

SCOTUS CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT

www.scotuscc.org 2015-16 Columbus, NE 68601

Message from the President



Friends of Scotus,

By the time you receive this report, I will no longer be serving Scotus Central Catholic as its president. What a great experience this has been for both Peg and me. You cannot truly understand what it means to be a Shamrock until you have the opportunity to walk these halls on a daily basis. I truly believe I am a better person (far from perfect) because of my experiences the past sixteen years. Peg and I will miss you. And again, thank you staff, students, parents, alumni, and Scotus supporters for your trust and support.

The 2015-16 year was a year of challenges and incredible success for our school! I cannot express the pride I feel for the accomplishments of our student body and particularly of the senior class. Scotus had ten Omaha World Herald Academic All-Staters in the Class of 2016 including Lydia Schaecher, who was selected for the All West-Central Academic First Team. Lydia was also a National Merit Finalist. The following nine Shamrocks were named Honorable Mention: Bailey Braun, Justin Brockhaus, Leah Engquist, Amy Heusinkvelt, Dana Hoppe, Gabrielle Middendorf, Ryan Mustard, Darin Rinkol and Justin Zoucha. (Honorable mention nominees either had to be ranked first or second in their senior class or they had to have an ACT composite score of at least 32 or a 2080 on the SAT.)

Scotus earned two NSAA Cups for activity achievements this year. The Shamrock boys won state titles in football (Class C-1) and soccer (Class B); took third in basketball (Class C-1) and golf (Class B); tied for third in track and field (Class B); finished fourth in boys cross country (Class C-1) and dual wrestling (Class B); and fifth in tournament wrestling (Class B). Scotus finished third in state journalism (Class B) and received the maximum points available in the district music competition, while the girls' volleyball team finished in fourth place (Class C-1) and the girls soccer team's final ranking was fifth (Class B.) We also had 36 NSAA Academic All-State selections this year.

On the financial side our supporters surpassed the annual appeal goal of \$65,000 and contributed more than \$142,000 to help the school make improvements to facilities and small team transportation. We lowered the HVAC debt, from \$454,591 to \$190,000, and the \$1.3 million dollar SEF 14 drive continued toward a successful completion at the end of 2016. We greatly expanded the computer network and server capacity of our school through an Ignite the Faith Campaign grant, added eleven power half racks in the weight room, and purchased another home and moved it to expand the new north parking lot for students. I could go on and on.

It was very easy to join this school sixteen years ago—who wouldn't want to work at a school where education of the mind, heart, soul and body are all given equal importance—where faith in our Lord can be expressed and nurtured every hour and where a storied tradition leads to confidence and success in the classroom and on the playing field and performance stage. It will be hard to leave Scotus Central Catholic but I am confident that Jeff Ohnoutka will be an outstanding president for SCC and the school will have a very bright future.

As Scotus embarks on another important Scotus Education Fund drive this fall, I urge you to continue your loyal support for a place that will provide generous returns for every dollar or volunteer minute you invest in the Catholic education of our students. May God bless all Shamrocks and may God be praised for the opportunity we all have to be Shamrocks!

Wayne Morfeld, President

Corporate Board

Archbishop George Joseph Lucas
Archbishop Emeritus Elden Francis Curtiss
Fr. Lydell Lape, St. Anthony
Fr. Michael Swanton, St. Bonaventure
Fr. Joe Miksch, St. Isidore
Patrick Slattery, Archdiocesan Superintendent
Mr. Wayne Morfeld, Scotus CCHS President

Student Council

Amy Heusinkvelt, President
Brady Przymus, Vice-President
Naomi Kosch, Secretary/Minutes
Jennifer Belsan, Secretary/Attendance
Dana Hoppe, Treasurer

DEDICATED LEADERSHIP 2015 - 2016

Board of Education

St. Anthony

Todd Duren
Tim Harrington
Mike Novicki
Fr. Lydell Lape

St. Bonaventure

Dr. Kim Allen
Joe Chohon, President
Jason Mielak
Fr. Michael Swanton

St. Isidore

Sue Donoghue
Dr. Dale Zaruba
Clint Przymus
Fr. Joe Miksch

Endowment Board

Fr. Joe Miksch
Tom Kratochvil
Bob Niedbalski, President
Larry O'Neill
Jack Pekny
Dr. Jim Pillen

Shamrock Club

Don Mroczek, President
Mike VunCannon, Vice-President
Jay Pelan, 2nd Vice-President
Marc Wolfe, Secretary
Gary Puetz, Treasurer
Jim Bulkley, 250 Club

Scotus Mothers

Theresa Hiner, President
Kris Andresen, Vice-President
Michelle Rinkol, Secretary
Juli Spencer, Treasurer

Administrators

Wayne Morfeld, President
Gary Puetz, Activity Director
Jeff Ohnoutka, Asst. Principal
John Schueth, Development Director

2015-16 FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund

The fiscal year budget concluded with a negative balance of \$17,008.

Budgeted Revenue

Parent Tuition	\$ 891,460
Parish Tuition Assistance	\$ 835,639
Endowment/Scholarships	\$ 396,936
Transfer from SEF	\$ 315,000
Fundraising/Other	\$ 353,000
Total	\$2,792,035

Budgeted Expenditures

Salaries & Benefits	\$2,267,694
Transfers/Computer	\$ 10,000
Contracted Services	\$ 187,400
Materials & Supplies	\$ 268,941
Gala	\$ 58,000
Total	\$2,792,035

Actual Revenue

Parent Tuition	\$ 903,583
Parish Tuition Assistance	\$ 835,600
Endowment/Scholarships	\$ 369,532
Transfer from SEF	\$ 315,000
Fundraising/Other	\$ 370,933
Total	\$2,794,648

Actual Expenditures

Salaries & Benefits	\$2,261,462
Transfers/Computer	\$ 10,000
Contracted Services	\$ 196,304
Materials & Supplies	\$ 291,788
Gala	\$ 52,102
Total	\$2,811,656

NOTE:

The real estate taxes (2015) on the last two properties demolished for the north parking lot were paid this fiscal year and totaled \$567.82.

