



ACSS ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: APRIL 15, 2026

Reports from:

Tim Weisz, ACSS President
Ed Mitzel, RMS/RHS Principal
Tammy Kost, RES/RPS Principal
Rick Kline, Development Director
Derek Larson- Activities Directors
Fr. Jordan Samson or JoEllen Lindner- Parish Representative

TIM WEISZ:

- Staffing:
 - We are in the middle of staffing for next year. We are still putting together a schedule, interviewing, and waiting for contracts from current staff. However, there are a few positions that are set.
 - Chris Uhler- New title is Dean of Mission and Formation. He is charged with helping to fully implement our Catholic Identity Standards, helping our 6-12 staff to embrace ICLE, and helping our school to become unapologetically authentically Catholic. All this while continuing to be our campus minister and teaching 10th grade religion. This new leadership role will also help Lizzy Raml, our new Principal, acclimate to her leadership role in a Catholic school. He is NOT an assistant principal. He will NOT evaluate teachers. He is, however, in a leadership role when it comes to our Catholic Mission.
 - Dan Gallagher- New Title is Activities Director for ACSS and Dean of Middle School. He is charged with Middle School implementation. In other words, a type of lead teacher who handles everything from MS standardized testing schedule, MS house activities, managing MS Enrichment, MS morning supervision schedule, MS this and MS that. He will be filling in a plethora of duties which we know we need but we can't make a full list. He is NOT an assistant Principal. He will NOT evaluate teachers. As the new Activities Director he replaces Derek Larson who will be teaching full-time at the RES building.
 - Elizabeth Raml- Lizzy is our new MS/HS Principal. She is taking the place of Deacon Ed Mitzel, who will be teaching MS Science next year.
 - Andrew Raml- Andrew is Lizzy's husband. He will be teaching MS/HS Social Studies. He is replacing Nile Hesson who will be pursuing other

adventures. Nile did a fantastic job filling in late in the year and did a fabulous job! He will be missed and we wish him well.

- Trista Hamak- Trista will be replacing Laurie Imberi as the MS/HS Administrative Assistant. This is an important role, and we look forward to her presence.
- Madison Aguirre- Maddie has been hired to teach 2nd grade. We are very excited to welcome her aboard.
- Roncalli Ball:
 - The event went very well. It was a success both financially and from a mission standpoint. It was a blessing to have Bishop DeGroot present at the event. Barb Rezac, new Diocesan Director of Catholic Schools, was also able to join us. It is heartwarming to see so many supporters come together for a time of fellowship and support. I extend a huge THANK YOU to the Ball Committee: Kim Bowman, Chelsey Kline, Vicki McComsey, Abby Larson, and Tricia Smid.
 - Also, many thanks for the countless hours dedicated to the Ball by Jill Young, Rick Kline, Connor Libis, Tevan Gonsor, and Michala Heller.
 - Thank you to our school board, all of whom were present for the Roncalli Ball! Your leadership is appreciated.
 - Finally, thank you to all our priests. Your presence at the Ball and your support for Aberdeen Roncalli, a mission of both Sacred Heart and St. Mary's, is a blessing.
 - An event like the Roncalli Ball doesn't happen without the benefactors and sponsors. We are incredibly grateful for their generosity this year and every year. There are too many to mention here, but a Ball Program listing them is available in the Central Office.
- End of the Year Reminders:
 - Grand Opening of the NEW Roncalli Nearly New thrift store is set for Tuesday, May 5.
 - Kindergarten Graduation is May 18 @ 1:30pm.
 - RHS Graduation Mass/Commencement is Sat. May 16. Mass at 4:00pm followed by Commencement.
 - Last Day of School for the 25-26 school year is Wed., May 20.

ED MITZEL:

- We will be having the NHS induction on 4/16.
- Junior-Senior Dinner Dance will be at Engel's on Saturday the 18th, pictures are 5:00pm with the dinner and dance to follow.
- We are in the process of doing our NWEA testing for the MS. HS testing will be done April 21st.

- We will have completed a lockdown drill by the board meeting as well as having another ALICE drill scheduled with the APD.
- The Pops Concert is May 4th in the Gym.
- Graduation is May 16th. Mass is at 4:00pm with graduation to follow.

