



Annual Society Meeting Monday, March 15, 2021 6:30 PM

Please take this packet with you to the meeting

To equip students academically, spiritually, and socially to gratefully serve God in all aspects of life.

All parents of children attending Allendale Christian School, staff members, and individuals over 21 who have contributed at least \$5 to our organization have the privilege of voting at our Annual Society Meeting. As members, you are encouraged to prayerfully consider attending this annual business meeting of our school. If you are unable to attend, you are encouraged to vote by absentee ballot (included). *Note that each adult member may vote and each ballot must be signed.* Please bring your absentee ballots to the Allendale Christian School's office or passed it in at the meeting.

Annual Society Meeting Agenda March 15, 2021 – 6:30 pm

1. Opening Devotions
2. Roll Call
3. Affirm nominees for Board and AC-PTA

Board of Directors:

3-Year Term (three needed)

Dirk DeVries
Laura VanderWaal
Gretchen VanHeukelum

3-Year Extension of Current Board Members

Brandon Brenner

AC-PTA:

2-year Term (two needed)

Sara Breen
Leah Johnson

4. Collection of Absentee Ballots
5. Approval of the minutes from the March 16, 2020 Annual Society Meeting
6. Principal's Report
7. Treasurer's Report
8. Presentations (Principal/Treasurer)
 - 2021-2022 Budget and vote
 - Proposal: None
9. Retiring Board members
 - Linda Dice (six years of service on the Board)
 - Josh Vrugink (three years of service on the Board)
 - Steve Westveld (four years of service on the Board)
10. Retiring AC-PTA members
 - Deb Dyke
 - Erin Ensing
11. Years of Service Recognition – Official recognition in the fall at Board-staff event
 - 15 years at ACS: Gretchen VanHeukelum
 - 40 years at ACS: Marcia Keegstra
12. Retiring Teacher Recognition – Mrs. Thea Gabrielse and Mrs. Gretchen VanHeukelum
13. Election Results
14. Closing Prayer and Adjournment

2020-2021

Board of Directors

Scott Albers
Ryan Balcom
Brandon Brenner
Linda Dice
Kris Keegstra
Bob Knoper
Justin Kreuze
Mallory Kuzee
Shaena Lemmen
Josh Vrugink
Steve Westveld

PTA Board Members

Mindy DeMott
Deb Dyke
Erin Ensing
Bobbi Newhof
Michelle Wittingen

Annual Society Meeting Agenda Minutes March 16, 2020 6:30 pm

- 1) Opening Devotions Brian Koetje
- 2) Roll Call
 - 18 attendees logged in on Zoom due to Covid restrictions. No absentee ballots.
- 3) Affirm nominees for Board and PTA
 - Approved for a 3-year term were Kris Keegstra, Justin Kreuze and Shaena Lemmen.
 - Approved for a 3-year extension was Scott Albers.
 - Introduction of new PTA Committee members will be announced later date due to COVID circumstances.
- 4) Approval of Minutes from the April 15, 2019 Annual Society Meeting
 - Approved
- 5) Principals Report
 - This is Brian's 8th year at ACS and teaching a strong biblical worldview for ACS students is the goal. Brian reported a strong increase in student numbers in the last two years with continued growth expected. Student retention rates have also been strong. With this growth though, we are running out of classroom space. Fundraising is going very well for the expansion project (approximately \$950,000) and has not even been made public yet. The goal is to break ground April 2021.
 - ACS will need to stay continuously informed about Covid pandemic. This may hinder our fundraising/giving.
- 6) Board President's Report Blended with above Principals report
- 7) Presentations
 - 2021 Budget and voting - approved
 - Biggest change was with salaries (1.5% salary increase)
 - Need to hire an additional 5th grade teacher
 - More funding needed for technology, office administration, and janitorial
 - ACS tuition rates are very comparable to other schools but with more students comes more work in all these areas.
- 8) Retiring Board member
 - 6 years of service: Don Lipinski, Lance Lutke, Ryan VanDyke. A huge thank you to these members who have served faithfully for the past 6 years.
- 9) Years of Service Recognition
 - Nancy Lutke, Sue Veurink and Wendy Zwiers all with ten years at ACS. Also Rebeka Mesbergen with 20 years of service at ACS. These teachers were officially recognized at the Christmas party. We thank them wholeheartedly for their past service.
- 10) Retiring Teacher Recognition - None
- 11) Election Results Affirmed
- 12) Closing Prayer and Adjournment Don Lipinski

Principal's Report for Society Meeting - 2021

The 2020-2021 school year has been challenging, but it has also provided me a front-row seat to watching God guide us through difficult situations, and watching our community step up when we really needed their support.