PARISH TUITION ASSISTANCE

The three Columbus parishes support the annual Scotus budget with parish tuition assistance—effectively providing a scholarship to each Scotus student that was valued at \$2,252 in the 2015-16 school year. St. Anthony parish provided \$158,764; St. Bonaventure provided \$384,376 and St. Isidore provided \$292,460—with the support levels based upon the number of students enrolled at Scotus from each parish. In addition, parish tuition assistance is supplemented with the annual income distribution received from the Walter & Josephine Rambour endowed fund (\$133,953 in 2015-16.) This endowed fund has a corpus value of \$3,128,337 and was established to support the parishes by assisting with their annual tuition assistance commitment to Scotus Central Catholic.

ENROLLMENT & TUITION ASSISTANCE

In the fall of 2015, enrollment increased by 8 students from the previous year to 371. Tuition for the 2015-16 school year increased \$75 per student or an average of 3%. Tuition rates by grade level were: \$2,625 (Grades 7- 8), \$2,675 (Grades 9-10) and \$2,725 (Grades 11-12).

During the 2015-16 school year, \$91,147 was distributed in tuition assistance benefiting 96 students at Scotus. The sources of tuition assistance were: Scotus \$50,136, Children's Scholarship Fund \$9,300, the Archdiocese of Omaha \$26,000 and local scholarships \$11,228. Also in 2015-16, 12 students participated in the federal free lunch program, and 27 students participated in the federal reduced lunch program.

A look at the last ten years of enrollment history:

2006-07	339	2011-12	401
2007-08	346	2012-13	397
2008-09	360	2013-14	396
2009-10	368	2014-15	363
2010-11	382	2015-16	371

STANDARDIZED TESTING

94% of the Scotus Class of 2016 (60 of 64) took the ACT test and the Class of 2016 composite score average was 25.5 -- compared with the 2016 Nebraska state average of 21.4 and the 2016 national average of 20.8. The Scotus Class of 2016's average STEM score was 25.9 compared with the state average of 21.4. The Scotus 2016 class composite score was the second highest in school history (the highest score was 25.9 in 2015). 2016 sub scores compared with the Nebraska (state) and national averages were:

	Scotus	State	Nation
English	25.4	20.9	20.1
Mathematics	25.8	20.8	20.6
Reading	24.9	21.8	21.3
Science	25.6	21.5	20.8
Composite	25.5	21.4	20.8

According to the American College Testing Program, a student's potential success in college can be predicted by their ACT scores; and ACT has established college readiness benchmark ACT scores for College English Composition (18 on the ACT English Test), College Algebra (22 on the ACT Math Test), College Social

Science (22 on the ACT Reading Test) and College Biology (23 on the ACT Science Test). Attaining a benchmark ACT score will predict that a student will have a 50% chance of receiving a B or higher or a 75% chance of receiving a C or higher in the corresponding college courses.

	% of Scotus Students with ACT Benchmark Score or Higher	% of Nebraska Students with ACT Benchmark Score or Higher	% Nationally of Students with ACT Benchmark Score or Higher
English Composition	93%	68%	61%
Algebra	87%	43%	41%
Social Science	67%	48%	44%
Biology	68%	40%	36%
All Four Course Areas	53%	28%	26%

POST-SECONDARY PLANS OF 2016 GRADUATES

64 Graduating Students in the Class of 2016
 2 Exchange Students participated in the graduation ceremony, earning Certificates of Attendance. Each will return to their home country and enter higher education.

Enrolling in a 4-year college – 79%
 Enrolling in a 2-year college – 16%
 Joining Military (2-National Guard, 1-Marine) – 4%
 Workforce – 1%

POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS SCOTUS GRADUATES PLANNED TO ATTEND

IN-STATE INSTITUTIONS

Central Community College – Columbus – 4
 Creighton University – 3
 Doane College – 1
 Nebraska Wesleyan – 1
 Northeast Community College, Norfolk – 4
 Southeast Community College, Milford – 2
 University of Nebraska, Kearney – 17
 University of Nebraska, Lincoln – 17
 University of Nebraska, Omaha – 3
 Wayne State College – 2



OUT-OF-STATE INSTITUTIONS

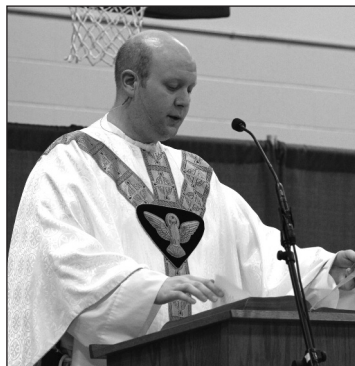
Benedictine College – 1
 Dordt College – 1
 Georgia State University – 1
 Morningside College – 1
 Notre Dame – 1
 South Dakota State – 1

EXCHANGE STUDENTS RETURNING SCHOOLS/COUNTRIES

Universidad de Monterrey, Mexico – 1
 Institut des Arts de Diffusion, Belgium – 1

COMMENCEMENT 2016

Joining the ranks of Scotus alumni and alumnae this spring were 64 graduates plus two international students who participated in the commencement and received certificates of attendance. Jackson Kumpf, senior class president, provided the senior welcome at commencement and campus minister, Fr. Matthew Capadano, provided a greeting and homily. Recognized as the 2016 Spirit of Scotus Award winner was Dana Hoppe, son of Fred and Donna Hoppe; and the Outstanding Service Award was presented to Fr. Del Lape, pastor of St. Anthony Parish and to retiring teacher, John Petersen. Rick Zoucha '86 receive the Alumnus of the Year award.