TAMMY KOST:

- **Institute of Catholic Liberal Education:** During April, teachers will continue observing one another as they work to refine and strengthen the instructional strategies they have been learning. I have been incredibly impressed with what I have seen so far throughout this process. Teachers are embracing these strategies with enthusiasm, and as a result, students are more engaged and are demonstrating deeper levels of learning.
- **RPS Playground:** Conversations are continuing as we plan the next steps for the RPS playground project. Teachers are becoming increasingly excited about the possibility of a new playground, especially after a particularly muddy spring. The current conditions have made it difficult for our youngest learners, who have often been limited to playing on the parking lot due to excessive mud. The committee continues to meet regularly to review fundraising progress and further refine the project plans. The excitement is growing as we move closer to making this much-needed improvement a reality.
- **RES Playground:** The greenspace at RES remains an ongoing topic of discussion. Work will begin as soon as ground temperatures are warm enough to allow the seed to take root.
- **Curriculum Review:** The K–5 staff continues to review their current curricula as we enter the final quarter of the school year. During this time, we will identify and determine any adjustments needed to strengthen instruction and better support student learning in the upcoming school year.
- **PTO:** Planning for our “Bloom and Believe Festival” has begun. Formerly known as the Carnival, this event will take on a refreshed look this year as we work to better align it with our Catholic identity. New activities are being introduced with greater emphasis on family fellowship, while longtime favorites such as Bingo and the Silent Auction will continue to be part of the celebration.
- **RES Staffing:** We are excited to welcome Madison Aguirre to the Roncalli teaching staff. Madison is a strong, faith-filled educator who brings a variety of talents to our school community. She is Elementary certified, holds a degree in Art, and is fluent in Spanish. Madison will be joining Mrs. Brockhouse and Mrs. Stafford as part of the 2nd grade team. She and her husband, Favian (a 2013 Roncalli graduate), recently welcomed their fourth child. We are grateful to have Madison and her family as part of our Roncalli community.
- **Enrollment Update:** We welcome a new student to Mrs. Goscicki’s 4th Grade Class. She will begin on April 20th. Looking ahead to the 2026–2027 school year, we currently have:
 - 38 students enrolled in Kindergarten
 - 58 students enrolled in Preschool
 - Two First Grade applications received
 - One Third Grade application received

- We continue to receive inquiries for additional grade levels and remain encouraged by the steady interest in our school.

RICK KLINE:

- The Roncalli Ball is set for Saturday evening, April 11, 2026. Special thank you to Kim Bowman, Chelsey Kline, Tricia Smid, Vicki McComsey and Abbey Larson for serving as this year's Ball Chairs. We are expecting 400 people to attend and celebrate with us.
- Nominations are open for the 2026 Roncalli Hall of Fame. If you would like to nominate someone, please see the Roncalli website, or send me an email and I will forward it to our committee.
- Plans are underway for this year's Cavalier Blast Trap Shoot. The date is Thursday, June 18, 2026 and is limited to the first 20 teams. Thank you to the Booster Club for hosting the event.
- The Booster Club is once again sponsoring a Notre Dame Football Trip. The date is September 12, 2026. Capacity is 54 people.
- Nearly New renovation is on schedule. Opening date at the new location is set for May 5, 2026. Thank you once again to the Mike Huck Family Foundation for their generous gift. Thank you to Quest Construction for all their oversight and dedication to this project.
- The Cavalier Classic Golf tournament is set for Monday, September 14, 2026 at Lee Park. Further details to follow.

DEREK LARSON: [SPORTS SCHEDULES- NORTHEASTSDCONFERENCE.COM](https://www.northeastconference.com)

- Girls' golf had their spring meeting and have their first meet scheduled for April 23rd at Milbank. We have 12 girls out for golf in grades 6-12.
- The middle school and high school track and field teams have started their season. They both have had indoor meets at the Barnett Center but have also had meets canceled because of poor weather. We are hosting a home track meet at Warner on April 17th. There are 14 teams scheduled to participate that Friday.
- The high school boys' tennis team had their first competition in Rapid City on March 26-28. They are currently 2-3 with wins over Rapid City Central and Spearfish. Their next contest is at home on Monday, April 23rd at 10:00 and 1:00 at the NSU courts against O'Gorman and Brandon Valley.
- The trap team just had their first competition of the year. There are currently 48 kids signed up for the trap team this year.
- Here is a list of the current coaching positions open for next year:
 - Junior High Football (2)
 - JH Girls Basketball (1)
 - Track and Field (1)
 - Oral Interpretation