COVID-19 management played a significant role in so many decisions leading up to the school year, as well as during the school year. The Board created emergency ad hoc committees to help prepare for the decisions that would need to be made to provide the greatest opportunity to keep students in person as long as possible for the 2020-2021 school year. The Health, Wellness, and Procedure Committee worked through the Governor's Return to Learn plan and created the ACS Preparedness and Response Plan. The Facilities Committee prepared the facility for some level of social distancing and health and safety protocols. The Communications Committee focused on timely and detailed communication so that our families were well aware of protocols and procedures. Finally, a team of teachers made up the Homebound and Remote Learning Committees, which both focused on how we would best serve students who were home due to isolation or quarantine, as well as if we were forced to do virtual learning for a time. These committees and all those involved were vital in preparing ACS for many different situations. As of the end of February, we have not missed one day of scheduled in-person learning due to COVID-19. In fact, the days where school was cancelled were weather-related. Thank you God for this significant blessing!

Financially, COVID-19 had a significant impact on ACS. Many Christian schools had a large number of families decide to keep their students home to homeschool. There were many reasons for these decisions, including fear of extended virtual learning, frustration over mask requirements, or concerns over the virus. At the 2020 Society Meeting, a budget was passed that anticipated more than 380 students to be enrolled, based on enrollment intentions. However, with the attrition due to COVID, enrollment on the first day of school was 350. K-8 were the hardest hit grades, while preschool saw a smaller decline. Because many of the enrollment changes came in the summer, ACS was going to see a significant budget deficit based on what we had prepared for. We quickly worked in an emergency manner to find expenses that could be cut without negatively impacting the students. Through all of this, the staff continued to trust God and focused on making this an amazing year for students. Even with numerous budget cuts, there was still a gap that needed to be filled. The ACS community stepped up in big ways and by the end of the calendar year, the gap had been filled! Thank you God for this significant blessing!

Many schools across the country were quite concerned about academic achievement for students, especially after nearly a full trimester of virtual learning in the Spring of 2020. ACS teachers quickly transitioned to virtual learning last school year, which allowed students to continue forward without missing a beat. In the fall and winter of the current school year, students in grades 2-8 took the MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) assessments, which we use to identify areas of strength, but also areas where instructional tweaks are necessary. In the winter, there were three assessments (Math, Reading, Language Usage) given to the seven different grades; so 21 assessments total. ACS students scored above or far above the national mean in 19 of the 21 assessments! The MAP assessment is not a required assessment, so the schools that use it have selected this tool to monitor progress, and scores across the country are solid. To give one example of the academic achievement this year, I will share the Winter 2021 results of our soon-to-graduate 8th grade:

8th grade	Math	Reading	Language Usage
Norm Grade Level RIT (USA)	228.1	220.5	217.7
ACS 8th grade Mean RIT	238.4	227.3	220.9
% of ACS students in top 39% nationally	63%	74%	53%

In August 2020, ACS teachers completed two year of training for Teaching for Transformation (TfT). This Biblical worldview framework has been just that – transformational! We have seen so many benefits to the teaching and learning process. In fact, the work of ACS teachers has been highlighted by the Center for the Advancement of Christian Education (CACE), who is in charge of TfT in the United States. New teachers at ACS will onboard to the program through an annual online class offered by Dordt University. TfT stresses God's Big Story - Creation, Fall, Redemption by Jesus' sacrifice, and then Restoration. In other words, this is the Gospel! The good news is that we have been given the chance at salvation because of Jesus' victory over sin at the cross. Our role is to worship God and continue His restoration project (reforming) and doing His work in the world around us. We are living His story! We are using this program to help our students learn the Story and live out their role in the restoration project and building God's Kingdom - exactly what Christian education should be all about!

Looking forward, the growth that has occurred in the past few years will continue. For next year, more than 50 Kindergarten students are already enrolled, the Young Fives program is already full, and we are preparing to enroll our 100th preschool student for 2021-22. There are not enough classrooms for the students that are enrolled for next school year. Aaron Cole-Rouser, Advancement Director at ACS, has led the campaign fundraising as we prepare to break ground on Phase two of the expansion process. We will begin the process by building two rooms at the end of the NW wing of the school, and then build the shell for the future middle school. The shell will be built out as funds allow. We look forward to holding small group meetings, which will allow us to share with our constituents more of the ACS story – the things that are happening inside and outside the classroom, as well as the vision of the new space.

Each year I make sure to acknowledge that it is a great honor to be able to work with an amazing staff and supportive families at Allendale Christian School. As I prepare for my 10th year at ACS next year (22nd overall in Christian education as a teacher or administrator), I am thankful for the opportunities that this role has provided me. Allendale Christian has been a blessing in my life, and I am so glad that God allows me to serve this community. The team at ACS will continue to strive for excellence, be intentional about incorporating a strong Biblical worldview, push students academically, and to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the students we come in contact with. Please continue to pray for ACS as we continue to serve Him in the Allendale community.