Fr. Matthew Capadano gives his homily at commencement.



Dana Hoppe was the 2016 Spirit of Scotus award winner.



St. Anthony Parish pastor, Fr. Del Lape (left) and retiring Scotus teacher and coach, John Petersen (right) received the school's Outstanding Service Award at commencement.



CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Participation in the Children's Scholarship Fund program continued this year with a fundraising goal of \$24,000—and the three Columbus parishes raised \$24,013.65 during the 2015-16 school year. The money was sent to Omaha and in return the Columbus Catholic schools received back a total of \$61,200 in scholarships benefiting 73 students for the 2016-17 school year. For each dollar raised and sent to Omaha, Columbus was guaranteed to receive back \$1.50. Columbus actually received back \$2.55 for each dollar raised—a very good return! A summary of the scholarships follows:

2016-17 CSF Scholarships

School	Student #	Award Total
Scotus Central Catholic	17	\$ 12,800
St. Anthony	32	\$ 29,300
St. Bonaventure	19	\$ 15,900
St. Isidore	5	\$ 3,200
Total	70	\$ 61,200

Mission Statement

Scotus Central Catholic High School assures all students the opportunity to receive a faith-based Catholic education through academic excellence and diverse extracurricular activities.

WHAT OUR SUPPORTERS ACCOMPLISHED IN 2015-16

Project

Funded By

New 9 passenger Ford Transit for student teams	Annual Appeal 2015-16
New hydraulic blade for snow removal	Annual Appeal 2015-16
New auto scrubber for Dowd Center floors	Annual Appeal 2015-16
Refinished Memorial Hall stage floor	Annual Appeal 2015-16
New ceiling and lighting in the Biology Lab, Chemistry Lab, Earth Science Lab	Annual Appeal 2015-16
New carpet and desks in main office	Annual Appeal 2015-16
New water cooler in athletic hallway	Annual Appeal 2015-16
New floor burnisher	Annual Appeal 2015-16
11 new power half racks for the weight room	Shamrock Open, Shamrock Lottery 2015 & Columbus Big Give 2016
78 new Notebooks & charging stations for student classroom use	Gala 2016
Stair dolly cart, electrical stimulation & ultrasound machine	Scotus Mothers
Refurbished sousaphone, petri dish incubator, library books	Scotus Mothers
75 new chairs for performing arts events	Scotus Mothers
Continued work on north parking lot, including expansion with home & garage removal. Now has 35 parking stalls	SEF 14
Continued HVAC loan payments	SEF 14
Contributed \$900,000 in tuition assistance over three school years	SEF 14
New concert bass drum for band	Private Donation
Expand Computer network and server capacity	Ignite the Faith Parish Grant
Pay down HVAC debt \$20,000 (St. Isid.) \$9,205.64 (St. Bons.) \$14,612.28 (St. Anthony)	Ignite the Faith Parish Rebate
Expanded lighting of the Memorial Hall Stage	Anonymous Donor



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROCESS

During the 2014-15 school year Scotus Central Catholic High School developed a plan to promote the professional development of its faculty. This past year (2015-16), school improvement was centered on implementing the plan for professional development of the faculty.

A year ago Scotus received an Ignite the Faith grant and approximately half of the grant was used to expand the school's wireless network with the addition of access points and enhance the bandwidth of the network. This year, the remaining \$85,000 of the grant was used to increase the speed and performance of the school's servers and wireless network. Additionally gala supporters contributed \$15,495 toward the purchase of I-pads for the teachers. The teachers in turn requested the money be used to purchase 78 Lenova notebooks for student classroom use.

The goal of school improvement at Scotus Central Catholic High School remains centered on improving academic performance and learning opportunities. Both staff development and technology upgrades/increased access have the potential to positively impact education and academic performance at Scotus Central Catholic.



The Scotus vocal and theater departments presented the musical, "Fiddler on the Roof" on February 19th and 20th on the Memorial Hall stage. Shown are seniors Olivia Rath, Amy Heusinkvelt and Adam Smith playing the roles of Golde, Tzeitz and Tevye. *Photo courtesy of Scotus Journalism Dept.*



2016 Scotus Athletes of the year, Sarah Schumacher and Jake Bos.



Jeff Ohnoutka, New President of Scotus Central Catholic HS.

2015-16 FUNDRAISING / DONATION INCOME

SEF 14 UPDATE

This three-year campaign, launched in the fall of 2013 received pledges totaling \$1,330,921 to be paid over calendar years 2014-2016 and to sponsor the following goals: 1) \$900,000 over three years to keep tuition costs affordable for school families, 2) \$200,000 to make loan payments over 3 years for the heating and air conditioning system installed six years ago, 3) \$100,000 to replace the Dowd Activity Center bleachers (a safety issue), and 4) \$100,000 to complete the purchase of two homes to the north of the school, move the homes and provide off-street parking for students (a safety issue.) At the conclusion of August 2016, the SEF 14 campaign had finished 32 of the 36 pledge payment months and pledge receipts totaled \$1,153,734.91. Through SEF 14, the school has made required HVAC loan payments and distributed an average of \$25,000 monthly to support tuition assistance and balance the budget. The campaign also provided for the purchase of new bleachers in the Dowd Center and initial construction work of the new north parking lot.