PARISH REPORT: FR JORDAN SAMSON

- The major renovations at St. Mary's were completed in time to celebrate the Triduum liturgies. While there are some additional projects yet to be completed, the renewed sanctuary and nave provided a welcoming and prayerful setting for the many faithful who were in attendance.
- Sacred Heart's renovation committee continues to meet and consider next steps. Potential for a 4-million dollar renovation is being discussed. Guidance is being sought from the diocese about the use of a fundraising company to manage such a large campaign.
- In a few short weeks, work will begin on the roof at the Newman Center. We continue to raise the funds needed to complete this project, including improvements to the facility's HVAC system.
- The Sacred Heart Cemetery Board is seeking volunteers to assist with spring planting of trees in the newly expanded area on Saturday, April 18, beginning at 8 am. In case of inclement weather, the event will be moved to Saturday, April 25. Thank you to Scott Madsen for leading this effort.
- Sunday, April 12, 1:30 pm, we welcomed Bishop DeGrood back to Aberdeen to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Mary's on Sunday, April 12, with Confirmandi from Sacred Heart, St. Mary's, and St. Joseph's in Turton.
- The following Sunday, April 19, during the 10 and 11 am liturgies at Sacred Heart and St. Mary's, we will celebrate First Holy Communion with our second graders and their families.
- Wednesday, April 22, all are invited to the pastorate Easter Egg Hunt and potluck at the Sacred Heart Parish Hall beginning at 5:30.
- Finally, it is budget planning season for the pastorate. The Aberdeen Catholic School System continues to be an important mission of the pastorate, specifically the Aberdeen parishes. While it can be easy to get caught up in the financial aspects of education, Pope John XXIII (Angelo Roncalli) emphasized that education should not just be the transfer of information, but spiritual and moral formation, rooted in faith and service. His philosophy is as fitting today as it was over 60 years ago as we focus on the growth and development of lifelong, Catholic missionary disciples through God's love.
- Have a blessed Easter season!



Aberdeen Catholic School System

006.14 Contracted Service Days Hours

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The regular teaching contract shall specify the number of days ~~hours~~ of required service in accordance with the adopted school year calendar.

Parent/Teacher Conference days are classified as 2 teacher contract days.

The ACSS President may forgive up to 2 cancelled student contact days (equaling 14 hours) missed due to weather, disease, or emergency.

A maximum of 10 student contact days may be 'made-up' contingent upon meeting the required minimum number of instructional hours mandated by state accreditation.

including pre and post school term days. The regular school term shall consist of the following a minimum number of instructional hours as defined by SDCL13-26-1 school actually in session for a minimum of 175 days and shall also include an additional 3 days (minimum) preceding the opening of classes to be used for curriculum and staff development.

Kindergarten: 437.5 hours

Grades 1-5: 875 hours

Grades 6-12: 962.5 hours

A maximum of 16.5 hours of the required 2 parent/teacher conference days may be counted toward instructional hours.

~~—Of the minimum 175 day school term, a maximum of two (2) parent/teacher conference days may be counted as days in session. The School Board may designate one of the two parent/teacher conference days as a teacher in-service training day.~~

~~The remaining days of the 181 day teacher's contract may be designated for additional parent/teacher conference time, and/or pre/post school term duties as may be requested by the administration, and/or an additional day of student contact. *Wording of policy*~~

~~006.16~~

Approved March 27, 2019

1st reading March 2026



Aberdeen Catholic School System

006.31.1 Travel Expense Reimbursements for ACSS Employees

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The least expensive mode of transportation (airplane, vehicle, etc) should be used on all ~~District school~~ travel. ~~This includes riding with parents or other employees and/or use of donated vehicles when possible.~~

Gas: A school ~~district~~ gas credit card may be used when an employee uses his/her private vehicle for approved out of town travel.

Airplane accommodation – one ~~each~~ economy fare will be allowed for air travel.

~~Vouchers must show date, hour of departure and hour of return.~~

~~Reimbursement for meal expenses while carrying out the business of the district will be consistent with Diocesan norms State of South Dakota Board of Finance SDCL 3-9 allowance for per diem. Actual lodging costs shall be paid. Reimbursement for meals will be based on the following (not applicable to same day travel):~~

Breakfast: \$7.00

Lunch- \$10.00 **\$14.00**

Dinner- \$12.00 **\$20.00**

~~Every effort is made to stay at a hotel already set up with direct bill that includes breakfast. (if breakfast is included). When this happens no breakfast allowance will be given.~~

Meals will not be reimbursed if provided by the event employee is attending.

