

SPRINGFIELD CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI
Springfield Catholic High School - Room #301

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, November 14th, 2024

Present: Kent Lammers, Boyd Crockett, Jane Fairchild, Ryan O'Reilly, Fr. Lewis Hejna, Jeanne Skahan, Margaret Calliotte, Cheryl Bond, Becky Conroy, JoAnne Bailes, Ashley Harris, Lindsay Wright, and Sr. Cecilia Ann,

Absent: Lary O'Reilly, Paige Duda, Fr. Tom Kiefer, Fr. Patrick Nwokoye, and Brian Pyck

Guests: Kelsey McLemore

OPENING PRAYER 6:03 PM Fr. Lewis Hejna opened the meeting with a prayer.

REVIEW OF CONSENT ITEMS

The October minutes and November Consent Agenda and items were reviewed prior to the meeting. Kent Lammers, School Board President, asked for a motion to approve the consent items and minutes. This motion was made by Ryan O'Reilly and seconded by Boyd Crockett. The motion was approved.

GUEST PRESENTATION

Kelsey McLemore, Director of Food Services for Springfield Catholic Schools, shared the following:

- We are off to a positive start to the 2024-25 school year, noting increased participation in school lunches, especially as the weather turns cooler.
- Immaculate Conception has seen changes with new staff taking over after Tracy's 17-year tenure, and the new staff has embraced the role well.
- St. Agnes has implemented changes based on parent feedback, including larger portion sizes and narrowing down the menu to top-selling items.
- Through the EANSIIa grant, we were able to purchase and distribute \$77,000 worth of cleaning supplies from Springfield Grocer to all schools, benefiting both schools and parishes. The effort was a team effort involving Knights of Columbus and other volunteers, showcasing community support.

Patrick Murphy had a scheduling conflict so asked if he could come and present at our December school board meeting. Kent Lammers, School Board President, approved of this agenda change.

REPORTS

Financial Statements: Margaret Calliotte presented the October financial statements, detailing various funds and their balances, including tuition accounts receivable and sponsored child receivables. Margaret all shared the enrollment report as of November 6, 2024. Enrollment updates show a slight decrease in preschool and elementary students, with a total of 1,372 students across all grades. There are inquiries for the second semester, with some students expected to join in January. A motion to approve the financials was made by Boyd Crockett and seconded by Ryan O'Reilly. The motion was approved.

Director of Schools: Sr. Cecilia Ann thanked the principals for all their hard work to utilize the EANSIIa funds. This grant benefited our schools in many ways. Sister also thanked those who attended the bullying presentation given by Kevin Szawala on October 24 & 25. He actually focused a lot on respect. Jeanne felt the high school did not get into the presentation as much as the younger kids probably did, but the message of respect, forgiveness, and kindness was good for all to hear. Sr. Cecilia Ann shared that Bishop Rice has given us his written approval to move forward on the LED lighting project for the football field and the baseball/soccer field. Sister also shared that she and the principals are beginning work on the 2025-26 school year calendar. They have decided to use the Jubilee 2025 theme of "Pilgrims of Hope" as our 2025-26 school year theme as well. Also mentioned was the fact that in January 2025 we will have a new School Protection Officer at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School. This individual will be an SCS employee. Finally, Sister Cecilia Ann

shared that she attended the November 11, 2024, Diocesan School Board meeting in Mountain View. A few policies were reviewed and will be updated if necessary and shared after Bishop Rice's approval.

Director of Development: Becky Conroy reported on the success of the Celebrating Our Shepherd campaign in October, which raised \$106,000 with minimal costs. The campaign involved weekly emails, social media posts, and teacher spotlights, engaging a wide audience and raising awareness. 30% of donors were new to the Shepherds Fund, and 6% were new to any Springfield Catholic-related donations, indicating a successful awareness effort. Upcoming events include the Alumni Association's Home for the Holidays event which will be held on Nov. 29, 2024, at Hold Fast Brewing and Giving Tuesday (Dec. 3, 2024), with a goal of \$7,500. The CBNO Christmas party will be on December 11, 2024, at Palm & Paddle Grill.

OLD BUSINESS:

Policy Committee: We had the second reading of policies:

- 2.11 – Dependent Tuition
- 2.12 – Spiritual & Professional Growth
- 2.13 – Leave Policy
- 2.13A – Leave Policy During a Pandemic

There was no further discussion on the policies. Kent Lammers asked for a motion to approve the above policies. Boyd Crockett made a motion to approve the second reading policies and Jane Fairchild seconded the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Policy Committee: We had the first reading of policies:

- 2.14 – Sick Leave Pool
- 2.14A – Guidelines For Sick Leave Pool Policy
- 2.15 – Retirement Gift
- 2.16 – Jury Duty Pay

No discussion was had about the above policies at this time.

Kent Lammers announced that he has received a letter of resignation from Margaret Calliotte, our Director of Finance. She plans to conclude her 20+ years of employment with Springfield Catholic Schools on July 31, 2025. Kent expressed the School Board's and the school's deepest appreciation for all that Margaret has done for the system, her amazing financial work, and wished her the best for her future.

CLOSING PRAYER Fr. Lewis Hejna closed the meeting with a prayer.

The meeting ended at 6:38 p.m.