ANNUAL GIFTS

The fall 2015 **annual appeal** received 621 donations totaling \$142,244.06 and exceeded the \$65,000 goal to support the purchase of a Ford Transit, refinish the Memorial Hall stage floor, install a drop ceiling and LED lighting in the biology lab and purchase an auto scrubber and snow plow for the maintenance area. The additional funds were used to install a drop ceiling and LED lighting in the chemistry and life sciences labs, and replace desks and carpet in the main office. Annual Appeal campaign expenses totaled \$715.08. The **Shamrock Lottery** had a net of \$6,136 and those proceeds supported the purchase of half racks for the weight room. The **Gala dinner/auction** had net proceeds of \$198,683 which was used to balance the school's annual budget. And during the Gala an additional \$15,495 was raised to purchase 78 new notebooks for students to use in the classroom. The Gala's **Chuck Sand Memorial Grain Train** provided grain donations totaling \$5,059. Receipts from the 3rd annual **Columbus Big Give** were \$3,611.21 supporting the purchase of new power half racks for the weight room. The 9th annual **Shamrock Open** raised \$9,816 also directed to half racks. **Memorial income** totaled \$18,879.

Scotus received 41 annual gifts totaling \$85,352.10. Only two unrestricted gifts were receipted (\$2,000, \$10,000) and they were applied to the building fund. Restricted gifts included: \$20,000 to establish the endowed Helen Shadle Memorial Scholarship, \$10,000 for the football program, \$6,000 for the Dave & Norma Duren Family Scholarship, \$4,000 for the endowed Buggi Scholarship, \$2,000 for the endowed Hroza Scholarship, \$2,000 for the annually funded Goins Scholarship, \$1,540 for painting the school's main office, \$1,400 for a new concert

bass drum, \$1,000 for the Feehan Scholarship, \$1,000 for the athletic training room, \$1,000 for the Pyramid of Success scholarship, \$1,000 for the new north parking lot, \$500 for the speech team and \$1,741.10 to fund other scholarships and academic departments. Also included was \$5,000 from the Shamrock Booster Club for the general fund and \$13,825 from the Scotus Mothers Booster Club to purchase: a stair dolly (\$200), electrical stimulation/ultrasound machine for the athletic training room (\$3,800), sousaphone (\$3,825), petri dish incubator (\$550), books (\$450) and Memorial Hall folding chairs (\$5,000.) Scotus also received restricted gifts totaling \$1,251 to pay the annual premiums for three planned gift life insurance policies the school owns.

2015-16 Activity	Net Raised
Columbus Big Give	\$ 3,611
Annual Fund Donations	\$ 82,701
Annual Appeal Donations	\$ 142,244
Children's Scholarship Fund (For all 4 Catholic Schools)	\$ 24,013
Gala 2016 & Notebooks	\$ 214,178
SEF 14 Campaign	\$ 257,016
Memorials Received	\$ 18,879
Shamrock Lottery	\$ 6,136
Shamrock Open	\$ 9,816
Gifts directed to Endowment	\$ 26,668

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT DEBT

The school originally borrowed \$1.1 million dollars at an interest rate of 5.5% to assist with the capital improvement expenses of the 2008 HVAC installation and locker room renovation (partially funded by the Legacy Capital Campaign.) This debt was refinanced in the spring of 2012 at an interest rate of 3.75%. Through assets returned to the local parishes from the Archdiocese's Ignite the Faith Campaign, the parishes designated a portion of the returned funds to support Scotus. In the fiscal year Scotus received \$43,817.92 to help retire the HVAC debt; and at the conclusion of the 2015-16 fiscal year the remaining HVAC debt was \$196,000 (down from \$454,591 at the conclusion of the 2014-15 fiscal year.) Regular loan payments on the debt are funded by SEF campaign support.

ENDOWMENT - Market Values 8/31/16 and Distributions Fiscal 2015-16

Combined endowment fund market values at the conclusion of the fiscal year (August 31, 2016) was \$8,534,062 including \$5,929,505 (locally managed funds) and \$2,604,557 (funds managed through the Archdiocese). During the fiscal year a total of \$26,668 was added to the endowment. Of this amount, \$26,268 was restricted for endowed scholarship support and \$400 was added to the general endowment fund. Fiscal year distributions received by the school totaled \$318,324.

Locally Managed Funds	8/31/16	2015-16	Omaha Managed Funds	8/31/16	2015-16
Fund Name	Market Value	Distribution	Fund Name	Market Value	Distribution
Fund #1 (Original Fund)	\$ 1,635,010	\$ 59,901.00	Dowd Trust	\$ 129,558	\$ 4,485.77
Fund #2 (Rambour Parish Investment Relief)	\$ 3,577,981	\$ 133,953.00	Anonymous Fund	\$ 1,216,986	\$ 62,419.54
Fund #3 (W. Gerhold Teacher of the Year Fund)	\$ 298,281	\$ 11,152.00	Fr. Price Scholarship	\$ 10,877	\$ 555.68
Fund #4 (Feik Technology Fund)	\$ 406,022	\$.00	W. Gerhold Family Fund	\$ 471,708	\$ 24,192.84
Fund #5 (Dorie Schrad Music Scholarship)	\$ 9,704	\$ 394.64	ACNM	\$ 775,428	\$ 21,125.00
Fund #6 (Fr. Price B Scholarship)	\$ 2,507	\$ 144.53	Total All Funds	\$8,534,062	\$ 318,324.00

When endowment distributions are factored in to the overall annual budget, they account for slightly more than 11% of budgeted income. While this may seem to be a modest figure, when endowment support is viewed on a historical level, the impact of the endowment is much easier to appreciate. In the last ten years, some of which were impacted by the Great Recession, endowment distributions to the Scotus general fund totaled nearly \$2.9 million dollars!

