

# Immanuel Lutheran School Board Meeting Minutes

**Date:** March 24, 2026

**Location:** Immanuel Lutheran School

**Attendees:** Dean Jennissen (Principal), Brandon Laabs, Jonah Dagel, Justin Scholten, Leann Henning, Deb Jons, Lori Henning, Pat Pohlman, School Cook (Guest presenter)

## Guest Presentation: Hot Lunch Program

**Presenter:** Pat Pohlman

- **Successes:** Pat reported that donations are "through the roof," including a \$1,000 credit at a local grocery store. The transition from half-pint cartons to gallon milk pouring has significantly reduced waste. Student helpers from the 7th and 8th grades have been a major asset to kitchen operations.
- **Challenges:** Menu planning around irregular donated items (e.g., 1,000 donated hot dogs) remains a challenge. Pat noted that the current distributor, Core-Mark, is not ideal for school needs and is researching alternative vendors.
- **Equipment Needs:** Request for a flat-top griddle (for pancakes/grilled cheese), an additional food warmer/steam table, and new drinking cups.
- **Operational Updates:** Discussion regarding an online system for lunch accounts and reorganizing the back storage room to move can racks out of the dining area.

## 2026-2027 Proposed Lunch Rates

Item	Rate
Full Meal	\$4.50
Salad Bar	\$2.75
Added Salad Bar	+\$0.75
Milk	Current Rate

## Approval of Minutes

- A motion was made to approve the minutes from the February 24, 2026, meeting.
- **Motion:** Brandon Laabs; **Second:** Lori Henning; **Motion Carried.**

## Principal's Report

- **School Climate:** Students and staff are continuing to work hard, together
- **Staffing:** Sheila Frecking announced she will be stepping away after 10 years of dedicated service.
- **Financials:** Hot lunch balance is approximately \$20,000. A \$1,000 music donation was received. Focus remains on rebuilding tuition assistance funds to \$19,000 by September.
- **PTL Updates:** Healthy balance; 9-square game paid for; quote received for a Gaga pit installation (\$2,800).

## Accreditation Update

- **Validation Visit:** Scheduled for April 8–10, 2026.
- **Board Dinner:** Thursday, April 9 at 5:00 PM with the validation team.
- **Compliance:** Board minutes are now posted online. A three-year financial plan is currently under development.

## Policy Reviews & Actions

1. **Hiring and Compensation Policy:** Second reading. **Approved.**
2. **Employee Grievance Procedure:** Second reading (with Pastor role updates). **Approved.**
3. **Authorized Signature Policy:** Second reading. Sets \$5,000 threshold for signatures and requires congregational vote for purchases over \$7,500. Added clause to limit vendor contracts to two years. **Approved.**

## Enrollment & Facilities

- **Class Sizes:** 31 potential students for the 3rd/4th-grade split next year. Discussed options for a half-time teacher or TA (approx. \$26,000 budget impact).
- **Playground:** Considering transition to rubber mulch (\$13,000–\$15,000) to mitigate mud issues.

## Upcoming Events

- **LBA Hot Dog Night:** Board participation confirmed.
- **JCC All-School Reunion:** School tours scheduled for Saturday, August 22.