

Scotus Central Catholic Board of Education
Meeting Minutes
6/17/2020

Clint Przymus called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. Members present were: Fr. Mike Swanton, Tim Beaver, Chris Hutchinson, Jason Mielak, Jay Pelan, Clint Przymus, and Dr. Dale Zaruba. Absent: Fr. Ross Burkhalter, Fr. Joe Miksch, Lisa Kaslon, Shannon Kosch and Kathy Steiner.

Administrators present were: Jeff Ohnoutka, President; and John Schueth, Development Director.
Administrators absent: Merlin Lahm, Activities Director/Asst. Principal, Angie Rusher, Asst. Principal

The meeting opened with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Chris Hutchinson moved and Jason Mielak seconded a motion to approve the agenda and the motion carried. The 2/20/2020 meeting minutes were approved as read. Tim Beaver moved and Dr. Dale Zaruba seconded a motion to excuse absent board members and the motion carried.

HANDOUTS – STAR diagnostic reading testing report for 7th – 9th grades.

VISITOR RECOGNITION/CORRESPONDENCE/INTRODUCTIONS – Amy Sokol representing St. Anthony Parish.

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

There were no additions to the printed report from Mr. Lahm and Mr. Schueth added to his report that local fundraising for the Children's Scholarship Fund is now at \$17,336.89. Mr. Ohnoutka reviewed his printed report with the board. The four committees created to each cover one of the broad domains of reopening the school (Physical Infrastructure, Scheduling & Staffing, Health & Safety and Transportation & Food Services) will begin meeting in a week to ten days. Under the CARES Act, we will receive a share of grant funding made available to the local school district for cleaning/sanitizing equipment & supplies and additional technology to prepare for the possibility of returning to remote teaching. ServiceMaster has been contacted for a quote for COVID deep-cleaning of the school possibly on a monthly basis. The school is not planning to make any calendar changes, will comply with all health department *mandates* and will follow all *guidelines* if they make sense for the school. The coaches have been very professional and have done an excellent job working together and keeping students safe while implementing the new guidelines for the weight room and gym. Scotus will assign each student with their own computer for the school year and Scotus is looking into the possibility of taking a low interest (1%) loan from the NE Energy Commission to install touchless faucets, auto flushers and water heaters for bathrooms, LED lighting throughout the school and energy efficient windows in the stairwells that can be opened at times to improve ventilation. CMI will provide a guarantee savings amount if this work is done and they currently predict the school will save more each month on energy costs than the monthly loan payment. This project might also be added to the SEF drive this fall. Improvements are being made in the chapel including: new carpet, LED lighting, refinish and repair of the pews and the addition of kneelers to the pews. Graduation will be on June 27 beginning at 1:00 pm. The only changes will be the absence of the band and choir, and the limitation of only 6 guests per graduate. The board also discussed the health insurance plan available to teachers and staff. The annual cost for a family is \$27,000 and \$10,056 for an individual and both plans only offer a \$500 deductible with some copays. The costs were defined as excessive, the plans as not flexible and there exists a real concern to keep good teachers with the current monthly insurance benefit provided by Scotus for full-time teachers and staff being \$442 (\$5,304 per year.)

OLD BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Handbook Changes for 2020-21. Jason Mielak moved and Dr. Zaruba seconded a motion to approve the handbook change to require that all water bottles must be clear and subject to additional mandated changes that the Archdiocese may send in the coming months with relation to the pandemic. The motion carried.

- B. Reading Report. Mr. Ohnoutka shared information on the STAR reading test administrated in the fall and spring to 7th – 9th graders. He highlighted that for some classes, reading scores dropped and that this correlates with the value of teaching students in person.
- C. 2020-2021 General Budget and Cafeteria Budget. Mr. Ohnoutka commented on the proposed budget, adding that he had to increase tuition assistance in response to the pandemic. Chris Hutchinson moved and Jay Pelan seconded a motion to approve the 2020-2021 general budget and the motion carried. Tim Beaver moved and Jay Pelan seconded a motion to approve the 2020-2021 cafeteria budget and the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Finance Committee. Mr. Ohnoutka provided a review of the May financial reports for the Scotus general fund and cafeteria. He shared that 99.3% of tuition had been collected for the year, athletics income was only down \$17,000 despite the cancelling of spring sports, and year-to date expenses are \$31,151 above budget. Jason Mielak moved and Dr. Zaruba seconded a motion to approve the general fund finance report and the motion carried. Year-to-date, the cafeteria fund is at \$14,730 below expectations for net income. Jason Mielak moved and Tim Beaver seconded a motion to approve the cafeteria finance report and the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION None

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

- A. Regular Meeting. The next scheduled meeting is on Thursday, August 20, 2020 beginning at 6:30 p.m. The finance committee meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m.
- B. New Board Members. Jason Mielak and Dr. Dale Zaruba are completing their 6-year terms of service. Jason plans to continue as the board's legal advisor and will be replaced by Mike Dreesen on the board. A replacement for Dr. Zaruba has yet to be announced.
- C. Strategic Plan.

ROUNDTABLE

Announcements were made by board members.

Dale Zaruba moved and Fr. Mike seconded a motion to adjourn and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
John Schueth