2015-16 HIGHLIGHTS

Awards in Sports. Of the 13 combined girls and boys sports offered, there were 10 district championships and two 2nd place finishes. The boys' football and soccer teams each won their state championship. The girls finished in the top 10 state rankings in 3 of 6 sports: volleyball (4th), golf (10th), soccer (5th). Every boys team finished in the top 5 state rankings: cross country (4th), football (1st), basketball (3rd), wrestling (5th), golf (3rd), track (3rd), soccer (1st). Scotus also received the 2015-16 Class C All-School Division & Class C Boys Division NSAA Cups!

Golf. The girls' varsity golf team finished in 10th place at the state Class C golf tourney. Junior Emerson Belitz finished in 11th place individually. The boys' golf team finished in 3rd place at the state Class B tourney and was led by senior Brandon Johnston who finished in 12th place individually.

Cross Country. The boy's team finished fourth at state behind the individual second place finish of Nathan Ostdiek. The girls' team finished in 13th place at state.

Volleyball. Scotus ended the season with a 25-8 record and ranked 4th in Class C1. They finished State in 4th place winning the consolation match against second seeded Chadron. Class C-1 First Team All-State: Maeghan Pieper, Courtney Labenz. All-State Honorable Mention: Kim Stutzman, Morgan Thorson, Sarah Schumacher. Maeghan Pieper played in the *Nebraska Coaches Association* match in July.

Football. Scotus defeated Norfolk Catholic 32-27 at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Memorial Stadium to capture the Class C-1 state championship. It was the Shamrocks' first state football title in 22 years and the fourth football title in school history including 1967 (Class C), 1984 (Class B), 1993 (Class B) and 2015 (Class C-1.) The Shamrocks finished the year 13-1 under head coach Tyler Linder. Named 1st Team All-State: Carson Fuchser, Baeley Pelster, Jake Bos and Marcus Dodson. All-State Honorable Mention: Cole Harrington, Nathan Tworek, Jackson Kumpf, Evan Chohon and Sam Novicki. *Husker Prep Report* named Tyler Linder, as their Coach of the Year. Jake Bos played in the annual *Shrine Football* game.



Class C-1 State Football Champions

Basketball. The boys' team finished in 3rd place at the state tourney and earned a school record 25th win on the season (25-4.) All-State first team: Dalton Taylor. All-State Honorable Mention: Jackson Kumpf, Cody Mroczek, Nathan Ostdiek, Miles Putnam. The Shamrock girls ended their year at 14-9 with All State Honorable Mention honors going to: Shania Borchers, Allie Johnson, Emma Strecker, Kendra Wiese.

Wrestling. In its fourth year of varsity competition, Scotus placed 5th overall at the State wrestling tourney and state medalists were: seniors, Marcus Dodson (1st), Jake Bos (2nd), and Seth Gutzmer (4th); and juniors, Wyatt Gutzmer (3rd) and Layton Mullinix (4th). Two weeks later Scotus finished in fourth place at the state duals tournament. Also during the season, the team captured its fourth straight Centennial Conference Tournament title and won the B-3 district title—the first district title in program history. Nine Shamrock wrestlers qualified for

the state wrestling tourney. Jake Bos and Marcus Dodson also wrestled in the *NSWCA All-Star Classic Dual* in June.

Track & Field. The girls team placed 9th at the state meet and the boys team finished in 3rd place. Girls state results included: Shot Put - Marika Spencer (3rd), Discus - Marika Spencer (2nd); 3200 M Relay (6th) - Jessica Lahm, Grace Odbert, Ashley Foreman, Sarah Schumacher; 300 M Hurdles-Bailey Lehr (6th); 1600 M Relay (3rd) - Grace Odbert, Sarah Schumacher, Bailey Lehr, Jessica Lahm. Boys state results included: Long Jump - Cody Mroczek (1st); Discus - Ryan Mustard (7th); 400 M Dash - Cody Mroczek (1st), Brady Przymus (8th); 200 M Dash - Cody Mroczek (2nd); 1600 M Relay (4th) - Brady Przymus, Matt Strecker, Justin Brockhaus, Cody Mroczek.



Junior Cody Mroczek led Scotus track athletes at State scoring 28 individual and was part of 33 of the boy's team's 36 points.

Soccer. Coached by Jon Brezenski, the Scotus boys captured their third consecutive Class B state championship—something no other Nebraska boys soccer team has ever accomplished. The Shamrocks (17-3) handed Elkhorn South HS (18-1) their only loss of the year by a score of 1-0. This was the Shamrocks' 6th state title in program history (2015, 2014, 2009, 2001 and 1997). All-State 1st Team & All-Nebraska Team: Jake Bos. All State 2nd Team: Alec Foltz, Jackson Kumpf. Class B All-State: Jake Bos, Evan Chohon, Alec Foltz, Jackson Kumpf. Class B All-State 2nd Team: Caleb Ostdiek, Nathan Ostdiek & Baeley Pelster. Honorable Mention: Mason Brandenburg, Marcus Dodson, Cole Harrington. Alec Foltz and Jackson Kumpf played in the *Shrine Soccer* game in June and Coach Brezenski was one of the team coaches. The girls' soccer team, led by coach Kristie Brezenski, ended their season 14-3 and ranked 5th in Class B. Scotus lost to Omaha Gross 0-1 in the first round of the state tourney. Class B All-State 2nd Team: Kim Stutzman, Morgan Thorson. All State Honorable Mention: Emily Fehringer, Bailey Honold, Emma Strecker, Anna Wickham. Morgan Thorson played in the *Shrine Soccer* game in June.



