



## CCS LINES

September 2023



### Welcome Back!

From Columbus  
Catholic Schools  
Executive Director  
Jeff Ohnoutka

It's September and we have settled back into the routine of school. Each week I have the opportunity to be in all four of our Columbus Catholic Schools. It's a wonderful opportunity to meet with our teachers and join in on some of the activities with our students.

One thing that stands out to me though, is how intentional our administration and faculty are about forming our students in the Catholic faith.

Each day our students have a chance to know, love and serve God. That may sound cliché, but it is clearly evident in each of our buildings and the opportunities they provide the students.

### Homecoming Dance Info

The Scotus Homecoming Dance will take place September 23 from 8:00 - 11:00 p.m. in the Scotus Cafeteria. The east Memorial Hall doors will open at 7:45 p.m. and be locked by 8:30 p.m. All students planning to attend must arrive by 8:30 p.m. Drawings for gift cards will occur shortly before 11:00 p.m. and attendance is required. Page 29 of the Scotus Handbook has the following guidelines for formal dances:

- 2.

Attendance at dances:

#### **Ladies:**

- Front of the dress must be modest and reveal no cleavage.
- The entire breast area must be completely covered with solid fabric including the space between the breasts.

We are very fortunate to have high quality professional educators who not only educate our students but also model Christian values.

Let's be sure to celebrate the hard work they do on a daily basis and express our gratitude for the important work that they do.

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## Join the Scotus Booster Club!

We are extending an invite to all Columbus Catholic Schools families and staff to join the Scotus Booster Club. The Scotus Booster Club is made up of current parents, alumni, parents of alumni, community supporters, Scotus staff, coaches and activity sponsors.

As a service organization, our mission is to fundraise and provide volunteer support for Scotus Central Catholic.

[Click here to join](#)



**2023-2024  
SCOTUS BOOSTER CLUB  
MEMBERSHIP DRIVE!**

### Join the Scotus Booster Club!

**MEETINGS:** 1ST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT KC HALL, 7PM, PIZZA PROVIDED, KC BAR OPEN.

**WHAT WE DO?** FUNDRAISE, SUPPORT SCOTUS ACTIVITIES & ATHLETICS, PUT ON FUN EVENTS TO BUILD SUPPORT & FOSTER COMMUNITY.

**WHO ARE OUR MEMBERS?** CURENT SCOTUS PARENTS, FORMER SCOTUS PARENTS, SCOTUS ALUMNI & COMMUNITY MEMBERS.

**IMPORTANT DATES:**  
AUGUST 12TH - SHONKA GOLF TOURNEY  
AUGUST 15TH - KICK-OFF DINNER 7PM  
OCTOBER 4TH - 250 CLUB CELEBRATION 7PM  
NOVEMBER 2ND - BID A BAG EVENT 6PM  
DECEMBER 3RD - CRAFT BOUTIQUE 9AM-3PM  
DECEMBER 6TH - CHRISTMAS PARTY 7PM  
MARCH 6TH - WILD GAME FEED 7PM  
APRIL 13TH - SCOTUS GALA ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

**JOIN THE FUN: ENTER POOLS & 250 CLUB!**

**Join Here!** 

- Straps are not required but are helpful in keeping the dress in compliance.
- Midriff must be covered completely. Mesh or shear material and two-piece dresses are not acceptable.
- Solid material must cover the sides of the body, and the back may not be cut lower than midway between the shoulder blades and the waist.
- Dresses shall not be shorter than the end of the fingertips or have slits higher than the end of the fingertips.
- Any material added to the dress to make it compliant with the dress code must be permanently attached.

### Gentlemen:

- Shirt must have a collar and sleeves.
- Dress slacks are required.
- Shoes must be closed toe.
- Tuxedos are customary for Prom; however, they are not required.
- Students who are not in compliance with the dress code will be given an item of clothing to wear to meet the dress code, or parents may bring alternate clothing.

### Conduct:

- Dancing may not include moshing, lifting students.
- Excessive public displays of affection are not acceptable.

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## The Importance of LB753 For Children

Please [click here](#) to learn more about LB753 and how it ensures children growing up in poverty or who have been bullied can attend the best school for them. The Opportunity Scholarships Act provides increased scholarship opportunities through a state income tax credit. Taxpayers can claim this tax credit by making financial contributions to an SGO which are authorized by LB753.

## Bash!

Columbus Catholic Schools is hosting our first Mass-Dash-Burger Bash, Sunday, October 1st at 4:00 P.M. at Pawnee Park.

