



CCS LINES

February 2024



Finally February

From Columbus
Catholic Schools
Executive Director Jeff
Ohnoutka

We have reached February and that's a good thing because January was a real challenge for our schools. Especially for our maintenance staff. I appreciate all the hard work they did to get everything back up and running.

As you know we are in the middle of our Catholic Schools Week festivities. The week is filled with fun activities for our students and increases the awareness of how important our Catholic schools are to our community.

Tuition Assistance Information

It's almost time to open applications for tuition assistance for the 2024-2025 school year.

The application process opens February 5th and runs through April 26th. A copy of your 2023 tax returns needs to be submitted with the application. **Please watch for an email in the first week of February regarding tuition assistance.**

If you have any questions, please contact Sunny Lancaster at slancaster@colcath.org.

We continue to be blessed with outstanding support for our schools. None of this would be possible without the financial support we receive. We are also grateful for the incredibly talented teachers we have in our four schools.

Each day they not only teach the curriculum but they help form our students in the Catholic faith. It takes a special person to do that. It also takes someone who sees their teaching position as a true vocation and calling to serve our church.

Successful Catholic schools are not just a product of a small nucleus of people who magically make that happen. It is the sum of the efforts of all those connected with the school. This means not only the administrators and teachers but also the students and their families as well as those who attend our parishes.

I am sure that you have noticed that we have been advertising for teachers within our system. Nebraska is no different than the rest of the country and is experiencing teacher shortages. This requires an all out effort by all of us to support our current teachers but to also encourage and promote the noble profession of educating our youth.

I hope that we can count on you to help promote Catholic education. The mission never changes. We are here to serve our Church!

Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Schools Week will wrap up for Columbus Catholic Schools on Friday and its been a great week showcasing why Catholic education is so important



LITTLE WOMEN

the Broadway Musical

Book by
ALLAN KNEE

Lyrics by
MINDI DICKSTEIN

Music by
JASON HOWLAND

Presented by Scotus Central Catholic

Friday, February 9, 2024 7:00 pm

Saturday, February 10, 2024 7:00 pm

Sunday, February 11, 2024 2:00 pm

Scotus presents, *Little Women*

Scotus Central Catholic presents Little Women the musical! Based on the Louisa May Alcott's American Classic, this Civil War story of love and family stands the test of time.

PURCHASE TICKETS HERE

Tickets are \$8 each, shows are Friday, February 9th, Saturday, February 10th at 7 p.m. and Sunday, February 11th at 2 p.m. Shows will be performed in Memorial Hall.

If you have any questions, please email Laura Salyard at lsalyard@colcath.org.



Prom info

and how impactful it is for our students, staff and families.

Students participated in many activities including writing letters to priests, praying for more vocations, to admiring a Eucharistic Procession, to honoring staff at an all school Mass and much more.

If you haven't followed our social media accounts, I highly encourage you to do so to see all the photos and moments captured during the week. Click the links below to like, follow and subscribe to all our channels.

[Scotus Central Catholic Facebook](#)
[St. Anthony Elementary Facebook](#)
[St. Bonaventure Elementary Facebook](#)
[St. Isidore Elementary Facebook](#)
[Scotus Central Catholic Twitter](#)
[Columbus Catholic Schools YouTube](#)
[Columbus Catholic Schools Instagram](#)



St. Anthony 2nd graders show off their photos they drew for priests, deacons and seminarians.

St. Anthony Elementary Bingo Night

Save the date!

St. Anthony Elementary is hosting

Prom will be held on Saturday, April 6, 2024, in the Scotus cafeteria.

- 6:30 p.m. - Doors open
- 7:30 p.m. - Dinner
- 8:30-11:30 Dance

Please take time to review the dress code for formal dances, found in the Student/Parent Handbook. These dress code rules apply to both Scotus students and their outside dates.

St. Bonaventure Preschool Trivia Night Fundraiser

Save the date!

St. Bonaventure Preschool & Childcare is hosting a Trivia Night on Saturday, February 10th. Doors open at 5:30 P.M., the event will start at 6:45 P.M. \$200 per table of 8.

The event will take place in the St. Bonaventure Parish Center. Please bring a canned food item at entry.

[CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE TICKETS](#)

Music Bingo on Saturday, February 17th. Doors open at 6 P.M., the event will start at 7 P.M. in the St. Anthony's Social Hall. Bring your own drinks and snacks.

[CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE TICKETS](#)



MUSIC BINGO
FEBRUARY 17, 2024

We are bringing The Music Bingo People back to St. Anthony's for a night of fun and fellowship. This year it's DOUBLE the fun with TWO rounds of bingo!

The event is held at the St. Anthony's Social Hall.
Doors will open at 6:00 p.m. with play to begin at 7:00 p.m.
This is a 21 and over event. No minors.

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS TODAY!



SCAN the QR code to purchase tickets and see more event details.



Image: Pixabay.com



St. Bonaventure Preschool & Child Care presents
MARDI GRAS TRIVIA NIGHT
2024

Sponsored by Catholic Order Foresters- Anthony Owens

Saturday, February 10

St. Bonaventure's Parish Center
Doors Open 5:30
Rules Read 6:45

\$200 per table of 8

REGISTER USING QR CODE OR BRING IN FORM. VENMO FOR ONLINE PAYMENT.



Please bring a canned food item

St. Isidore Shrimp Peel Fundraiser

St. Isidore Elementary is hosting their annual Shrimp Peel on Friday, March 1st at Scotus in the cafeteria. Doors open at 6 P.M. This is a 21+ and older event.

[CLICK HERE TO RESERVE YOUR TABLE](#)



SHRIMP PEEL 2024

FRIDAY, MARCH 1ST AT THE SCOTUS CENTRAL CATHOLIC CAFETERIA



Save The Date

April | 13 | 2024

SCOTUS GALA
fundraiser

Silent Auction / 4:45 p.m. | Dinner/Live Auction 7:00 p.m.

 Bring your "boots and bling" to Scotus Central Catholic
and help support our students. 

More photos from Catholic Schools Week!



St. Bonaventure 6th grade student Ryker Cech leads the Eucharistic Procession on Thursday,
February 1st.



St. Anthony Kindergarten student Eliana Lopez listens to Mrs. Kelly. Kindergarten, 1st grade and 2nd grade students colored photos and wrote letters to our priests, deacons and seminarians.



One of the St. Isidore 3rd grade classes prays before an activity.



Scotus Central Catholic seniors, Josie Sliva, Kamren Kudron and Logan Erickson pray the Rosary at Mass.

[CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD THE FEBRUARY LUNCH MENU](#)



To the Principal's Office

It is hard to believe that the first month of 2024 is over. That means in less than four months this school year will be over. We have so many things to learn and accomplish before then.

February is a busy month for us as we wrap up Catholic Schools Week with our annual Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, February 3. There have been so many people behind the scenes to make this evening a huge success for our school. A very special thank you to our co-chairs Heidi Field and Bobby Olson and to Erin Schmidt for helping us plan and giving us so many new ideas.

In February, our 2nd graders will be celebrating their 1st Reconciliation on the 8th, and the next week we will have parent-teacher conferences on the 15th. On February 16, we will have faith formation with the other three schools. February 17 will be our rescheduled Music Bingo. The Catholicity will also be planning weekly activities as we start Lent.

Our students have been enjoying visits from Brooke from the NE Farm Bureau. She is one of their Ag in the Classroom teachers. Brooke comes from Lincoln and teaches them lessons about agriculture. The students love it when she comes and look forward to her visits.

Thank you for the many ways that you support our school! We are beyond blessed!

-Amy Sokol, St. Anthony Elementary Principal



As we celebrated Catholic Schools Week, we were reminded of how important the mission of our school is. We have the opportunity to form a faith community that allows our families, our students, and our staff to grow closer to Jesus. We capped off our Catholic Schools Week with our Faith Rally which has really grown to be a favorite of our students. They have the opportunity for adoration, praise and worship, student testimonies, and fellowship with their peers.

We hope that each student has an experience at Scotus that will allow them to continue to grow in their faith outside of school and in their futures. We have such great support from our parents, families, and donors in our Scotus community that make Scotus such a great place to teach in, to learn in, and to grow together in our faith.

We experienced a challenging January in which finding a routine was difficult for staff, students, and families due to having four snow days at the beginning of the 2nd semester. I am appreciative of everyone's flexibility and adaptiveness to adjust during the extreme weather conditions.

During the extreme weather, our maintenance staff put in long hours in the cold and wind to ensure our sidewalks and parking lots were clear, so I wanted to express my gratitude for their efforts. We have finally been able to settle into new 2nd semester classes and are ready to finish the year strong.

