

ACS BOARD NEWSLETTER

Published by the Adams Christian School Board

5539 Byron Center Avenue – Wyoming, MI 49519 – adamschristianschool.org – July 2022

ADAMS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL BOARD 2022-23		
Executive Committee	President	Matthew Velthouse
	Vice-President	Ron Schipper
	Secretary	Jed Pipe
	Treasurer	Tyler Pipe
Members	Jordan Dykstra Dan Kooienga Todd Kooienga Derek Kuiper Eric Lubbers	
Administrator	Rick Mingerink	
Committees (first listed is chairman)		
Building	Dan Kooienga, Jordan Dykstra, Derek Kuiper, Ron Schipper	
Education	Ron Schipper, Todd Kooienga, Jed Pipe, Matthew Velthouse	
Finance	Tyler Pipe, Jordan Dykstra, Derek Kuiper, Eric Lubbers	
Enrollment	Matthew Velthouse, Dan Kooienga, Eric Lubbers, Jed Pipe	
Federation	Eric Lubbers, Dan Kooienga, Tyler Pipe	
Foundation *	Tyler Pipe	
Long Range Planning *	Dan Kooienga, Jordan Dykstra	
Publicity	Jed Pipe, Matthew Velthouse	
Special Education	Todd Kooienga, Ron Schipper, Matthew Velthouse	
Technology *	Todd Kooienga, Dan Kooienga	
Transportation	Derek Kuiper, Jordan Dykstra, Todd Kooienga	
* These committees have additional members from among the staff and the broader constituency. Only the Board representatives are listed here.		

Conflict and the Grievance Procedure

**Mr. Ron Schipper
Education Committee Chairman**

Conflict is inevitable in this sin cursed world. Our school is touched by sin, frailty, and misjudgment. Our children are sinners. So are our teachers and staff and board members. Working to avoid conflict is a good thing. Sometimes that cannot work. The question to Christians then is how to handle and resolve it.

Sometimes the life of a student can be difficult. Teachers are almost always very busy. Parents can get caught up. These things are understandable. A board colleague of mine once told me that I should expect parents to be very sensitive. "They trust you with their kids and their money." I'll never forget that.

I'd like to go over the Grievance Procedure as adopted by the board and printed in the back of the directory. What follows is the adopted points followed by my comments:

1. *Contact the teacher involved, preferably in person, and work with him or her to resolve the matter. If no satisfaction is obtained, inform him or her of your intent to contact the Administrator.* This is fair, honest, and biblical. Everyone deserves an opportunity to explain or defend himself. Often matters of perception and fact can be confirmed in these meetings and teachers and parents alike walk away feeling better about themselves and each-

other. The other important part is the last sentence. It is a proper thing to civilly explain that you don't believe the matter is resolved and you intend to involve the Administrator.

2. *Contact the Administrator and work with him to resolve the matter. If no satisfaction is obtained, inform the Administrator of your intent to contact the School Board.* Our administrator is the person employed by the board and society to be the CEO of the school. He has the experience and training to handle conflict resolution in the educational setting. He too, deserves respect and civility and the right to defend or explain his actions.

3. *Contact and discuss the matter with the School Board President. If necessary, a meeting with the Education Committee will be arranged to discuss the matter and work on a resolution.* The board Chairman and the Education Committee are here for you. It is our job to handle these matters if you feel that your concerns haven't been addressed in following the first two steps.

4. *If necessary, a hearing with a full Board may be arranged to discuss the matter and work on a resolution.* The Board is the association's elected group of trustees. The wisdom of a multitude of counselors is evident in our meetings. As with each interaction, a collegial spirit is essential. As difficult as it can be to remember at times, we are on one team with one goal set before us. These men love you and your children.

5. *Under no circumstances should a matter pertaining to your concern be discussed with parties other than those involved.* We are in the age of Facebook and many other things that I am not aware of yet. Gossip, backbiting, and slander are common. In any age, they are still wrong. Talking to and not about is one of the characteristics that puts the "Christian" in our name.

In our judgment, this policy is the best way to resolve conflict at Adams. May God continue to grant us peace despite our weaknesses. "Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory, but in lowliness of mind, let each esteem other better than themselves." Phil 2:3

I Am So Glad

**Mr. Joe Kuiper
Finance Committee Chairman**

"Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing." (Psalm 100:1-2)

Funny how a little child can teach their parents an awful lot.

Last week our six-year-old son had his Little League season-ending baseball tournament. His team made great strides this year. They started off a bit rough. Maybe one win in the first six games. Some games, not even close. Then they won 8 out of their next 10. And they finished the season by making it to the championship game of the season-ending tournament.

Of course, six-year-olds don't really seem to care too much about winning or losing a game. They just have fun and treat their teammates so kindly. They can lose 15-2, and ask, "did we win" and "what's the snack" when the game is over. But when it comes to the tournament at season's end, they all know that if

they lose the game, the season is over. So, they are a little more excited when they win. Saturday morning, they had a game. Lose, and the season is over. They won. So, a couple hours later, they had to play another game. They won again. Both games were close. The second game ended with them making a double play (a rarity at 6 years old). The coach took everyone for ice cream afterwards. As far as recreational activities, a very exciting day for a six-year-old kid.

