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May 2026

The Mission of Inwood Christian School is to provide an atmosphere in which each unique child of God is challenged both academically and Biblically to live as a Christian, serving Him in all areas of life.



## ICS GRADUATION

May 20, 2026

7:00 P.M.



# 2026 Graduates

*Andrew Davelaar*

*Avery Stearns*

*Karsen Van Beek*

*Ethan Van Engen*

*Joanna Van Engen*

Class Verse: "Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." Philipians 1:6

# 2026 Inwood Christian School Graduates



**Drew Davelaar** is the son of Darren & Abbi Davelaar. Drew will be attending Western Christian High School and plans to participate in Band, Theater, Track, Speech, Drumline and FFA. One of Drew's favorite memories of ICS is running around the corn maze with Derek & Ryker. He says he will miss the small classes, great teachers, and the milk machine at ICS. Drew's favorite Bible verse is Joshua 1:8 which is "Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful."

**Avery Stearns** is the daughter of Brian & Amy Stearns. Avery will be attending Sioux Falls Lutheran School and plans to participate in Soccer, Band, Choir, Speech and Forensic Sciences. Avery's favorite memory of ICS is getting to purchase gifts for foster children. She says she will miss the tight knit community of kids and the teachers that love and know me. Avery's favorite Bible verse is Lamentations 3:23 which is "They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

**Karsen Van Beek** is the son of Troy & Abbey Van Beek. Karsen will be attending West Lyon High School and plans to participate in Concert Band, Marching Band, Pep Band and Theater. Karsen's favorite memory of ICS is waking up my classmates from nap time with the magic wand in Kindergarten. He says he will miss all of the loving teachers and students at ICS. Karsen's favorite Bible verse is Revelations 11:15 which is "The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever."

**Ethan Van Engen** is the son of PJ Van Engen and Nikki Van Engen. Ethan will be attending Western Christian High School and plans to participate in Golf, Band, Speech, the Fall Play, Drafting and anything else he can fit in his schedule. Ethan's favorite memory of ICS is the trip to Great Shots. He says he will miss the childlike innocence that comes with middle school, Mrs. Lucas, and the meals. Ethan's favorite Bible verse is Acts 3:16 which is "By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has given this complete healing to him, as you can all see."

**Joanna Van Engen** is the daughter of Nic & Shirley Van Engen. Joanna will be attending Western Christian High School and plans to participate in Speech, FFA, Band, Softball and Track. Joanna's favorite memory of ICS is the 8th grade pep rally. She says she will miss Mrs. Lucas and all of the chill days at ICS. Joanna's favorite Bible verse is Proverbs 16:9 which is "In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord establishes his steps."

## PRESCHOOL

Wow, what a year we have had in preschool! In preschool this year we did multiple different studies. We did the Back to School Study, Tree Study, Clothing Study, Building Study, Exercise Study, and Sports Study, on top of learning our letters, numbers, writing our name, and learning multiple other skills. We worked hard, but we also had some fun in preschool to end our year too! We went on a field trip to Fields of Fun to learn about pumpkins, we celebrated 101 Paw-some Days of school on March 17, we celebrated Spirit Week at school with a full week of dress up days, we went on another field trip to Valley Elite Gym in Rock Valley, and we had fun celebrating the end of the school year by dressing in neon clothes and wearing sunglasses for "Our Future's so BRIGHT, We Have to Wear Shades Day!" On the last day of preschool we celebrated graduation! It is crazy to think our school year is over, but it has been a blessing to be able to teach all these amazing students and get to know their families!



## KINDERGARTEN

Oh, the things we are learning in Kindergarten! In math, one thing we learned about was shapes: 2D and 3D. Students had fun constructing a cube out of popsicle sticks and clay!

Ms. Dayton brought a Star Lab to our school and showed all of us here at ICS about our big beautiful sky and the space beyond! It was amazing to see God's creation visible to us in a way we normally don't see!