There are many big events coming up on the calendar including the band celebrating their annual dinner concert on February 5th. Another annual tradition in which our students are able to showcase their talents is the Musical which takes place the weekend of February 9th-11th. This year, the students will be performing "Little Women."

Toward the end of February, we will host the Winter Ball that was rescheduled from January 13th. Also, our winter athletes will be competing in district competitions over the next few weeks in the hope that we can have a successful conclusion to our winter activities.

-Brady Vancura, Scotus Central Catholic Principal

ADVANCEMENT



(Above) Jan Foltz was selected as the 26th annual Gerhold Teacher of the Year. Pictured from left to right, St. Anthony Elementary principal Amy Sokol, Many Munson, Jan Foltz, Mike Munson and Fr. Taylor Leffler.

26th Annual Gerhold Teacher of the Year

The recipient of the 26th annual William and Barbara Gerhold Family Teacher of the Year award for Columbus Catholic Schools was Jan Foltz, the current elementary counselor and P.E. teacher for St. Anthony Elementary.

Foltz has dedicated many years as a teacher and counselor at Columbus Catholic Schools. Foltz earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Nebraska-Kearney. She is active in the Ladies of the Lord, serves as an EMHC, participates in Eucharistic Adoration, serves on the church cleaning crew and the Catholicity committee at St. Bonaventure Parish. She also is on the CATCH committee, assists with STEAM after-school and summer programs and the Sprint program at St. Anthony Elementary.

The award announcement was made at an all-school Mass at St. Anthony Church on February 2nd, 2024. The Mass was part of the Columbus Catholic Schools' celebration of Catholic Schools Week. Besides a trophy, she also received a stipend of \$1,500 for her personal use.

The Teacher of the Year award is made possible through funding from the William and Barbara Gerhold Family endowed fund. Besides supporting the annual teacher of the year award, this fund also provides an annual distribution of \$3,500 to one of the four Columbus Catholic schools on a rotating basis, and it provides support for the departments of Mathematics, Science and English at Scotus.

Join us at the Gala!

The 43rd annual Gala dinner/auction is set for Saturday, April 13, 2024 and the event will return to Scotus Central Catholic with the dinner and live auction hosted in the Dowd Activity Center! This year's theme is "Boots & Bling" and our Gala co-chairs are: Clete & Lisa Borchers, Dr. Scott & Kelly Cameron and Roger & Jill Krienke. This year's vice-chairs are: Mike & Kim Dreesen, Fred & Carrie Maguire and Jack & Lisa Meers.

Everyone is invited to attend—you don't need an invitation to join us for this important and fun-filled annual fundraiser! Guest emcee will be Fr. Taylor Leffler. Let's fill the Dowd Center and help us reach our net goal of \$250,000 which is part of the Scotus annual budget and very necessary to cover the cost of operating our school!

PURCHASE AND RESERVE SINGLE TICKETS OR A RESERVED TABLE SPONSORSHIP AND MORE HERE

PURCHASE GALA LOTTERY TICKETS HERE (Chance at a \$12,000 grand prize!)

PURCHASE GALA RAFFLE TICKETS HERE

If you would like to attend, participate by donating an item for the silent or oral auctions or volunteer to help, please contact our co-chairs, vice-chairs, or Erin Schmidt in the Scotus development office: or 402 564 7165 ext. 114 or eschmidt@colcath.org.

Children's Scholarship Fund

The 2023-24 school year marks the 22nd year that the Children's Scholarship Fund of Omaha has provided tuition assistance to students in our Columbus Catholic schools. Since its inception in 1999, CSF has provided **\$923,975.65** in scholarship support to students in the Columbus Catholic Schools!

The beauty of the program is that every dollar raised in Columbus and from our alumni and alumnae is matched and returned to qualifying Columbus Catholic school families in the form of tuition scholarships! Last year we submitted \$26,093.74 in local fundraising to CSF-Omaha and in return our schools received \$40,500.00 in scholarships benefitting 50 students in our Columbus Catholic Schools. Not a bad investment!

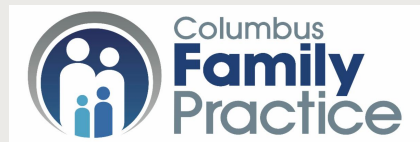
If you would like to support the Columbus effort for CSF, send your checks, payable to *Children's Scholarship Fund* to the Scotus development office or make an online donation to Scotus designating your gift for CSF. We'll make sure your gift is included in our local CSF fundraising and submit it to CSF-Omaha!