Three-Peat Class B Boys State Soccer Champions.

Co-op Sports with CHS. The softball season ended with a 23-15 record. Team members from Scotus included: Ellie Bock, Tessa Bridger, Emily Hand, Megan Ohnoutka, Savannah Robertson, Marika Spencer & Emma Zeller. Awarded All-State Honorable Mention: Savannah Robertson. In tennis, the boys' team members were Matthew Bichlmeier, Matt Hoenk, Dana Hoppe and Zach Svehla. Girls' team members included: Natalie Brutty, Kaitlyn Enderlin, Macy Hamling, Mira Liebig, Maddie Sueper,

Hannah Thomazin, Lily Zargartalebi, Emma Zeller. The boys swim team finished in 9th place at the state meet and Shamrock sophomore Chase Andresen was a member of the 200 M Relay that finished in 7th place (breaking a school record) and also a member of the 200 Freestyle Relay that placed 6th. Other state qualifiers were Konner Kudron, Trey Dallman, Hannah Thomazin, Julia Salerno and Callan Fuchser. Other members of the swim team from Scotus were: Blaney Dreifurst, Kayla Hall (diving), Maddie Sinovic, Elliott Thomazin and Kelsey Wiehn. In baseball, members of the team from Scotus included: Calen Hinze, Trevor Kaslon, Konner Kudron, Jacob Morse, Logan Mueller, Jake Novicki, Caden Pelan, Miles Putnam and Tyler Wurtz. All-State Honorable Mention: Jacob Morse & Miles Putnam.

Powerlifting. The Scotus powerlifting team competed in the Class B state tournament with senior Savannah Robertson capturing first place in the girl's 148 pound division with a 275 pound squat, a 145 pound bench press and a 285 pound deadlift for a 705 pound total. Freshman Jackie Robledo placed third in the 165 pound division. For the Scotus boys, junior Will Sonderman was first in the 198 pound class with a 430 pound squat, 245 pound bench press and 465 pound deadlift for a 1,140 pound total. Senior Nate Tworek also captured first place at 220 pounds with a 450 squat, 315 bench press and 460 deadlift for a 1,225 pound total. Senior Ryan Mustard finished third at 181 pounds with a 1,020 pound total and sophomore Brandon Huynh was third in the 275 pound class with a 1,250 pound total.

Cheerleading. The Scotus cheer squad completed a 3-day National Cheer Association camp at UNL. The girls earned the Spirit Stick all three days, won Champion Chant Varsity division, and won the camp Spirit Award for the third year in a row. They also had 5 All American nominees, seniors: Nikki Hiner, Alayna Wilson; juniors: Grace Wickham, Natalie Brutty and sophomore Kendra Korger. Alayna Wilson was selected as an All American and she also won the Individual Camp Leadership award. Pin It Forward winners were: Grace Wickham, Alyana Wilson and sophomore Rebekah Hergott.

Alumni/nae Soccer. The 2016 Scotus Alumni/Alumnae Soccer Tournament was held on August 5-6, 2016, at the Warren & Shirley McLaughlin Activity Field. Over 140 players participated in this year's tournament, making for another successful weekend of Shamrocks celebrating the storied tradition of Scotus athletics. The tournament was filled with highly competitive games in the men's and women's divisions.

Journalism. The Scotus journalism students, taught by Angie (Naughtin) Rusher '95 finished in 3rd place as a team in Class B at State Journalism—scoring 272 points and within 6 points of 2nd place and 14 points from first!

Scotus had 4 state champions; took 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in Newspaper Layout; 1st, 2nd, and 4th in Feature Photography; medaled 18 times out of a possible 26 entries and 14 out of 16 students medaled! Class B State Champions: Amy Heusinkvelt—Headline Writing. Jessica Buhman—Feature Photography. Hannah Thomazin—Newspaper Layout. Emily Fehringer—Sports/Action Photography. 2nd Place Medalists: Tate VunCannon—Entertainment Review. Amy Heusinkvelt—News Writing. Courtney Brockhaus—Feature Photography. Anna Wickham—Newspaper Layout. 3rd Place Medalist: Haley Faust—Newspaper Layout. 4th Place Medalists: Morgan Thorson—Feature Photography. Tate VunCannon—Sports News Writing. 5th Place Medalists: Morgan Thorson—Sports/Action Photography. Cole Harrington—Yearbook Layout. Morgan Thorson, Sarah Schumacher, Jenny Belsan—Yearbook Theme Development. 6th Place Medalists: Kira Dreher—Editorial Cartooning. Haley Faust—Graphic Illustration. Gabby Middendorf—Sports Feature Writing. Jenny Belsan—Yearbook Sports Feature Writing.

Speech. Qualifiers for the 2016 State Speech Contest were: Amy

Heusinkvelt, Jared Hanson, Dana Hoppe, Lydia Schaecher, Emily Carstens and Olivia Rath. At the state competition, Emily Carstens finished 3rd place in Entertainment and the team finished in 12th place.

FBLA. At the Nebraska State Leadership Conference, senior Justin Brockhaus finished in 1st place in business communications among 691 participants, Bailey Braun finished in 5th place in insurance and marketing among 156 participants and the team of Dana Hoppe, Bailey Braun and Justin Brockhaus finished in 7th place in entrepreneurship among 156 participants.