An outdoor Mass will be held at 4:00 in the stadium. Following Mass, will be a two mile run/walk and a meal. Participants may also walk during the event.

Please consider attending this event with your family. This will be a fun way to start the school year in a positive way.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Unable to attend? Please consider donating back to support our schools.

[DONATE HERE](#)



## Notes from the Principals

The school year has been off to a fantastic start! It has been great to have our students and staff back in the building, and we love the excitement that a new school year brings. On the first day back at school, we celebrated the start of a new year with a Eucharist Procession through the entire school to remind us all that Jesus is present in all that we do. To cap off the week, we celebrated our activities with our fall activity pep rally that showcased the pride that our students have in our school.

We have added new courses this year that have drawn significant interest from our students. We have 30 upperclassmen taking the new Introduction to Health Sciences course this semester. In this course, students will learn about the history of health care, first aid and CPR, future career opportunities in health care, and begin developing hands on skills. During the 2nd semester, these students will have the opportunity to take Advanced Health Sciences and Medical Terminology. We were able to bring back courses such as Spanish 3 and Earth Science this year to give our students more options to pursue their personal interests.

In September, we look forward to our seniors embarking on their last Scotus

State income tax credits can be claimed starting on January 1, 2024, with scholarships being distributed for the 2024-25 school year.

You may also read a letter from Vickie Kauffold, Superintendent of Schools at the Archdiocese of Omaha regarding school choice legislation (LB753, the Opportunity Scholarships Act) and information about scholarship granting organization (SGO).

## LETTER

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## Save the Date: FBLA Food Feud

During the week of October 16th - 20th, FBLA will be hosting a food drive for the 11th annual food feud between the SCC and Lakeview chapters. Each year the chapters collect over 3,000 items which are donated to local organizations.

retreat at Camp Timberlake. This is an exciting day for them to look back on all that they have accomplished together at Scotus and also to look forward to the futures that they have ahead of them. Also in September, we will celebrate Homecoming with the students participating in themed days throughout the week and ending with the dance on Saturday the 23rd.

Let's keep building this into a great school year!

**-Brady Vancura, Scotus Central Catholic Principal**



The school year is off to a terrific start! We started our 1st day celebrating the Feast of the Assumption. It worked out perfectly for us to celebrate Mass on the 1st day. Fr. Taylor told us at our all school Mass that the most important thing we do in a day is celebrate Mass. Everything else that we do comes after that!

The teachers are busy teaching rules and procedures and giving the beginning of the year assessments. The beginning of the year assessments help us to see where the students are at, in what areas they are struggling, and the impact of summer slide (the learning loss over the summer). We are in the process of reorganizing Angel Choir under the direction of Charlotte Beran, Beth Carstens, Sherron Chard, Irvine Paloyo, and Amy Sokol. Be on the lookout for the dates when they are singing.

We welcomed several new staff members this fall. We are blessed to have Deanna Campuzano, administrative assistant, Shelly Naughton, librarian, Irvine Paloyo, music teacher, Shannon Renner, preschool teacher, and Stacey Schefus, Pre-K and 1st grade aide as part of the St. Anthony's family.

**-Amy Sokol, St. Anthony's Elementary Principal**



It was with joy and anticipation that we greeted our students on Aug. 15 for the first day of school. We started off the year by celebrating the Feast of the Assumption of Mary at Mass, a beautiful way to begin. Prior to the start of school, we held open houses for our students so they were able to meet their teachers and bring in their school supplies. We thank our Home and School organization for providing goodie bags for our students! During the first week of school, we also celebrated our students' summer reading efforts with an additional recess, snack, and dress down day cards (always a favorite). We had many students

reach their summer reading goals!

As we move forward, we will be administering beginning of year testing, and we will be practicing some of our safety drills. Our first Student Council assembly will be held on Aug. 31 and school pictures will be taken on Sept. 7. Our restaurant fundraiser events will start back up in September with our first event held at CK Bar and Grill on Thursday evening, Sept. 21. At the end of Sept. (Sept. 29), we will honor our local police, firefighters, and EMTs at a special Blue Mass on the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel. Spread the word to anyone you know that serves in these capacities! All are

invited to join us at our 8:15 a.m. Mass on this day.

**-Cheryl Zoucha, St. Bonaventure Elementary Principal**



It is so great to get back into routines! They help us prepare for what's ahead, stay focused on what needs to get done, and train our minds & bodies to complete certain items. Homework, bedtime and morning routines help us prepare for the day ahead and establish good practices. Don't forget to include prayer in your routines! We love to hear students share their prayer intentions with us at school, and we ask you to include our school community: staff, students & other families, in your prayers at home. Thank you for helping your children adjust to a new school year

by establishing good routines!

