. With that in mind, we're excited to introduce an addition to our curriculum: new courses in Logic and Worldviews for our 7th grade students not enrolled in band. These single semester courses aim to help students engage discerningly and critically with the world around them from a Reformed perspective. Special thanks to Kristin Dykstra and Ryan Kregel for developing these courses.

In Worldview, students will evaluate and compare various belief systems while deepening their understanding of their own Reformed, covenantal worldview – seeing God, themselves, and the world through the redemptive work of Christ. In Logic, students will explore truth and sound reasoning from the Christian perspective, practice forming arguments that honor the God of truth, and learn to identify various logical fallacies.

We believe these courses will be valuable additions to our curriculum and will further equip our students to think critically and live faithfully according to the Word of God. As we mark 75 years of Christian education here at Adams Christian School, we aim to carry on the same mission as our fathers. We take comfort in God's promise in Jeremiah 32:39: "I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear me forever, for the good of them, and of their children after them." By God's grace, may this continue to be true of ACS – that we remain united in purpose as we raise up the next generation to walk in His way.

From the Finance Committee

Mr. Ben Zandstra
Finance Committee Chairman

The Finance Committee is thankful to report that the Lord has sustained Adams Christian School through another fiscal year, providing the financial means necessary to equip our covenant children with a Reformed, Christ-centered education.

The process of closing the books on the 2024–2025 school year is nearly complete, and the numbers show that actual revenue and expenses were closely aligned with the budgeted amounts. The school operates on a tight budget, and it is only through careful stewardship that expenses can be kept within budget. To all who have worked tirelessly toward this goal: job well done and thank you!

The 2024–2025 Support Drive goal of \$391,414 was met. Immediately afterward, we launched the 2025–26 Support Drive, with a goal of \$395,000. We are deeply grateful for your generous support and ask that you continue to remember the Support Drive in your giving throughout the coming year.

We are also pleased to report that all tuition for the 2024–2025 school year has been collected. We would like to remind families that, if you encounter difficulty in making tuition payments, communication with our committee is very important. Please don't hesitate to call, text, or email us to share your situation and plan for resolution. We are eager to work with you, and open communication greatly assists us in doing so.

As we enter a new fiscal year, here are a few reminders regarding tuition:

- Tuition payments are due on the first of each month, with the first payment due on July 1.
- Tuition should be paid via ACH or check (please do not pay in cash).
 - ACH is strongly encouraged as it helps prevent lost or forgotten payments. For more information about setting up ACH, please contact the treasurer.
 - If you prefer to write checks, it is your responsibility to ensure payment reaches the school by the first of the month. Checks may be mailed or placed in the locked tuition box, located in the south hallway.

- Tuition statements are emailed out each month. Please review them carefully and contact a member of the finance committee with any questions or concerns.

As always, we cover your prayers as we carry out our responsibilities - that we may do so with wisdom and love, bringing glory to our Lord and Savior.

2025-26 Tuition Schedule

	Without Bus		With Bus	
	Total	Monthly	Total	Monthly
1 Child in Kindergarten	6,331	528	8,000	667
1 Child in School	9,283	774	10,952	913
2 Children in School	12,350	1,029	14,018	1,168
3 Children in School	14,382	1,199	16,051	1,338
4 or More in School	16,536	1,378	18,205	1,517

Teamwork

Mr. Eric Lubbers
Transportation Committee Chairman

We are all familiar with what a team is called to do. Teammates work together with the goal of trying to get a win at the end of the event. Every sport requires a team to accomplish that goal. The transportation team is no different. This team, however, may include more people than you first may think.

This team begins with the U.S. department of transportation. Their job is to set forth rules and guidelines to ensure the safety performance of school buses, and school programs. Next, we have the Michigan State Board of Education. This group has the authority to review, amend, and confirm any school district routes. The third member of the team consists of the Michigan state police. These men and women are used to make sure the laws and regulations are followed and annually inspect each transportation fleet for safety. It is important that our bus drivers get trained, therefore the fourth team member is our universities, and the local Kent ISD. After the initial training process is finished, all drivers are required to take a continuing education class every two years. This class takes place throughout the summer months. As the police enforce the laws, it is the school board's job to make sure the policies of the school are being followed.

The School Board makes up the fifth member of the team. The Administrator may be a key person to report any problems that could arise on the bus and is therefore an important sixth member of the team. Team members seven and eight include the teachers and chaperones. They can also be those that ride the bus for class trips or any other school events. They assist the driver in maintaining order and discipline on the bus. These members also are willing to help young children load and unload on the bus during these special events. The next important member is the transportation supervisor. This member provides direct administration and supervision to all the transportation personnel. Everything that needs to be done regarding transportation always goes through the supervisor first. Parents are also another important member of the team. To help the team, parents can make sure their children arrive at the bus stop on time and willingly instruct them what proper behavior on the bus should look like. Having Proper communication with the drivers ensures that every day runs smoothly.

Every fleet requires regular maintenance, therefore the mechanics at Speed Wrench do a great job of maintaining our buses, so they can continue to run smoothly down the roads. This job makes them a valued member of the team. After the repairs that have been done this year, our buses have all passed their

inspections and are ready for the 2025-2026 school year! All the children that ride a school bus can be a big part of the team. It is important that the children follow all the rules that the driver and the school board place before them. Proper behavior on the bus can result in a much safer and enjoyable ride for everyone. Finally, we have the team captain. Our drivers Jodie, Ellen, Jill, and Erika do an outstanding job during the day leading this team in a safe manner.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Vickie Elzinga for the last ten years of driving. Vickie is retiring from driving a school bus. Her diligent and dedicated work was much appreciated.

So, as is clearly seen, this team involves a lot of people. It is almost safe to say that it involves everyone in our community. I would like to express my thanks to everyone for making this all possible. To continue to have a successful team in the future, let us all work together, help and support each other, and pray for guidance. Let us do these things so that providing safe transportation for our children can be accomplished.

*“Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”
Ephesians 5:20*

Classroom Remodel Update

Mr. Mike Kerkstra
Building Committee Chairman

As we reach the midpoint of the summer break, the Building Committee is excited to share an update on the ongoing classroom remodels at our school. These renovations are transforming some of our oldest classrooms into modern, functional spaces for our students and teachers.

Renovation Highlights

Since the school year ended, the building committee has been working hard. The first weekend after classes concluded, we began demolition in two of our oldest classrooms, each originally equipped with two bathrooms. To better serve our teachers' needs, we removed one bathroom from each room to create space for much-needed storage closets. Additionally, we are replacing outdated cabinets with sleek, new ones, and both rooms will receive fresh paint and new carpeting to create a vibrant learning environment.

Beyond the interior upgrades, we are enhancing three classrooms with new exterior windows. These modern windows improve both security and energy efficiency, ensuring a safer and more sustainable school.

Support

We are deeply grateful for the generous contributions of time and effort. Many of these renovations have been made possible through donated labor, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone involved. A special note of appreciation goes to the Mothers' Club for their tireless work cleaning desks and lockers, providing invaluable support to our custodial staff during these warm summer months.

Looking Ahead

As we continue this important work, we remain committed to creating an inspiring and functional space for our students. We are thankful for the opportunity to steward this wonderful school building, and we give thanks to our Heavenly Father for His provision in making these improvements possible.