

Columbus Catholic Schools
Board of Directors - Meeting Minutes
January 15, 2024

Columbus Catholics Schools Board Chair Matt Niedbalski called the board meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and presided over the meeting at Scotus Central Catholic Junior/Senior High School. Board members present: Heidi Field, Peg Niedbalski, Matt Niedbalski, Tara Sjuts, Sarah Pillen, Dennis Grennan, Paige Young, Jay Pelan, and T.J. Thiem. Administrators present: Jeff Ohnoutka (CCS President/Executive Director). Absent board members: None. No visitors were present.

The meeting opened with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion to approve agenda made by Paige Young, seconded by Peg Niedbalski and, after an opportunity for discussion, carried unanimously without objection. Motion to approve minutes of November 2023 meeting made by Tara Sjuts, seconded by Dennis Grennan, and, after an opportunity for discussion, carried unanimously without objection.

HANDOUTS – (1) Executive Director Report; (2) Columbus Catholic Schools Week Schedule; (3) CCS Fundraising Guidelines; (4) Advancement Office Report; (5) Financial Committee Reports; (6) Mission Integration Committee Report; and (7) CCS 2024-25 Calendar.

VISITOR RECOGNITION/CORRESPONDENCE/INTRODUCTIONS – None.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS (in addition to submitted printed reports in board packets) – Mr. Ohnoutka reported on Catholic Schools Week calendar/schedule and activities.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (in addition to submitted printed reports in board packets) –

- A. Advancement Committee Report: Committee Chair Peg Niedbalski and Dennis Grennan presented a report following their committee meeting this past Friday and were available to respond to questions from board members. Reported that fundraising guidelines were provided in board packet.
- B. Facilities Committee Report: Committee Chair Jay Pelan reported committee did not meet this past week due to weather, but will be meeting tomorrow instead to further discuss elevator and economic feasibility. In addition, the committee will discuss going to each school campus to compile 5-year plan for each facility.
- C. Finance Committee Report: Committee Chair Sarah Pillen stated the finance committee met the morning of the board meeting as well as in December and provided written financial reports to the CCS board for both meetings and was available to answer questions related to the same. Following the report, Jay Pelan made a Motion, which was seconded by Peg Niedbalski, to approve the financial report for each school/cafeteria. After an opportunity for discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

D. Mission Integration Committee Report: Committee Chair Matt Niedbalski presented a report and was available to respond to questions from board members.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS – 2024-25 Calendar. Jeff Ohnoutka presented proposed CCS school calendar. Following discussion, Dennis Grennan made a Motion, which was seconded by Paige Young, to approve the 2024-25 CCS Calendar. After an opportunity for discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Sarah Pillen made a Motion, which was seconded by Peg Niedbalski, to go into executive session. After an opportunity for discussion, the Motion carried unanimously and the board entered executive session at 6:16 p.m. Following an opportunity to discuss matters in executive session, Peg Niedbalski made a Motion, which was seconded by Dennis Grennan, to come out of executive session. After an opportunity for discussion, the Motion carried unanimously, and the board exited executive session at 6:41 p.m.

Upon exiting executive session, Peg Niedbalski made a Motion, which was seconded by Jay Pelan, to increase base salaries for the 2024-25 school year by 3%. After an opportunity for discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

Then, Dennis Grennan made a Motion, which was seconded by Heidi Field, to increase tuition for the 2024-25 school year by 4%. After an opportunity for discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA –

A. Regular Meeting. The next scheduled meeting will be on Monday, February 19, 2024, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at Scotus Central Catholic.

B. Items for Future Agenda: (1) Professional Contracts (Administration/Teacher); and (2) other matters, if any, to be determined by the Executive Committee.

T.J. Thiem moved, and Peg Niedbalski seconded, the motion to adjourn and, after an opportunity for discussion, the motion carried unanimously, and Chair Matt Niedbalski adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason D. Mielak, Secretary