Revised: May 2011

First reading: April 2023

Approval: June 2023

1st reading March 2026



Aberdeen Catholic School System

006.41 Administrative “Guidelines” for Class size

006.41 K-6 5 Administrative “Guidelines” for Class Size

It shall be understood that the Class Size Guidelines that follow are not intended to be restrictive upon recruitment, nor are they mandates for additional staffing, particularly when applied to new families. On the other hand, for budgeting and staffing purposes, it is even more important for an early registration or enrollment decision – ~~April at the latest.~~

Recommended Class Size Range

KINDERGARTEN:	19 ± 2
FIRST & SECOND GRADE:	21 ± 2
THIRD & FOURTH GRADE:	23 ± 2
FIFTH & SIXTH GRADE:	25 ± 2

If projected class sizes are outside of the recommended range, then other options such as hiring an instructional aide or a part-time teacher could be considered by the School Board, based on recommendations from the Administrative Team.

NOTE: It shall also be understood that any proportionate increase or decrease in enrollments would affect staffing and class sections accordingly.



Aberdeen Catholic School System

006.42 Employee/Student Teacher Criminal Background Check

006.42

Personnel

EMPLOYEE/STUDENT TEACHER CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK

It is the policy of the Board and Diocese to employ only individuals and to allow only student teachers that do not have a “disqualifying record.” Each offer of employment or student teacher experience is subject to the provisions of **National Child Protection Act (NCPA/VCA)**, ~~SDCL 13-10-12~~ and/or diocesan policy, relating to criminal background investigations. This policy shall apply to all individuals employed since ~~January 2000~~ **July 23, 2025** and thereafter, who were not employed by the district during the preceding year. An employee is any person the district lists on its payroll and makes payroll deductions pursuant to state or federal law. This policy shall not apply to persons performing services for the district under the authority of the South Dakota High School Activities Association.

Each person, 18 years and older, considered the final applicant for employment and each student teacher applicant shall complete a DCI/FBI Fingerprint Background Check. The cost of the background check shall be covered by the employee/student teacher.

After School or Summer SonShine Patch Employees:

Employees considered for hire at CavClub ~~the After-School~~ or Summer SonShine Patch Program are also under the rules and regulations of the South Dakota Department of Social Services and must also complete fingerprint identification cards pursuant to SDCL 26-6-14.5. Fingerprints will be submitted to the South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Investigation Identification Division. The cost of this is covered by Child Care.

Any person granted employment subject to this policy is employed on a temporary basis conditioned upon no disqualifying report being received from the criminal background investigation. Any disqualifying record will result in immediate termination of employment without further notice or hearing. A “disqualifying record” means any conviction of a crime of violence as defined in SDCL 22-1-2(9), a sex offense as defined in SDCL 22-24B-1, or trafficking in narcotics. Conviction of any crime of moral turpitude as defined by SDCL 22-1-2(25) may constitute a disqualifying record as determined by the board on a case-by-case basis. Any criminal conviction may be considered in making a hiring decision. Any criminal conviction not disclosed by an applicant may be treated as a disqualifying record.

This policy applies to all other employment agencies, whether written or oral.

LEGAL REF: SDCL 22-1-2(9)- SDCL 22-24B-1- SDCL 22-1-2(25) ~~SDCL 13-10-12~~
SDCL 26-6-14.5

Revised January 2018



Aberdeen Catholic School System

006.43 Volunteer Criminal Background Check

006.43

Personnel

VOLUNTEER CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK

It is the policy of the Board to accept only volunteers who do not have a “disqualifying record.” Each offer to volunteer is subject to the provisions of the Diocese of Sioux Falls policy, relating to criminal background investigations. ~~This policy shall apply to all individuals who volunteer for the 2003-2004 school year and thereafter.~~ A volunteer is any person who has regular contact with minors and the vulnerable. ~~This policy shall not apply to persons performing services for the district under the authority of the South Dakota High School Activities Association.~~

Each person, 18 years and older, considered for volunteer work shall submit to the Safe Environment Requirement process set up by the Sioux Falls Diocese.