We have adjusted to new drop-off & pick-up procedures with construction. Thank you for following the requested plan and getting your children to/from school safely. The new sidewalk & fencing has been working well and it's great to hear positive feedback from our parents. Please keep up those safe practices & don't ever get into too much of a hurry with so many children around!

Our interior door locks have all been updated! We are appreciative of Home & School's efforts to make our school even safer and simpler to lockdown if there were ever a crisis situation. Teachers can now easily lock their doors without having to go out into the hallway to lock them. We are also looking at increasing our exterior cameras to better monitor the exterior of the building & visualize the future play areas.

Have a safe & healthy September!

**September calendar:**

- 4 - No School, Labor Day
- 6 - School Picture Day (out of uniform)
- 10 - St. Isidore Bazaar
- 22 - No School, Teacher Faith Formation

**-Amy Evans, St. Isidore Elementary Principal**

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Please join us!

SCAN THE QR BELOW TO REGISTER FOR THE FUN RUN HERE! OR USE THE BACK SIDE OF THIS FORM!



Proceeds will support CCS Curriculum Updates and Academic Advancements!



**MASS - DASH**

**BURGER BASH**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1 | 4:00 P.M. | PAWNEE PARK STADIUM**

**OUTDOOR MASS AT 4PM, FUN RUN/WALK & FOOD TO FOLLOW**

**\$20 - 2 MILE FUN RUN/WALK ENTRY FEE | INCLUDES A T-SHIRT**



**FREEWILL DONATION FOR BURGER BASH**

QUESTIONS? EMAIL ERIN SCHMIDT: [eschmidt@colcath.org](mailto:eschmidt@colcath.org)

**YOU DON'T HAVE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE RUN/WALK TO ATTEND - COME FOR MASS & TO EAT!**

UNABLE TO ATTEND? PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TO OUR CAUSE!

CLICK THE DONATE BUTTON ON OUR CCS WEBSITE: [WWW.COLUMBUS-CATHOLIC.ORG](http://WWW.COLUMBUS-CATHOLIC.ORG)

OR DROP A CHECK OFF TO ANY OF OUR SCHOOL OFFICES.

**DEVELOPMENT**

**SEF17 is Coming Soon!**

SEF 17 and the *School Excellence Fund* is coming this fall to support our Columbus Catholic Schools! I invite your investment in the education of our students through this campaign, and join me to accomplish these important goals:

A. Equip our students with the important values and skills they need to choose a vocation and become active in their parish and community.

- B. Develop programs for High Ability Learning and Academic Intervention/Special Education in our elementary schools.
- C. Keep tuition affordable for every student attending our Catholic Schools over the next three school years.
- D. Provide capital improvements for building accessibility (including an elevator at Scotus) and updating security measures (in all four schools.)
- E. Help our schools retain and recruit excellent teachers.

Together we can accomplish these goals and continue the tradition of academic excellence, faith formation, and service of our Columbus Catholic Schools. I also promise that we will be good stewards of your investment and will always keep you in our prayers.

With gratitude,

**Jeff Ohnoutka**  
**Executive Director, Columbus Catholic Schools**

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## Scotus Annual Report

Copies of the 2022-23 Scotus Central Catholic Annual Report are available at the church entrances and also online at the Columbus Catholic Schools website, [columbus-catholic.org](http://columbus-catholic.org) at [this link](#).

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## St. Bonaventure Night of Entertainment Info

The St. Bonaventure Church Night of Entertainment will be held Saturday,

November 18, 2023 at the Ramada Hotel & Conference Center. Wear your best Red, White or Blue!

5:15PM Social/Silent Auction

6:30PM Dinner (Steak & Chicken)

7:30 Grand Auction

Entertainment: Hotel Desperado (A Tribute to the Eagles)

**Cost: \$75 | Reserve a table of 8 for \$200**

Available at: St. Bonaventure Rectory, 1565 18th Ave. Or purchase using the QR code below.



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## Signing up for Service Opportunities

If your students are looking for service opportunities, reminder that upcoming and ongoing opportunities are posted on our website. See the link [here](#) or contact our Campus Ministry staff.

**Dana Ritzdorf**  
**Kelly Koranda**  
**Tyler Linder**  
**Nate Tenopir**

We try to keep this updated with different school, church, and community needs that students can take advantage of.

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## Join a Rock Talk Group For the 23-24 School Year!