We were blessed to take our learning outside the classroom and go on a couple of field trips. We enjoyed learning about the art of opera in the performance of the Billy Goats Gruff at Dordt University. It was an enjoyable and entertaining experience! It confirmed what we talk about in Bible and in our daily lives that we need to "Treat others as we want to be treated." We also went to Prairie Woods Nature Center at Oak Grove State Park and enjoyed more of God's beautiful creation as we explored nature and looked for living organisms and discussed why they lived where they did and why they looked like they did. They also enjoyed a picnic lunch, did a craft involving animals with hair, scales, feathers, explored the nature center and met a few of their live animals.

Lately, we've been enjoying our Year End Countdown (one letter of the alphabet each day with a matching activity). Letter "B" was Bubble Day and the students enjoyed blowing bubbles (and letting the wind blow the bubbles for them too)!

However, the school year isn't over yet! There is still more to learn: long vowel sounds, measurement, money, magnets, and the disciples spreading the word of God. The students are looking forward to Field Day and Hike Day and the rest of the Year End Countdown days! What a great year we have had!

My favorite thing about Kindergarten:

Jett Blankespoor - P.E.

David Jones - art, free time

Jericho Lucas - P.E.

Eliza Nieuwendorp - All my friends, meeting my teacher, art

Tennyson Reinke - P.E., art, field trips

Alaina Schaeffer - my teacher

Cohen Scholten - P.E.

Blakely Schroder - Everything!

Elsie Van Beek - apple orchard

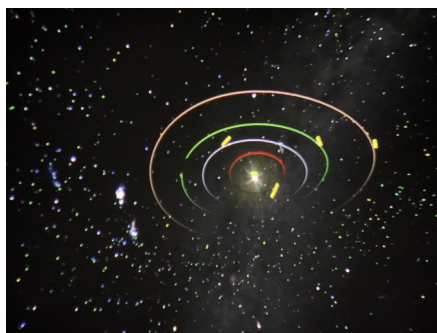
Kyzer Van Beek - apple orchard

Raya Van Beek - Year End Letter Countdown

Lennon Van Grouw - art, P.E., field trips

Wrenleigh Wanamaker - recess

Tayvia Williams - free time (Legos)



## 1st/2nd Grade

Our 1st/2nd grade class has been getting excited for the K–4 Field Day on Friday, May 8! Students have been practicing their teamwork, coordination, running, and throwing skills in preparation for this fun event.

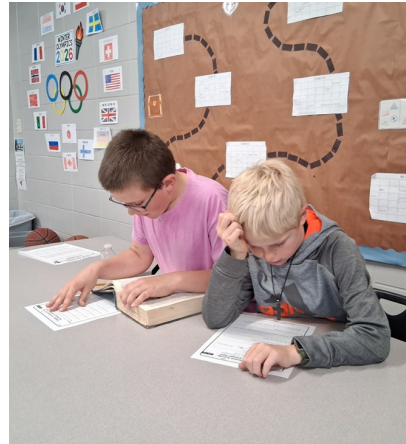
This year's Field Day will feature many exciting activities, including a three-legged race, javelin throw, obstacle course, water balloon toss, egg-and-spoon race, potato sack race, and many more fun events. We are looking forward to a great day of teamwork, sportsmanship, and celebration!



## 3rd/4th Grade

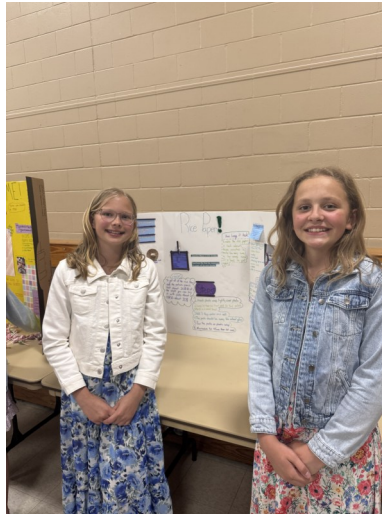
Third- and fourth-graders had a variety of fun experiences to wrap up the school year! Along with the younger grade levels, we went to Dordt to watch OPERA Iowa perform. We completed a novel study of *Frindle* and did a dictionary scavenger hunt. Students tackled a sewing project by creating their own pop-tart plushies. We journeyed to Sioux Falls for our class field trip, where we toured Sioux Falls Fire Station 8, checked out some reptiles at the Reptile Adventure Zoo, explored the Stockyard Ag Museum, and walked around Falls Park. We were even visited by a baby goat!