Music. Earning Superior Ratings at District were: Flute Trio—Mikayla Nienaber, Megan Parker, Tara Kamrath. Trumpet Quartet—Nathan Ostdiek, Cassie Seckel, Emerson Belitz, Braden Labenz. Trombone Trio—Darin Rinkol, Justin Brockhaus, Bailey Braun. Trumpet/Saxophone Trio—Cassie Seckel, Emerson Belitz, Emily Carstens. Drumline—Kira Dreher, Bennett Frewing, Tatem Vance, Eli Merrill, Joshua Hergott, Bryan Littlefield, Drew Zaruba, Caden Pelan, Sam Blaser, Logan Johnson, Daniel Tworek, Henry Hernandez, Michael Gasper, Nate King. Flute Solo—Mikayla Nienaber. Piano Solo—Lilian Zagartalebi. Trumpet Solo—Cassie Seckel. Trumpet Solo—Nathan Ostdiek. Trumpet Solo—Emerson Belitz. Tenor Saxophone Solo—Matt Strecker. Saxophone Duet—Emily Carstens & Matt Strecker. Tuba Solo—Adam Smith. Tuba Duet—Adam Smith & Isaac McPhillips. Clarinet Duet—Jennifer Belsan & Hannah Thomazin. Mixed Vocal Duet—Megan Meyer & Brady Przymus.

Earning Excellent Ratings were: Mixed Chorus, Band, Female Vocal Ensemble, Boys Trio, Mixed Vocal Quintet, Male Vocal Ensemble, Mixed Vocal Double Quartet, Snare Drum Solo—Kira Dreher, Trombone Solo—Darin Rinkol, Trombone Solo—Justin Brockhaus, Trumpet Solo—Crystal Rinkol, Baritone Duet—Emma Ruskamp & Zachary Svehla, Mixed Vocal Duet—Mikayla Nienaber & Adam Smith, Mixed Vocal Duet—Nikki Hiner & Anthony Sprunk.

Brady Przymus and Anthony Sprunk were named to the 2015 *All-State Choir* and Adam Smith was named an alternate. The *Scotus marching band* participated in the Columbus Days parade, received the Class B 1st place trophy and the traveling trophy for the “top overall band in all divisions” at the Norfolk Lions parade, and won a Superior rating at Grand Island’s Harvest of Harmony parade.

Academic Honors. Scotus had ten *Omaha World Herald* Academic All-Staters named in the spring. Lydia Schaecher, was selected for the All West-Central Academic First Team. Lydia was ranked #1 in her class,

was a National Merit Finalist, recognized as an NSAA *Believer and Achiever* and scored a 34 on her ACT and 2130 on the SAT. The following nine Shamrocks were named Honorable Mention: Bailey Braun, Justin Brockhaus, Leah Engquist, Amy Heusinkvelt, Dana Hoppe, Gabrielle Middendorf, Ryan Mustard, Darin Rinkol and Justin Zoucha. (Honorable mention nominees either had to be ranked first or second in their senior class or they had to have an ACT composite score of at least 32 or a 2080 on the SAT.) 69 Scotus students were members of the National Honor Society.



State Journalism contestants from Scotus.

Awarded with *NSAA Fall Season Academic All-State selections:* Cross Country - Justin Brockhaus, Kelsey Faust, Nathan Ostdiek and Kaylee Tonniges; Football - Darin Rinkol and Justin Zoucha; Girls Golf - Emerson Belitz and Megan Parker; Play Production - Naomi Kosch and Caitlin Steiner; and Volleyball - Jessica Buhman and Bailey Honold. *Winter NSAA Academic All-State winners:* Basketball - Jackson Kumpf, Nathan Ostdiek, Sarah Schumacher, Emma Strecker; Speech - Amy Heusinkvelt, Lydia Schaecher; Swimming - Hannah Thomazin;

2016 ENDOWED AND ANNUALLY FUNDED SCHOLARSHIPS

Named as recipients of endowed scholarships were:

Louis & Elaine Buggi Memorial Scholarships (Eden Broberg, Kayanne Casperson, Payton Schroeder, Tyler Stuart)
Manny and Millie Cimpl Family Scholarship (Tate VunCannon)
Sheridan Gladfelder Memorial Scholarship (Anna Ehlers)
Lee & Shirley Hroza Family Scholarships (Sarah Schumacher, Jake Bos)
Eleanor M. Loshbaugh Memorial Scholarship (Alyssa Kuta)
George & Jeanette Maguire Memorial Scholarship (Cassie Seckel)
Fr. Price Memorial Scholarships (Brock Clarke, Kaitlyn Lovell, Aaron Peterson, Noah Korth, Shelby Bridger Vijayalakshmi Wemhoff, Seth VunCannon)
Eldora Schrad Music Recognition Awards (Nikki Hiner, Zachary Svehla, Kira Dreher)
Kathryn Kuta Sweenie Humanitarian Award (Alayna Wilson)
Duane Swoboda Memorial Scholarship (Megan Parker)
Gene G. Witt Memorial Scholarships (Justin Brockhaus, Jessica Lahm, Brady Przymus, Sarah Schumacher)

In addition to the endowed scholarships other endowed funds provide annual restricted support: **the William L and Edna Boettcher Family Fund** (annual income is divided equally between the media center, instrumental and vocal departments); the **Ben and Virginia Nosal Fund**, and the **Jeanne Kopetzky DeRuyscher Fund** (both provide annual income supporting the schools' general scholarship fund.)