Your donation may be tax deductible. CSF is a designated 501 (c) 3 nonprofit, and you will be helping our parish families afford the cost of attending one of our

Catholic schools. Individual donations can also be dropped off at the Columbus rectories or at the Scotus development office. For more information about CSF, contact John Schueth at Scotus: 402 564 7165 ext. 109 or jschueth@colcath.org.

Columbus Catholic Schools publications

You can read past yearbooks, annual appeals, school board minutes, school newspapers and more on the publications page on our website. Visit columbus-catholic.org, click "about" on the navigation bar, and on the about page, click the publications tab. **Here is a direct link.**



Band news

February 3: Junior High Honor Band in Stanton

February 5: Wild West Band Dinner Concert

March 16: Centennial Conference Honor Band & Choir at Lincoln Lutheran
Junior High Honor Band in York

April 13: Jazz Band performs at Gala

April 19: District Music Contest (high school band and drumline) at CHS

April 24: Spring Band Concert (grades 5-12)

April 27: Elementary Honor Band at Neligh-Oakdale

May 12: Graduation (grades 8-11)



(Above) The band performs at the Band Dinner Concert last February.

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.



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 in 2019 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!



Journalism photos for sale

see the albums.

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

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.

Scotus calendar of events and meetings:

- Band Dinner Concert - Mon. Feb. 5, 5:15 Dinner, 7 Concert
- StuCo Meeting - Wed. Feb. 7, Room 126, 7:40 A.M.
- TEAM SCOTUS - Thu. Feb. 8
- Campus Ministry Meeting - Thu. Feb. 8, Little Theater, 7:30 A.M.
- Musical Performance - Fri. Feb. 9, Memorial Hall, 7 P.M. · Speech Invite - Sat. Feb. 10, David City High School, 9 A.M. · Musical Performance - Sat. Feb. 10, Memorial Hall, 7 P.M. · Musical Performance - Sun. Feb. 11, Memorial Hall, 2 P.M.
- FBLA Week - Mon. Feb. 12 - Fri. Feb. 16 · Connected Night - Wed. Feb. 14, 7-9:30 P.M. · NO SCHOOL - Fri. Feb. 16 · Speech Invite - Sat. Feb. 17, Aquinas Catholic High School, 9 A.M.
- State Dance - Sat. Feb. 17, Heartland Event Center in Grand Island
- StuCo Meeting - Wed. Feb. 21, Room 126, 7:40 A.M. · Rock Talk - Wed. Feb. 21, 2:30 P.M. · Campus Ministry Meeting - Thu. Feb. 22, Little Theater, 7:30 A.M.
- DRESS DOWN DAY - Fri. Feb. 23
- Stations of the Cross - Fri. Feb. 23, St. Bonaventure, 2:30 P.M.
- Conference Speech Invite - Sat. Feb. 24, Bishop Neumann High School, 9 A.M.
- Winter Ball - Sat. Feb. 24, Cafeteria, 7:45-10:00 P.M.
- First day of spring sports practice - Mon. Feb. 26 · FBLA Meeting - Tue. Feb. 27, Room 209, 7:40 A.M.
- Vocal Concert - Tue. Feb. 27, Memorial Hall, 7 P.M.
- TEAM SCOTUS - Thu. Feb. 29
- NHS Meeting - Thu. Feb. 29, Little Theater, 7:40 A.M.

To see the full calendar of Shamrock events for February, click [here](#).

CLICK HERE TO SUBSCRIBE TO OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL

February guidance & careers information

2024-2025 Registration updates:

- Course Descriptions for the 2024-2025 school year will be posted on the Scotus website by February 19. Please note the elective courses listed in the booklet are tentative offerings for the school year. These courses will be offered only if enough students enroll to merit the class.

COLUMBUS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Columbus Catholic Schools

402-564-7165

tdahl@colcath.org

columbus-catholic.org

Connect with us



Columbus Catholic Schools | 1554 18th Avenue, 1554 18th Avenue,
Columbus, NE 68601

[Unsubscribe \[tdahl@colcath.org\]\(mailto:tdahl@colcath.org\)](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data
Notice](#)

Sent by tdahl@colcath.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!