We are looking forward to making a few more memories during our last days together. I am so proud of the third- and fourth-graders' hard work this year and wish them an amazing summer!



## 5th/6th Grade

Our 5th & 6th graders have been pretty busy! Our 6th graders had the opportunity to go to Northwestern College for a math bee. They had a fun time and got to enjoy some Pizza Ranch afterwards! Our 5th & 6th graders also got to complete group science fair projects! They were all very creative and had a fun time experimenting with different things! While there are not any pictures, we also finished our last visit to Fellowship Village for the year. We are excited for the busy end of this year!



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## 7th/8th Grade

“Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” Philippians 1:6

Reflecting on this verse, chosen by the 8th grade class for their graduation, it is clear that God has been at work in their lives throughout this past year. From field trips like Great Shots in the fall to events such as the speech contest and talent show, students had many opportunities to grow and share their gifts. They served their community by helping set up the Inwood Library and enjoyed memorable experiences at Nora Store and the EROS Data Center, along with Thanksgiving and Christmas celebrations. They also worked hard academically—creating science fair projects, painting their own versions of *Starry Night*, and filming and editing travel videos. Yet when we look back on the year, what stands out most are the relationships that were built.

The graduating 8th grade class is made up of five students, going to three different high schools. Though each is unique, they have formed a strong bond during their time here at ICS. Their time at Inwood Christian will be the close of one chapter and the beginning of a new one. As Minor Myers, Jr. once said, “Go into the world and do well. But more importantly, go into the world and do good.” I am confident that these 8th graders will move forward, making a positive impact on the people they meet and spreading God’s love wherever they go. God began a good work in them, and I pray that is evident throughout their lives!

The 7th graders will have big shoes to fill, and I pray that God will guide them as they step into greater leadership roles in the coming year. Just as we have seen Him at work in this year’s 8th graders, we trust He will continue that work in the students who follow.

# SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

February 10, 2026

Matt Vande Vegte opened the meeting with devotions and prayer. Minutes of the January 12, 2026, meeting were read by title and approved.

The agenda was established with the following members present: Matt Vande Vegte, Todd Reinke, Michael Grevengoed, Josh Van Grouw, Amy Stearns and Pete Van Velzen. Tyler Attema joined by phone call and Jaron Van Beek was absent with notification.

## Old Business

The Staff and Board supper will be held on February 10.

The gym sound system should be up and running by the end of the month.

## Principal's Report

Principal Van Velzen's report was discussed.

Pete enjoyed his visit to school.

An education committee will be set up.

A SWOT meeting will be held on Thursday, March 12.

We will start advertising for a principal position.

## Hot Lunch Report

The hot lunch program was discussed.

## Treasurer's Report/Finance Committee Report

The treasurer's report was given, and profit/loss statements were reviewed. Tuition concerns were discussed.

The offerings and envelope amounts were discussed.

The interest payment from the Foundation has been received.

The 2026-2027 budget was discussed.

## Education Committee

Josh Van Grouw gave a positive report on his school visit.

Contracts were discussed.

## Building/Grounds Committee

The Inwood Community Center will be using the school gym to host open gym.

## Other Business

8th grade graduation will be held on Wednesday, May 20, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Gym rentals were approved.

The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. Concept minutes were read and approved. Closing prayer was given by Pete Van Velzen.

Michael Grevengoed, Secretary

March 10, 2026

Todd Reinke opened the meeting with devotions and prayer. Minutes of the February 10, 2026, meeting were read by title and approved.

The agenda was established with the following members present: Matt Vande Vegte, Todd Reinke, Michael Grevengoed, Josh Van Grouw, Jaron Van Beek, Tyler Attema, Amy Stearns and Pete Van Velzen.

## Principal's Report

Principal Van Velzen's report was discussed.

