

Aberdeen Christian School

Board Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2025

The monthly meeting was held in the library conference room at 6:00 pm.

Members present: Becky Kaiser, Karen Edwards, Linda Shoup, Mandilyn Fliehs, Jen Schaeffer, Larry inches, and Steven Schaeffer.

Members excised: Michelle Ramirez and Betsey Dinger.

Along with: Dr. Sombke, Pastor Rodney Johnson and Jaime Schwartz.

Opening Prayer: Dr. Sombke

Good news items: SD Governor Rhoden made us the fourth state to approve the federal tax credit that provides for the option of donating \$1,700 of your income tax to a designated private school upon filing. The school need not be in your state of residence and likely will be available when filing income tax for 2026. More details are to come.

Approval of minutes: A motion was made by Jen with second by Larry to approve the October 20 regular monthly meeting minutes but amending the date from December 21 to December 15 for Board action on the 4 day school week. Approved.

Linda moved and Mandilyn seconded the motion to approve the minutes for the November 12 special meeting held to review survey results and discuss the 4 day school week being considered. Approved.

Pastor Rodney Johnson reported on A Knight Out. He has met and continues to meet with core donors. The evening's program will focus on our students, some current and some past, speaking of their experiences at ACS and especially speaking to their growth spiritually and areas where they are currently serving.

Administrative Report

Enrollment: 173 - Two students that were enrolled for a shortened school week withdrew.

Athletics: Basketball meetings have been held and middle school games begun. Volleyball wrapped up.

School Improvement/Accreditation/Testing/Data/Curriculum:

Accreditation Requirements by SDDOE and Accreditation School Improvement Plan Components:

I. Development of:

1) Belief Statements

- 2) Mission
- 3) Vision
- II. Needs Assessment
 - 1) Performance, Perception, Demographic Data Sources
 - 2) Data Retreat Process State required tests for accountability Perception Data (school climate surveys, criterion reference tests, local test results, end course tests, semester exams, graduate followup surveys, analysis of demographic data enrollment and enrollment projections free lunch populations).
- III. School Profile developed from data and demographic sources with a set of conclusions based on that data.
- IV. Selection of Goals Student performance goals based upon data Measurable Appropriate for all students.
- V. Assessment to measure student progress on the stated goals.
- VI. Interventions/Strategies.
- VII. Staff Development
- IX. Waivers from Administrative Rule (if applicable)
- X. Strategic Plan - review board meeting from 11/12/25

Facility Use Policy Review: Facility use requests were discussed. The regulations state that a school is permitted to charge a fee for facility use as long as there is no interference with school activities and that they are required to follow any established rules for the facility. Any funds collected would be required to be set aside for building use or upkeep. Steven offered to review and rewrite a facility use form combining the two existing but slightly different forms we currently have and adding a suggested small donation of \$100 for up to 4 hours, a fee for profit use but no fee for nonprofit use. We will approve as ad hoc vote.

Bullying Policy Review: Accreditation Standards require all schools meet bullying policies as prescribed by SDDOE requirements. Motion made by Jen and seconded by Larry to review ACS Bullying Policy and modify adding required wording. Approved. Revised policy will be approved after revision.

National Motto Display: SDDOE requires the national motto to be displayed in a prominent location in the school. Discussion followed with considerations for placement (hallway to cafeteria as one) and also for design, size, and whether to open as a contest to submit designs by students. Motto display must be completed by March 18.

Committee Reports

Finance: Linda gave an overview of financial reports for October that were email to members earlier. The budget and current amounts reflect 25% which is on target. Any outstanding tuition contracts will be completed by Christmas break. ACS qualified for SD Partners funds just short of \$180,000.

Facilities: Becky reported on the Facilities Committee meeting of November 10. Changes are in process for elevator maintenance contracts. Jon Fogarty has been contacting elevator maintenance companies and recommends a 3 year commitment with Larson Elevator at \$2,160 with visits 4 times per year. Additional work will be the load test in the future which will cost about \$8,000. Larry made a motion to approve the elevator maintenance contract with Larson Elevator. Jen seconded. Approved.

Booster: Executive session

Fundraising/Development: Report as above by Pastor Johnson.

Education and Scholarship: Federal Tax Credit Program to benefit students in non-public schools signed for South Dakota by Governor Rhoden. More details to follow.

Public/Alumni Relations: Consider using Production Monkeys for rollout of 4-day school week if adopted.

Ad hoc: none

Final Comments: none

Executive Session: Motion by Linda at 7:26 with second by Jen to enter executive session. Motion at 8:36 to close executive session by Linda with second by Mandilyn. Approved.

Karen Edwards
For Betsey Dinger, Secretary