Treasurer's Report for Society Meeting – March 15, 2021

The Allendale Christian School Finance Committee is presenting, with approval of the Board, a 2021-2022 school budget of \$2,223,118. This budget includes a tuition increase of 2.86% for one child, 2.3% for two and three children, and 1.2% for four children. We ask for prayerful support of this budget from our community. After a year that began with a deficit, which was generously covered by our community, we are projecting strong growth for the 21-22 school year. The process of creating this budget occurs over multiple months. Brian creates a preliminary budget based on enrollment projections and student needs. The Finance Committee meets to evaluate each line of the budget based on a three-year look back. We work very hard to make sure to keep tuition affordable for our families. The whole process is bathed in prayer, seeking God's guidance in preparing a budget that allows us to meet our mission to equip students academically, spiritually and socially to gratefully serve Him in all aspects of life.

We are grateful for God's continued provisions for ACS. We are excited to watch ACS continue to grow and take a front row seat to watch our students Live the Story as Kingdom builders in the Allendale community!

On behalf of the Finance Committee,
Mallory Kuzee, Board Treasurer

Board Nominees

Dirk DeVries Dirk and his wife, Deandre, along with their two children - Porter (2nd) and Titus (1st), are members of Bauer CRC where Dirk has been a Sunday school teacher, Chairman of the Finance Committee, and has served as a deacon and treasurer.

Place of Employment The Foundation Co., Inc.

Education Background Allendale Christian, Unity Christian, GVSU with a Finance degree

Statement of Faith I believe that Jesus' death on the cross is the only way for me to be saved from my sins and that with his power all things are possible.

Why would you like to serve on the ACS Board? I like to be involved in my kids' lives and this is a good way for me to be connected and know what is going on at their school. I also think I can benefit the board with my finance background and my experience in managing people.

Why is Christian education important? Christian education is important because it provides our children with a Biblical worldview during very formative years of their lives.

What board committee would you like to serve on? I am most interested in the financial area of things on the board.

Laura VanderWaal Laura and her husband, Dave, along with their four children - Hugo (9th), Owen (7th), Eden (5th) and Vera (1st), are members at Georgetown CRC where Laura has been a GEMS leader, Children's Worship Coordinator, Sunday school teacher, nursery volunteer, and has been on the Faith Formation Committee

Place of Employment Yanfeng

Community Involvement Women's Service Day Volunteer, Former PTA Treasurer

Statement of Faith I believe we are sinners, saved by grace through Jesus Christ. I believe the Bible is the one true word of God. I believe we are called to use our gifts to serve others and demonstrate Christ's love for us through our actions.

Why would you like to serve on the ACS Board? Our family has been a part of ACS for over 10 years and it is exciting to watch the growth and development of our school. I look forward to getting more involved and offering my gifts to help in making decisions and serving our school.

Why is Christian education important? Christian education gives our children a tremendous opportunity to cultivate and develop their faith. To offer our children a faith based education allows them to not only learn more about God, but teaches them how to develop a personal relationship with Christ that they will take with them for their entire life. Christian education is a community of believers who are all working together to teach our children how to live a life based on Biblical truth and faith based values.

What board committee would you like to serve on? My skills are strong in problem solving and decision making. I am able to sort through complex issues and find the root cause and drive towards a solution. I would like to serve on the Finance Committee.

Gretchen VanHeukelum Gretchen and her husband, Randy, are members of Covenant Life CRC in Grand Haven. Gretchen has served as an elder in their previous church.

Place of Employment Currently Gretchen teaches PEAK and Library at ACS. Gretchen is retiring from ACS at the end of this school year.

Education Background BA-Calvin College, MA-Michigan State University

Statement of Faith I am a Jesus Follower. Although my journey is imperfect, I try to align the rhythms of my life alongside of my Lord and Savior's.

Why would you like to serve on the ACS Board? Simply put – I love ACS! I believe my gifts in education and organization would be assets to the board. Also, I am eager to be a part of the ACS vision going forward.

Why is Christian education important? I believe Christian education is a gift we give our children. Ultimately, it is my hope that children impacted by Christian education will live differently throughout their lives. Programs like Tft have great potential to heighten that goal.

What board committee would you like to serve on? My greatest interest is education. I like taking “the long view” of the impact of education has had on student's lives. I am also know for my organizational skills.

