



Hillcrest Academy Operating Board
MEETING MINUTES
July 9, 2026 - 7:00 PM

Hillcrest Academy, in partnership with the family and the church, offers students an academically excellent, Christ-centered education rooted in an Anabaptist perspective. Within a caring community, Hillcrest prepares students for lives of Christian discipleship, peacemaking, and service.

Annual Board Meeting

Members Present: Terry Erb, Brylee Miller, Nick Detweiler-Stoddard, Cassidy Hertzler, Allison Goertz, Gabby Frederick, Amy Landes, Marshall Swartzendruber, Gretchen Yoder, Robin Schrock

Absent: Troy Roth, Joel Beachy, Jill Hemachandra

Others Present: Nate Miller - Head of School

I. Opening

- A. Welcome and Introductions
- B. Commitment to Mission - Allison read the Mission Statement
- C. Devotional Focusing - Allison reflected on the Hebrew prophet Isaiah 43:19 *"See I am doing a new things, streams in the desert, new life springing up."*

II. Annual Meeting Agenda

- A. Board member support of Confession of Faith and Missio Dei (vote of affirmation)
All members voiced affirmation of these foundational documents
- B. Code of Ethics for Board Members (Policy 202.1) - Board read through and discussed observations or questions on these. Discussion highlighted items of particular pertinence and affirmed commitment to this Code of Ethics.
- C. Covenant Litany of the Board (page 12 of Policy 202.1)- Board read aloud together
- D. Affirmation of Officers - President (Allison), Vice President (Cassidy), Secretary (Nick)
ACTION 1 Motion to affirm officers as presented: Gabby, second: Robin, carried.
- E. Set time and place for regular board meetings
ACTION 2 Affirmed 2nd Monday of each month at 7pm located in the school library
- F. Committee assignments and board member info
Members asked to consider which roles they may serve.
- G. Annual Report - review of draft
- H. Adjournment of Board's Annual Meeting
ACTION 3 Motion to adjourn the Annual Meeting: Gabby, second: Allison, carried



**Hillcrest Academy Operating Board
MEETING MINUTES
July 9, 2026 - 7:00 PM**

Regular July Board Meeting

I. Call to Order

- A. Community Forum - No community members present

II. Approve Consent Agenda

- A. Last Month's Minutes
- B. Administrative Reports - Head of School, Advancement, Enrollment, Finance
- C. This Month's Board Meeting Agenda
- D. Resignations and New Hires

ACTION 1 Motion: Gabby, second: Gretchen, carried

III. Approval of Agreements with Kirkwood Community College

- A. 2026–2027 Workplace Learning Connection (WLC) Memorandum of Understanding
- B. 2026–2027 College Credit in High School (CCHS) Annual Enrollment Form

ACTION 2 Approve both agreements. Board president to sign. Motion: Gabby, Second: Nick, Carried

IV. Strategic Planning Progress Report

Nate noted that we currently lack a vision statement to guide our planning around our shared mission and values statements. Suggested that a Vision Statement is needed before proceeding with Strategic Plan. Current draft ideas for a simple three word focus for Vision statement: Faith / Learning / Community. A simple Mission Statement sentence should answer: What do we do, Who do we do it for, Why we do it. Aim to put out a draft for the board in the next month, along with some commentary notes on the reasoning for the language used

V. Policy Considerations

- A. *Gift acceptance in Series 800* - Noted need for future policy additions re: naming rights and Washington County Riverboat Foundation moneys. Initial considerations discussed. Will look into the policies of other related schools.
- B. *Lunch program policies in 700 Series Auxiliary Services* - Nate reported that Tami Brenneman recently completed a food services and finances training and notes that our school lunch program policies need updating to bring them in line on civil rights and purchasing regulations. Board reviewed initial draft. Tami and Nate will continue to work on this policy sub-section and bring an updated version for a future meeting for approval.

VI. Closing

- A. Summary of meeting
- B. Review of task assignments
- C. Next Meeting: 7pm Monday, August 10, 2026 - Devotions: Robin

ACTION 3 Adjournment at 8:50pm. Motion: Gretchen, second: Marshall, carried



**Hillcrest Academy Operating Board
MEETING MINUTES
July 9, 2026 - 7:00 PM**

Executive Session

Additional Board Actions

ACTION July 17 (virtual) Approved hire and contract: MS English teacher, Josephine Haub

ACTION July 25 (virtual) Approved basement sewer drain remediation by Bowker Pinnacle

submitted: Nick Detweiler-Stoddard, secretary