

Scotus Central Catholic Board of Education  
Meeting Minutes  
9/21/2017

Dr. Dale Zaruba called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Members present were: Fr. Ross Burkhalter, Fr. Joe Miksch, Fr. Mike Swanton, Joe Chohon, Sue Donoghue, Chris Hutchinson, Lisa Kaslon, Jason Mielak, Mike Novicki, Clint Przymus and Kathy Steiner and Dr. Dale Zaruba. Absent: none.

Administrators present were: Fr. Matt Capadano, Campus Minister, Jeff Ohnoutka, President; and John Schueth, Development Director. Absent: Merlin Lahm, Activities Director/Asst. Principal.

The meeting opened with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Clint Przymus moved and Sue Donoghue seconded a motion to approve the agenda and the motion carried. The 6/15/2017 meeting minutes were approved as read.

HANDOUTS – Final 2016-17 fiscal year profit & loss budget reports for the cafeteria and Scotus general fund.

VISITOR RECOGNITION/CORRESPONDENCE/INTRODUCTIONS – Gail Bomar, representing STO.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS (in addition to submitted printed reports in board packets)

Mr. Schueth added to his report that the Hagel dinner currently had 304 reservations, and donations/pledges for the Chuck Hagel STEAM lab totaled about \$155,000. Mr. Ohnoutka reported that the new parking lot is about two weeks away from completion, with drainage, stall painting and landscaping yet to be completed. The school is looking for a new location to park its busses. Mr. Ohnoutka shared that he is excited to work with UNO, UNL and CCC in relation to the STEAM lab; and the school will need to add computer coding to the curriculum as well as bring back the course, “Science in the Community.” The biology department’s new greenhouse construction is nearly complete and when in operation it may provide plants for sale to the public and produce for the cafeteria. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade recently took the Terra Nova test which assesses student academic competencies following grade school. Both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be taking the ACT Aspire test which will help Scotus build our curriculum to keep all students challenged in their coursework. Jeff also added that the school is looking into the possibility of adding Honors courses to the curriculum.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Board Committee Assignments. Mr. Ohnoutka presented the board assignments to the following committees: Executive/Finance, Activities/Extracurricular, Recruitment/Scholarship, Catholicity, Facilities, Policy and AdvanceED/School Improvement.
- B. Curriculum Report. A literature course was added to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum along with the STAR reading and AR 360 programs to track student progress. STAR diagnostic tests will be conducted at the beginning, middle and end of the school year to measure reading improvement. Last summer the Scotus physical education teachers aligned our PE curriculum to meet the new state standards. And beginning with the English department, Power Standards will be implemented providing goals for the absolute essential objectives for each course that connect from one grade level to the next.
- C. Tuition Assistance. \$103,378 in assistance was provided to students for the 2017-18 school year from resources including the Archdiocese of Omaha, Archbishop’s Scholarship Fund, Children’s Scholarship Fund, Scotus endowment, and local donors. 90 students received aid based on financial need, 40 students received locally-funded scholarships (not always based on need) and 29 students received assistance in the form of a tuition discount as children of Columbus Catholic school teachers.
- D. ACT Report. Mr. Ohnoutka reviewed an historical analysis over the past five years of Scotus class ACT performance. The percentage of 2017 graduating class members scoring in the top 2 quartiles nationally

were: English (85%), Math (88%), Reading (74%), Science (78%) and by composite score (81%). The percent of students from the 2017 graduating class determined to be ready for college-level coursework by ACT was: 90% for English Comp, 75% for College Algebra, 70% for College Social Science and 57% for College Biology – all percentages well above the national averages. This year's class composite score was 24.3 compared with the 2017 Nebraska state average of 21.4 and the 2017 national average of 21.0.

- E. Strategic Plan Review. Mr. Ohnoutka presented the additions and revisions to the action plans including areas such as the curriculum, facilities, technology, teacher salary & benefits, tuition and tuition assistance.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Finance Committee. Mr. Ohnoutka reviewed the 2016-17 fiscal year profit & loss budget reports for the cafeteria and Scotus general fund. Cafeteria revenue for the year was \$7,937 below budget but expenses were also \$28,091 below expectations with savings particularly in food and dairy lines. Overall the cafeteria ended \$20,154 to the good. On the income side, the general fund finished the year \$64,603 ahead of expectations due in part to a good Gala and athletic event gate proceeds. On the expense side maintenance and repairs exceeded expectations by \$20,444 but utility expenses were mostly below budget. Overall the general budget ended the year \$5,018 on the positive side. Jason Mielak moved and Joe Chohon seconded a motion to approve the cafeteria and general fund budget reports and the motion carried.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Not conducted.

#### ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

- A. Regular Meeting. The next meeting date will be on October 19, 2017 beginning at 6:30 p.m. with the finance committee meeting held at 6:00 p.m.
- B. Planned Giving Report
- C. Facilities Walk Around Report
- D. Adoption of Strategic Plan

#### ROUNDTABLE

Announcements were made by board members.

Fr. Joe moved and Jason Mielak seconded a motion to adjourn and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
John Schueth