Allendale Christian School - Budget Proposal 2021-2022

INCOME	2020-21	2021-22
Tuition	\$1,960,419	\$2,009,618
Interest Income	\$1,400	\$1,400
Foundation	\$60,000	\$64,000
Revive	\$26,400	\$25,100
Gym Rental	\$13,000	\$6,000
Total	\$2,061,219	\$2,106,118
AC-PTA Fundraising	\$65,000	\$65,000
Loyalty Drive	\$50,000	\$52,000
Fundraising to General Fund	\$115,000	\$117,000
GRAND TOTAL	\$2,176,219	\$2,223,118
EXPENSES		
Salaries	\$1,191,144	\$1,255,933
Para Educators & Aides	\$70,000	\$90,000
Advancement	\$45,000	\$0 Combined into salary line
All Belong (CLC)	\$12,675	\$13,185
Substitute Teachers	\$8,000	\$8,000
Professional Growth	\$14,000	\$14,000
Instructional Supply/Testing	\$18,000	\$18,000
Textbooks	\$13,000	\$8,000

M.S. Festivals/Assemblies	\$3,000	\$2,000
Library	\$4,000	\$2,000
Athletics & MS Play	\$18,500	\$12,000
Vocal / Instrumental	\$1,500	\$1,000
Technology	\$20,000	\$25,000
Device Replacement	\$5,000	\$0 Combined into Tech line
Total	\$1,423,819	\$1,449,118
Professional Fees	\$9,000	\$11,000
Promotion	\$12,000	\$11,000
Office and Admin	\$28,500	\$25,000
Copiers/Equipment	\$12,000	\$12,000
Office Development	\$3,000	\$0 Combined into Office & Admin
Total	\$64,500	\$59,000
Janitor	\$42,000	\$53,000
Janitor Supply	\$18,000	\$18,000
Maintenance	\$40,000	\$35,000
Fire and Liability	\$16,000	\$17,000
Snow removal/lawn care	\$15,000	\$12,000
Natural Gas	\$16,000	\$12,000
Electric	\$35,500	\$33,000
Water and Sewer	\$2,100	\$2,500
Phone	\$3,600	\$4,500
Building Improvement	\$10,000	\$10,000
Total	\$198,200	\$197,000
Bus Drivers	\$32,000	\$34,000
Bus Insurance	\$3,500	\$4,000
Bus Maintenance	\$14,000	\$11,000
Bus Fuel	\$14,000	\$11,000
Bus Replacement	\$7,500	\$8,000
Total	\$71,000	\$68,000
Retirement/Pension	\$95,000	\$102,000
Staff Insurance	\$159,000	\$160,000
Payroll taxes	\$92,000	\$95,000
Membership Dues	\$7,500	\$8,000
Workmens' Comp	\$5,200	\$5,000
Tuition Assistance	\$60,000	\$80,000
Total	\$418,700	\$450,000
GRAND TOTAL	\$2,176,219	\$2,223,118

Proposed Tuition:	2021-22
Preschool 3yr-2day	\$910
Preschool 4yr/2	\$975
Preschool 4yr/3	\$1,405
Nature-based 4yr/3-day AM	\$1,495
Nature-based 4yr/2-day PM	\$995
Young Fives (2.5 days)	\$3,585
3-day Kindergarten	\$4,535
5-day Kindergarten	\$6,485
1 child Grades 1-8	\$7,185
2 children Grades 1-8	\$13,395
3 children Grades 1-8	\$17,800
4 children (or more) Grades 1-8	\$19,975

Allendale Christian School Society Meeting Ballot

1. Approve the proposed 2021-2022 Budget ____ Yes ____ No
2. Election of members of the Board of Directors

Affirm New Candidates

Dirk DeVries → ☐

Laura VanderWaal → ☐

Gretchen VanHeukelum → ☐

Affirm Extension of Current Board Members

Please affirm the following candidate for the Board of Directors:

Brandon Brenner → ☐

Affirm New PTA Candidates

Leah Johnson, Vice-President → ☐

Sara Breen, Vicar to the Secretary → ☐

Society Member signature: _____ (if absentee)

If absentee: Please deliver to ACS in a sealed envelope with signature on the seal prior to the Society Meeting.

Allendale Christian School Society Meeting Ballot

1. Approve the proposed 2021-2022 Budget _____ Yes _____ No
2. Election of members of the Board of Directors

Affirm New Candidates

Dirk DeVries → ☐

Laura VanderWaal → ☐

Gretchen VanHeukelum → ☐

Affirm Extension of Current Board Members

Please affirm the following candidate for the Board of Directors:

Brandon Brenner → ☐

Affirm New PTA Candidates

Leah Johnson, Vice-President → ☐

Sara Breen, Vicar to the Secretary → ☐

Society Member signature: _____ (if absentee)

If absentee: Please deliver to ACS in a sealed envelope with signature on the seal prior to the Society Meeting.