Any disqualifying record will result in immediate termination of volunteer services without further notice or hearing. A “disqualifying record” means any conviction of a crime of violence as defined in SDCL 22-1-2(9), a sex offense as defined in SDCL 22-24B-1, or trafficking in narcotics. Conviction of any crime of moral turpitude as defined by SDCL 22-1-2(25) may constitute a disqualifying record as determined by the board on a case-by-case basis. Any criminal conviction may be considered in making a hiring decision. Any criminal conviction not disclosed by an applicant may be treated as a disqualifying record.

This policy applies to all other volunteer agreements, whether written or oral.

LEGAL REF: SDCL 22-1-2(9)

SDCL 22-24B-1

SDCL 22-1-2(25)

SDCL 13-10-12

Revised Jan. 10, 2018

1st reading April 15, 2026



Aberdeen Catholic School System Volunteer Criminal Background Check: Regulations

VOLUNTEER CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK – REGULATIONS

Crimes of violence as defined in SCL 22-2-1(9) include any of the following crimes or an attempt to commit, or conspiracy to commit any of the following:

Murder, Manslaughter, Rape Aggravated Assault, Riot , Robbery,
Burglary in the first of second degree, Arson, Kidnapping
Felony sexual contact as defined in SDCL 22-22-7 and SDCL 22-22-19

Any other felony in the commission of which the perpetrator used force, or was armed with a dangerous weapon, or used any explosive or destructive device

A sex offense as defined in SDCL 22-24B-1 includes the following crimes regardless of the date of the commission of the offense or the date of conviction:

Rape
Sexual contact with a minor under sixteen
Sexual contact with a person incapable of consenting
Incest
Possession, manufacturing, or distributing child pornography
Sale of child pornography
Kidnapping if the victim of the criminal act is a minor
Promotion of prostitution of a minor
Criminal pedophilia
Felony indecent exposure

An attempt to commit any of the crimes listed in this section

Any crime committed in a place other than this state, which would constitute a sex crime under this section if committed in this state

Moral turpitude as defined in SDCL 22-1-2(25) is an act done contrary to justice, honesty, principal, or good morals, as well as an act of baseness, vileness, or depravity in the private and social duties, which a person owes to his fellow man or to society in general.



Aberdeen Catholic School System

006.44 Identification Cards

006.44 Identification Cards

For the safety, security and identification of ACSS students, staff and patrons, it is the policy of the Aberdeen Catholic School System that all employees wear district-issued photo identification cards while in district facilities or on district property in an employee capacity. ~~For staff who are eligible for employee benefits, this card will also serve as an activity pass.~~ All non-employees will wear a temporary identification card while they are on district properties.

Identification Cards – Guidelines

~~The ACSS Business office will prepare and issue plastic photo identification cards for all district employees. The word “ACTIVITY” will be printed on the cards of those staff members who are eligible for employee benefits.~~ All cards are to be worn on the person’s upper torso in a safe, highly visible, non-offensive location.

~~The identification card is the property of the school district and must be returned to the Business office upon resignation, termination or retirement.~~ Employees are prohibited from loaning their ID card to other staff, family members, or unauthorized individuals.

~~Cards will be replaced approximately every three years at no cost to the employee. Excessively worn or damaged cards or cards needing name/assignment changes will be replaced at no charge. Lost or stolen cards must be immediately reported to the Business office. A new card will be issued at a cost to the employee of \$5.00.~~

~~If an employee reports to work without an authorized photo identification card, he/she will be issued a temporary card. Successive days without an identification card will require the employee to purchase a replacement card.~~

Temporary cards will be available at each building’s office and will be worn by volunteers and visitors. Temporary cards must be kept in a secure place at each site and distributed by the facility administrator or his/her designee.

All visitors and volunteers will be required to report to the building’s office and to record arrival and departure time when the identification card is returned. Completed arrival/departure sheets should be retained at each site for one full year and then discarded.

When there are groups attending family events/performances in the school/facility (music programs, Grandparents' Day, etc), those attending shall not be required to obtain an identification card nor designate arrival/departure times.

Individuals in the school/facility without the appropriate identification card will be escorted to the main office to obtain a temporary card or the main office will be notified by phone or intercom that an individual is coming to the office to obtain an identification card.

Adopted: September 2008

Revised: October 2013

Revised 1st reading April 15, 2026