

Columbus Catholic Schools
Board of Directors - Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2024

Columbus Catholic Schools' Board Chair Matt Niedbalski called the board meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. and presided over the meeting at St. Anthony's Elementary School. Board members present: Peg Niedbalski, Matt Niedbalski, Tara Sjuts, Sarah Pillen, Jay Pelan, Dennis Grennan, Jordan Paitz, Paige Young and T.J. Thiem. Administrators present: Jeff Ohnoutka (CCS President/Executive Director), Brady Vancura (Scotus Principal), Amy Evans (St. Isidore Principal), Amy Sokol (St. Anthony Principal) and Cheryl Zoucha (St. Bonaventure Principal). Absent board members: None. No visitors were present.

The meeting opened with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion to approve agenda, as amended, was made, seconded, and after an opportunity for discussion, carried unanimously without objection. Motion to approve minutes of prior meeting made by Dennis Grennan with correction that Paige Young was present at August Board of Directors Meeting, seconded by Jay Pelan, and, after an opportunity for discussion, carried unanimously without objection.

HANDOUTS – (1) Executive Director Report; (2) Advancement Committee Report; (3) Facility Committee Report; (4) Financial Committee Reports; (5) Mission Integration Committee Report; (6) 2024-25 School Improvement Plan; (7) 2024-25 Tuition Assistance Report; and (8) CCS Annual Security Report.

VISITOR RECOGNITION/CORRESPONDENCE/INTRODUCTIONS – None.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS (in addition to submitted printed reports in board packets) – Executive director presented his written report and was available to answer questions. Mr. Ohnoutka reported on progress of exploring an order of sisters to locate in the community. Amy Sokol presented report on progress of school improvement plan and goals and was available to answer questions. Brady Vancura also presented a report on progress of school improvement plan for Scotus and responded to questions from board members.

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

- A. Advancement Committee Report: Committee Chair Peg Niedbalski presented a report following their committee meeting and was available to respond to questions from board members. Peg Niedbalski also reported on discussion of how to increase scrip sales through parish families, and not just school families, as well as the idea of beginning an adopt a family program. Dennis Grennan commented on positive presentation of the annual report and media guide.

- B. Facilities Committee Report: Committee Chair Jay Pelan presented a security report referenced below.

- C. Finance Committee Report: Committee Chair Sarah Pillen stated the finance committee met the morning of the board meeting and provided written financial reports to the CCS board and was available to answer questions related to the same. Following the report, T.J. Thiem made a Motion, which was seconded by Paige Young, 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 was available to answer questions from Board members. Further, Jeff Ohnoutka reported on upcoming meeting to discuss and improve upon parent engagement.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS –

- A. Scholarship Report – Jeff Ohnoutka presented written report for Scotus and three (3) elementary schools and fielded questions from board members.
- B. Security Report – Jeff Ohnoutka and Jay Pelan presented written report on security analysis and detailed each school campus improvement recommendations and were available to answer questions from board members. Discussion was also had about obtaining estimates for recommended improvements to assist facility committee in making recommendations to prioritize safety needs and utilize for grant applications that may become available.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA –

- A. Regular Meeting – The next scheduled meeting will be on Monday, October 28, 2024, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at St. Bonaventure School.
- B. Items for Future Agenda – (1) St. Bonaventure and St. Isidore Principal Reports; and (2) Other matters, if any, to be determined by the Executive Committee.

Peg Niedbalski moved, and T.J. Thiem seconded, a motion to adjourn and, after an opportunity for discussion, the motion carried unanimously, and Chair Matt Niedbalski adjourned the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason D. Mielak, Secretary