Offer the gift of your time to invest in our teens and join the awesome team of RockTalk leaders! RockTalk started two years ago at Scotus as a movement to connect our students & teachers with Catholic adults in our community (Parents, especially!).



Growing stronger in their faith, the groups spend time sharing prayer, discussing the upcoming Sunday gospels, and getting to know each other. Co-Leaders meet with their group of students one Wednesday a month at the school, the last hour of the day.



Please email [Sarah Doerneman](#) for more information!

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## Journalism Photos For Sale

Do you want to support our awesome Journalism students and get a photo of your son or daughter during a school day? How about an action shot from a volleyball game or a pep rally? We are starting to upload fall activity photos online. Click [HERE](#) to

see the albums.

If you would like to support Scotus Journalism and purchase photos, you can use the order form [HERE](#). Let [Mrs. Rusher](#) know if you have any questions!

Your support is greatly appreciated and helps fund our journalism department to purchase new cameras, software and more.

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## Scotus Calendar of Events and Meetings:

- TEAM SCOTUS - Fri. Sept. 1
- Colleges and Coffee - Fri. Sept. 1, Media Center, 7:15 - 8:15 A.M.
- NO SCHOOL (LABOR DAY)- Mon. Sept. 4
- TEAM SCOTUS- Tue. Sept. 5
- NHS Officers & New Candidates Meeting- Tue. Sept. 5, Little Theater, 7:40 A.M.
- Senior Retreat - Wed. Sept. 6, Timberlake Camp
- Picture Retakes - Wed. Sept. 6, Cafeteria, Little Theater, 7:45 A.M.
- Josten's Senior Meeting - Thur. Sept. 7, Little Theater, 7:30 A.M.
- One Act Auditions - Thur. Sept. 7, Memorial Hall, 6:30 P.M.
- DRESS DOWN DAY - Fri. Sept. 8,
- NHS Officers Meeting- Fri. Sept. 8, Little Theater, 7:30 A.M.
- StuCo Meeting - Wed. Sept. 13, Room 126, 7:40 A.M.
- TEAM SCOTUS - Thu. Sept. 14
- Campus Ministry Meeting - Thur. Sept. 14, Little Theater, 7:30 A.M.
- 7th Grade Retreat - Fri. Sept. 15, Scotus, 1:30 - 3:30 P.M.
- Rock Talk - Wed. Sept. 20, 2:30 P.M.
- StuCo Meeting - Wed. Sept. 20, Room 126, 7:40 A.M.
- StuCo Meeting - Thur. Sept. 21, Pawnee Park, 7:30 A.M.
- NO SCHOOL - Fri. Sept. 22
- Homecoming Dance - Sat. Sept. 23, Cafeteria, 8:00-11:00 P.M.
- FBLA Meeting - Tue. Sept. 26, Room 209, 7:40 A.M.
- FBLA Conference - Wed. Sept. 27, Midland University
- Freshman Retreat - Wed. Sept. 27, Camp Moses Merrill (Linwood)
- Campus Ministry Meeting - Thur. Sept. 28, Little Theater, 7:30 A.M.
- DRESS DOWN DAY - Fri. Sept. 29
- NHS Officers Meeting- Fri. Sept. 29, Little Theater, 7:30 A.M.
- Mass-Dash-Burger Bash- Sun. Oct. 1, Pawnee Park, 4:00 P.M.

**To see the full calendar of Shamrock events**

for September, click [here](#).

CLICK HERE TO SUBSCRIBE TO OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL

## September Guidance & Careers Information

### **Senior Notes from Ms. Brichacek**

- All seniors have been connected to their Parchment accounts. This is the safest and fastest way to send transcripts to colleges and other institutions.
- Seniors should focus on completing applications to colleges during the month of September.
- Senior retreat will be held on September 6th. Parents- please remember to write your senior a letter for the day.

### **PSAT on October 18th**

- The PSAT is a standardized test that 10th and 11th graders may take to measure knowledge and skills in reading, writing, and math.
- The fee for taking the PSAT is \$18
  - Fee waivers are available for students who qualify.
- Why take the PSAT?
  - National Merit Scholarship Program and many other scholarships will use PSAT scores to connect with students.
  - Excellent practice for standardized testing
- Please sign up with Ms. Brichacek by September 9th

### **ACE Scholarship**

- Reminder to apply for the ACE Scholarship if your student is enrolled in a dual credit class or an online college class and is on free and reduced lunch. [Click Here](#) for the application.
- Registration is open for the ACT on October 28th! Register by September 22nd. If you are on free or reduced lunch- Ms. Brichacek has fee waivers available!

# COLUMBUS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

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Connect with us



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