Named as recipients of annually funded scholarships were:

Student Council Scholarships (Amberly Parker, Rachel Miksch)
David and Norma Duren Scholarship (Bryan and Morgan Littlefield, Eduardo Torres, Daniel Tworek, Bryce VunCannon)
Erna Badsteiber Scholarship (Courtney Brockhaus, Justin Brockhaus, Natalie Chappell, Gabby Middendorf)
Leonard & Cec Feehan Family Scholarship (Ben Juarez Mendez)
Lynette Topinka Goins Memorial Scholarships (Jenna Salerno, Cameron Swanson)
Dale Gonka Achievement Award (Emerson Belitz, Bryce VunCannon)
Nebraska Centennial Conference Scholarship (Lydia Schaecher)
Jeff Podraza Memorial Scholarship (Wyatt Gutzmer)
Pyramid of Success Scholarship (Brian Gutierrez, Brandon Huynh, Jackie Robledo, Abigail Stuart)
Shamrock Club Scholarship (Jessica Lahm, Alec Foltz)
Helen Shadle Scholarship (Mikayla Nienaber)
Dean Soulliere Family Scholarship (Caleb Kosch, Courtney Kosch)
Curt Tenopir Memorial Scholarship (Austin O'Kane)
Duren Mathematics Excellence Award (Haley Faust)
STO (Jennifer Belsan)

Other local scholarships and recipients:

Central Community College Scholarships (Marshall Dreifurst, Maeghan Pieper, Courtney Labenz, Kelsey Wiehn)
Columbus Kiwanis Club Scholarship (Brady Przymus)
Columbus Home Builders (Mikayla Nienaber)
Columbus United Federal Credit Union Scholarship (Amy Heusinkvelt)
Cornerstone Bank Scholarship (Ryan Mustard)
Eastern Star (Adam Smith)
Lion's Club (Adam Smith)
Platte County Ag Society Scholarship (Kelsey Wiehn)
TeamMates Scholarship (Olivia Rath)
Labenz Memorial Scholarship (Courtney Labenz)
NAIFA Insurance (Brady Przymus)

2015-16 HIGHLIGHTS *con't*

Wrestling - Wren Allen, Marcus Dodson. *NSAA Academic All-State winners for the spring season:* Journalism - Sarah Schumacher, Hannah Thomazin; Golf - Brandon Johnston, Darin Rinkol; Music - Darin Rinkol, Paige Vance; Soccer - Marcus Dodson, Bailey Honold, Jackson Kumpf, Morgan Thorson; Tennis - Hannah Thomazin; Track - Cody Mroczek, Brady Przymus, Sarah Schumacher, Kaylee Tonniges.

Years of Service. Recognized for their years of service were: Sherri Cerny (5 years); Tyler Linder (5 years); Gary Urkoski (5 years); Kay Urkoski (5 years); Becki Zanardi (5 years); Julie Blaser (25 years); and Merlin Lahm (30 years.)

Mock Trial. The junior mock trial team placed 5th at the State Competition in Omaha.

Craft Boutique. The Scotus Mothers Craft Boutique was held on December 6th and it was a success with more than 1,700 in attendance. Proceeds from the event have been used to make substantial capital improvements at Scotus and to fund many items from the faculty/staff wish list.

Jump for Heart. 140 3rd and 4th graders from the three Columbus Catholic elementary schools raised \$9,187.32 in the Dowd Center to fight heart disease.

Teacher Award. The William and Barbara Gerhold Family Teacher of the Year was Charlotte (Micek '68) Beran of St. Anthony School.

Blood Drive. The Scotus blood drive conducted for the Red Cross provided 118 whole blood units and 10 double red donor units for a total of 128 productive units. Participants included Scotus sophomores, juniors and seniors, staff, parents, friends and alumni/nae.

Living the Faith. Scotus students contributed more than 7,000 hours of service to school, community and church in the last year.

Technology. Through donor support at the 2016 Gala, Scotus purchased 78 new Lenova notebooks for student use in the classroom. Scotus also spent the remaining technology grant money awarded in 2015 from the Ignite the Faith Campaign on a new Hyper Converged Solution (a cluster of four servers) to support the school's existing network and programs. The server cluster was installed in the summer of 2016 and provided a tremendous increase in speed and performance. For example, under the old system, it took 50 minutes to reboot the PowerSchool program, and under the new server cluster the PowerSchool reboot now takes 4 minutes.

Retirements. Retiring at the end of the school year were: Wayne Morfeld, school president; Peg Morfeld, science teacher; John Petersen, mathematics teacher/coach; and Gary Puetz, activities director. Wayne has been the Scotus president/principal for ten years and prior to that he was the Scotus principal for 6 years and a public school teacher and coach for 29 years. Peg has taught at Scotus for 6 years and has an additional 37 years of public school teaching experience. John began teaching at Scotus in 1977 and he had five years of previous teaching experience in other schools. Gary began his Shamrock career in 1975 and had 3 years of previous teaching experience at Newcastle HS. Also leaving the faculty were Danielle Masur and Anne Novicki.

East Activity Field. Scotus will lose the current East Activity Field used for soccer practices when the new 12th Avenue overpass is constructed. (Prior to the development of the McLaughlin Activity Field, this East field is where Shamrock football teams practiced.) The school entered into negotiations to determine the value of the East Activity Field and how the school would be compensated for the loss of this resource. The school also engaged in negotiations to expand the McLaughlin Activity Field from a single east-west practice field to two north-south practice fields. If the McLaughlin Field can be expanded, the school will have a replacement solution for the East Activity Field.

New President. Jeff Ohnoutka became the next Scotus President/Principal effective July 1, 2016. Jeff has been a teacher at Scotus for 11 years, the last four years also as assistant principal and he coached the boys' basketball team the last nine years.

*Scotus Central Catholic High School
admits students of any race, color, and
national or ethnic origin*