



**Mary of Nazareth Catholic School
HSA General Meeting Minutes
September 10, 2026**

**Prayer and Opening Remarks
Krysia Novotny, HSA President**

The meeting opened in prayer, led by HSA President Mrs. Novonty, asking for guidance, wisdom, and grace as the group made decisions affecting the students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of Mary of Nazareth School.

Mrs. Novonty thanked the school's teachers and staff, introduced herself and the HSA board to the room, and reminded parents of the impact volunteering has on the school community. She shared a heartfelt story about Novo Red Card Road, emphasizing the power of the MoN community.

She made a call for sponsors to support Race for School, HSA, and CAF funding for classroom events.

The next Restaurant night will be held on September 23 at Moby Dick in Kentlands.

**Principal's Welcome
Michael J. Friel, Principal**

Mr. Friel welcomed and thanked everyone for attending, and expressed appreciation for the HSA members and all they do for the MoN community. He introduced the full faculty and staff, thanking them for their ongoing hard work and commitment, and spoke to the importance of parent and community involvement.

Mr. Friel presented "One Body, One Mission," a set of reminders for a successful school year together — from establishing solid routines and building resilience to setting intentional boundaries and using good judgement.

Mr. Friel emphasized that the heart of MoN is our mission: Mary of Nazareth School prepares children for lives of service to God and neighbor, through a rigorous academic program rooted in the faith and teachings of the Roman Catholic Church, as professed in the Creed, celebrated in the sacraments, lived in Christian virtue and affirmed in prayer.

Mr. Friel shared updates across several areas: facility improvements including the Spanish lab, music room, third-grade classroom, faculty bathrooms, parking lot, and Ned's Nook; academic gains such as increased reading and resource support, a new Spanish middle-school team, reduced student ratios, and

AI governance; and security enhancements including a new phone system, staff walkie-talkies, new outdoor cameras, two-point front-door access, and updated fire lane and crisis procedures.

Mr. Friel introduced the Board of Governance and gave a finance update, highlighting the board's focus on a sound budget, yearly audit, affordability, and long-term investments.

Mr. Friel gave an update on Ned's Nook, noting growing community usage and the goal of creating a hub where the community can come together. Its dedication is planned for October 17, and volunteers are needed for parking, hosting, greeters, and tour guides.

Mr. Friel's remarks ended in prayer.

Treasurer's Report

Kirk Kincer, HSA Treasurer

The HSA 2026–2027 budget was shared in the weekly newsletter ahead of the meeting, and paper copies were provided to attendees. A few questions were raised:

Q: Will HSA funds support the 8th grade NYC trip?

A: Yes — a new line item this year, the Board voted to provide \$5,000 toward the trip, with Mr. Friel's support.

Q: Why is the Secret Santa Shop not accounted for in the budget this year?

A: It's not included in this year's budget because it is not out-of-pocket expense. The HSA collects a percentage of what's sold, which simplifies how the expense is handled.

Q: Why did HSA/CAF Shopify fees rise from \$570 to a \$4,900 budget?

A: The fees didn't actually increase — they used to be charged against a different line item, so this reflects a change in accounting, not added cost.

The budget passed.

Secretary's Report

Molly Fawley, HSA Secretary

The May 2026 HSA general meeting minutes were approved.

Development Office Report

Sarah Muir, Development Director

Ms. Muir shared the Annual Campaign, the HSA's first campaign of the year, will launch at the end of September. As a reminder, the campaign helps offset operating costs, including teacher salaries and tuition support.

Ms. Muir teased upcoming development initiatives including Ultimate Day and the spring auction.

MoN Musical Theater Sharon Humphries, Producer

A call went out for parent volunteers for the school theater program — no experience necessary, and participation is open whether or not your child is in the production. Watch the newsletter for upcoming announcements.