It would not be at all surprising if our son wanted to spend most of the day revisiting the exciting events of the day. But we drove away from the ice cream shop, and within a short time, as he was sitting in the back seat, out of nowhere, he started to sing *"I am so glad that our Father in heav'n, Tells of His love in the Book He has giv'n; Wonderful things in the Bible I see; this is the dearest, that Jesus loves me. I am so glad that Jesus loves me, Jesus loves me, Jesus loves me, I am so glad that Jesus loves me, Jesus love even me."* I wish you could have heard him sing it.

At the time, I thought how wonderful it was that he was so randomly singing this song. But later in the day, as I thought about it again, it struck me so much more. He was having no thoughts of his very exciting sporting events. He was thinking of Jesus. A parent could weep tears of joy just thinking about it.

He learned that song at Adams Christian School. Mrs. Kalsbeek taught it to him.

Funny how such a small thing can cause one to think. Isaac was so glad. But what about? Well, he was glad that God loves him, that Jesus loves him, and that God gave him a Bible that tells him of all these wonderful things.

I am glad because of these things too. I am also glad that God has given us Adams Christian School. And that the teachings at ACS are founded on the infallible words of "the Book He has giv'n". A school that teaches a child to be glad for all the wonders Christ has done for him. A school that teaches a child to sing of these wonders.

One part of the song especially hit me. That is the last two words of the chorus, *"even me."* Jesus loves *even me*. When I hear those words, it reminds me that I can hardly believe Jesus would love me. Because I am so undeserving of it. So incredibly undeserving, it is hard to believe it is actually true.

Professor Hanko once said in a sermon that it is hard work for God to get us to Heaven. How true it is of me.

My three-year term on school board will be complete by the time you read this article. God has done much for me through the last three years on school board. More than I ever could have imagined. I am so much more grateful for Adams Christian School. I am so much more aware of how much it takes to keep this school going. I am so much more aware of how great a blessing this school is. I am so glad that my wife and I can send our children here each day, to be taught so many things with Christ as the center of all of the teaching.

I am so glad that Jesus loves my children, and your children, and you. And that in His love for us, He has given us such a good Christian school.

And as the song goes, *I am so glad that Jesus loves me, Jesus loves even me.*

*"Oh, if there's only one song I can sing,
When in His beauty I see the great King,
This shall my song in eternity be:*

"Oh, what a wonder that Jesus loves me."

2022-23 Tuition Schedule

	Without Bus		With Bus	
	Total	Monthly	Total	Monthly
1 Child in Kindergarten	5,449	454	6,889	574
1 Child in School	7,989	666	9,429	786
2 Children in School	10,628	886	12,068	1,006
3 Children in School	12,378	1,032	13,818	1,152
4 or More in School	14,231	1,186	15,671	1,306

Building

**Mr. Tim Van Til
Building Committee Chairman**

Memorial Day and the 4th of July have come and gone, and before you know it Labor Day will be upon us. It is unbelievable how quickly time goes by. My Dad once told me "The older you get the faster time will go." When I was 18, I thought he was crazy. Today, I completely understand. It never seems like there is enough time in one day.

The building committee has a short window during summer break to get the building ready for the 2022-23 school year. During this summer, Superior Ground Cover Inc. has been contracted to install a fresh layer of mulch on the playground. The parking lot project, which has been an ongoing project should be finished up. The main component is scheduled for August and is the sidewalk which will run the length of the west side of the parking lot. Once the sidewalk is installed, we will be able to get the underground sprinkling up and running in that section. Although the new parking lot lines still need to be painted, the work will be completed when the older part of the parking lot gets resealed and repainted as well.

Zach Poortenga, who was hired on as the new maintenance manager has begun his work at ACS. We are excited as a committee to work with Zach! Besides thorough cleaning of the building, and general maintenance, Zach will be refinishing the gym floor. We also ordered a few hallway gates which he will be installing as well. The first few months will be a learning process, but once Zach is well established, adding this position will be a great asset to ACS.

The Long Range Planning Committee has purchased a couple new pieces of equipment. A new 9-square game has arrived and will be a great addition to the playground equipment. We are also getting a new scoreboard, which is a key piece of equipment for the baseball field. The building committee is working on getting these items installed in a timely manner.

As I reflect on the past school year, I cannot help but see God's goodness to Adams Christian School. The Lord has blessed us with a beautiful building, financially He has given us more than we need, and our children have once again received another year of covenantal instruction. As my 3 years on board have come to an end, I can honestly say I have a greater appreciation for the work that goes on at ACS each day. The Lord has blessed us with faithful teachers and staff who love Him and our children. To God be the glory!

"As for man, his days are as grass: and it is gone; As a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; And the place thereof shall know it no more. But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, And his righteousness unto children's children;" Psalm 103:15-17