The Education committee was discussed. The committee will be made up of the Principal, Board President, Board Secretary, one faculty member and two parents.

A SWOT Analysis will be held on Thursday, March 12.

Kindergarten readiness was discussed.

The spring program will be held on Thursday, April 30.

School hours were discussed.

## Hot Lunch Report

The Board voted to no longer use the state program for breakfast & lunch. This will start with the 2026-2027 school year.

## Treasurer's Report/Finance Committee Report

The treasurer's report was given, and profit/loss statements were reviewed. Tuition concerns were discussed.

The offerings and envelope amounts were discussed.

Various gifts were received by school.

The 2026-2027 Budget was approved.

## Education Committee Report

Matt Vande Vegte gave a positive report on his school visit.

## Building/Grounds Committee

Jason, Derek, and Jacob Vande Vegte will be mowing the school grounds.

Matt Vande Vegte will paint the lines on the soccer fields.

## Other Business

Nominees for the school board were discussed.

The Foundation Board will get nominees after they have their meeting.

The next board meeting will be held on Monday, April 13, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. Concept minutes were read and approved. Closing prayer was given by Jaron Van Beek.

Michael Grevengoed, Secretary

## SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

**April 13, 2026**

Jaron Van Beek opened the meeting with devotions and prayer. Minutes of the March 10, 2026, meeting were read by title and approved.

The agenda was established with the following members present: Matt Vande Vegte, Josh Van Grouw, Jaron Van Beek, Tyler Attema, Pete Van Velzen and Amy Stearns. Michael Grevengoed joined by phone call. Todd Reinke was absent with notification.

### **Old Business**

Jessica Bonnema and Jacklyn Nieuwendorp have agreed to be the parent representatives on the Education Committee.

### **Principal's Report**

Principal Van Velzen's report was discussed. NICSTO funds were discussed.

There will be a teacher in-service on April 24. Pete will talk about the accreditation process with the staff.

The results of the SWOT analysis was discussed.

Registration for the 26-27 school year will be held on June 3, 2026.

The annual Society meeting will be held on May 27, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

The 2026-2027 school calendar was approved.

It was approved to let Miss Warmbrand provide tutoring in the summer in the school.

Vonda Scholten will be helping out in the Kindergarten and 3rd/4th grade rooms.

### **Hot Lunch Report**

The hot lunch program was discussed.

### **Treasurer's Report/Finance Committee Report**

The treasurer's report was given, and profit/loss statements were reviewed. Tuition concerns were discussed.

The offerings and envelope amounts were discussed.

The 2026-2027 budget was discussed.

### **Education Committee**

Tyler Attema gave a positive report on his school visit.

### **Other Business**

School Board nominees were discussed.

Bus Inspections will be held on Monday, April 27, 2026.

There will be no school on Friday, May 1.

The next board meeting will be held on Monday, May 11, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. Concept minutes were read and approved. Closing prayer was given by Jaron Van Beek.

Michael Grevengoed, Secretary

## SOCIETY MEETING

The annual Society Meeting of Inwood Christian School will be held on Wednesday, May 27, beginning at 7:00 p.m. All society members are encouraged to attend and be an active participant in ICS.

The evening's agenda will include the approval of the 2026-2027 Proposed Budget, the election of school board members and foundation board members, and reports from various committees.

## FOUNDATION NEWS

Thank you to all of the members of the ICS Foundation who have been so diligent in submitting their dues when they become due and for all of the extra gifts that we have received.

Your continued cooperation and sharing have helped to educate our children in an environment that allows God's name to be honored and glorified in all aspects of the curriculum and extra-curricular activities.

ICS Foundation Board

## THANK YOU!

The ICS Board would like to thank everyone for the support the school has received this past school year. Your financial support and volunteer help were greatly appreciated. Also, thank you to everyone who generously contributed to NICSTO this past year. Contributions helped give families the opportunity to experience Christian education at ICS.

The school covets your prayers as the current year is coming to an end and preparations are being made for our next school year. With most tuition being paid during the school year, the summer months are financially lean. Please remember Inwood Christian School this summer in your giving and your prayers.

