

Scotus Central Catholic Board of Education
Meeting Minutes
5/17/2018

Dr. Dale Zaruba called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Members present were: Fr. Joe Miksch, Fr. Mike Swanton, Joe Chohon, Sue Donoghue, Chris Hutchinson, Lisa Kaslon, Jason Mielak, Mike Novicki, Clint Przymus, Kathy Steiner and Dr. Dale Zaruba. Absent: Fr. Ross Burkhalter

Administrators present were: Fr. Matt Capadano, Campus Minister; Jeff Ohnoutka, President, Merlin Lahm, Activities Director/Asst. Principal and John Schueth, Development Director. Absent: None

The meeting opened with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Jason Mielak moved and Sue Donoghue seconded a motion to approve the agenda and the motion carried. Fr. Joe Miksch moved and Mike Novicki seconded a motion to excuse absent board members and the motion carried. The 4/19/2018 meeting minutes were approved as read.

HANDOUTS – copies of the 2017-18 Student/Parent Handbook

VISITOR RECOGNITION/CORRESPONDENCE/INTRODUCTIONS – Amy Sokol was present as an observer.

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

Mr. Lahm reported on the activity dates for the remainder of the school year and he also provided a brief comparison of eligibility requirements for academic all-conference, academic all-state and Lincoln Journal Star academic all-state. Mr. Lahm also shared that 93% of all Scotus senior high students participated in at least one NSAA sponsored activity and if all activities were included such as mock trial, one-acts, musical etc, 95% of all students were involved in at least one activity. Mr. Schueth updated his printed report to share that the Gala net was \$206,740 and that \$33,474 was donated the night of Gala to support the media center remodel. In the area of strategic planning, Mr. Ohnoutka shared that a focus group has been created to assess Scotus facility needs. This group is made up of parents who have not had much experience with the school's facilities as well as some experienced parents. Mr. Ohnoutka added that much more strategic planning for facilities will need to take place before a plan can be formalized. Concerning ACT preparations, Scotus faculty will receive professional training this summer and at several other points during the school year on methods to embed ACT preparation in their respective curriculum. Junior High teachers will also receive training in reading comprehension strategies in content area. The training is funded by Title IIA funds.

In a final point, Mr. Ohnoutka asked the board to consider a possible change to the Achievement Program and Athletic Banquet—currently both offered back to back on the same evening. He proposed that after the baccalaureate Mass, the seniors would be recognized for their awards and scholarships. This would be during a school day and run from approximately 10:15 a.m. to noon. Later that same week, the 7-11 grade students would receive their academic awards and seniors would receive their community scholarships at an afternoon program from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. In one of the evenings that week, instead of an athletic banquet, there would be an activities award program beginning at 7:00 p.m. and perhaps just offering a dessert and refreshment. Students involved in athletics and performing arts (basically all student activities) would be recognized. All of the programs could be posted live on Facebook for family members unable to attend. The board will consider the proposal and offer Jeff feedback by Email and at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Handbook Updates. Mr. Ohnoutka provided an overview of several student/parent handbook policy change proposals made by the policy committee. Proposals included a clarification of “Shared-Time” students policy, the addition if a student begins the year with 9 courses and no study halls, the student may drop a course during the first four weeks and opt for a study hall; the elimination of the

policy allowing student dismissal for forgotten materials, amending the lunch policy to allow students the option to bring sack lunches, the removal of the color “stone” as an option for uniforms—providing that only navy blue and khaki are allowed uniform colors for pants/shorts/capris, and a clarification under the substance abuse policy allowing the substance abuse clinical counselor and not Scotus, the authority to determine how many counseling sessions a student may need. This review served as a first reading and a vote on the proposals will take place at the June board meeting.

- B. STEAM Coordinator Position. Mr. Ohnoutka announced that Mrs. Betsy Rall was hired as the school’s new STEAM coordinator. Mrs. Rall has extensive experience in STEAM curriculum and has many connections to industry here in Columbus. She is also connected to the STEM outreach program at UNO.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Finance Committee. Mr. Ohnoutka provided an overview of the April financial reports for the Scotus general fund and cafeteria. At the end of April, the general fund’s year-to-date income was \$19,399 above expectations and year- to-date expenses were \$33,334 below expectations leaving the overall budget at \$52,733 above expectations. He highlighted that athletics income was slightly above expectations and that athletics expenses were also close to expectations—commenting that this budget line looks very good compared to most years at this time. Mr. Ohnoutka also pointed out that with many repair jobs being completed by staff the maintenance and repair expense line is nearly \$15,000 to the good of the budget. However he added that new controllers need to be installed in the classrooms and that could amount to about \$8,000 per floor.
Year-to-date cafeteria revenue was \$18,090 below budget. Year-to-date cafeteria expenses were also \$17,289 below expectations leaving the overall budget at \$801 on the negative side. Fr. Joe moved and Kathy Steiner seconded a motion to approve the general budget and cafeteria budget reports and the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

- A. Regular Meeting. The next meeting date will be on June 21, 2018 beginning at 6:00 p.m. with the finance committee meeting held at 5:30 p.m. Please note the change from normal meeting times.
- B. Preliminary General Budget
- C. Lunch Prices
- D. Reading Report

ROUNDTABLE

Announcements were made by board members.

Fr. Joe Miksch moved and Clint Przymus seconded a motion to adjourn and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
John Schueth