

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

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Thursday, October 10th, 2024**

**Present:** Kent Lammers, Jeanne Skahan, Margaret Calliotte, Cheryl Bond, Becky Conroy, Sr. Cecilia Ann, Boyd Crockett, Paige Duda, JoAnne Bailes, Jane Fairchild, Fr. Tom Kiefer,

**Absent:** Lary O'Reilly, Ryan O'Reilly, Fr. Lewis Hejna, Fr. Patrick Nwokoye, Ashley Harris, Lindsay Wright

**Guests:** Dr. Wanda Miller

**OPENING PRAYER** 6:01 PM Fr. Tom Kiefer opened the meeting with a prayer.

**REVIEW OF CONSENT ITEMS**

The September minutes and October Consent Agenda and items were reviewed prior to the meeting. Since Kent Lammers, School Board President, asked for a motion to approve the consent items and minutes. This motion was made by Fr. Tom Kiefer and seconded by Boyd Crockett. The motion was approved.

Kent Lammers highlighted some of the items mentioned in the consent agenda - students serving at the food pantry, participation in the living rosary, and students working in the field with water testing. Kent Lammers also acknowledged the efforts of the secondary nurse and the interns at the school, highlighting their contributions to the school year.

**GUEST PRESENTATION**

Dr. Wanda Miller, Director of Mental Health for Springfield Catholic Schools:

- Mental health interns are providing help to students including: individual therapy, classroom observations, and psychoeducation sessions.
- There has been an increased interest in interning at Springfield Catholic Schools, with 12 Evangel students expressing interest at a recent Meet and Greet.
- Dr. Miller emphasized the importance of reaching more students through interns and the preventative measures they provide.
- Among the 90 students already interacted with, Dr. Miller identified anxiety and self-esteem as major issues.
- Family-related issues, such as divorces and separations, as significant factors affecting students.
- Jane Fairchild encouraged Dr. Miller to look into the Sources of Strength curriculum as a unified preventative program that could be implemented system-wide.

**REPORTS**

**Financial Statements:** Margaret Calliotte presented the September financial statements, detailing the cash and cash equivalents, operating income, and various funds. She highlighted the increase in depreciation and its impact on the fund balance. Margaret emphasized the importance including depreciation to assist in accurately tracking costs per student. Margaret also share the enrollment report. The school system is currently 30 students below the projected budget but only 13 below our actual enrollment from last school year. A motion to approve the financials was made by Boyd Crockett and seconded by Jane Fairchild. The motion was approved.

**Director of Schools:** Sr. Cecilia Ann shared that we are finishing up our EANSIIa purchases. Our principals have utilized the funds well. On October 9, 2024, Sr. Cecilia Ann received an email from Debbie Musselman, from the Federal Security Grant, saying that our funds were being released. However, most of what we had requested to use the funds for, we have had to purchase through other means because the grant money had been delayed a year and a half. We are not sure that we will be able to utilize this grant at all. Sister shared that on October 22, 2024, the Endowment Committee will be meeting to determine what monies from the endowments maybe be used for our future budget. We are moving the withdraw from the Endowments to reflect the fiscal year (June 30) instead of the calendar year (December 31). Since this first time we will be short six months of interest, we are using money received through a Planned Giving Gift to off set this shortfall. Sr. Cecilia Ann also shared that on October

24, 2024, Keven Szawala (Mr. Peace) will be coming to Springfield Catholic High to give a presentation to parents from 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. The topic will be cyberbullying and social media. He will then present to the high school students on Friday, October 25, 2024, at 9 a.m. and to the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students from St. Agnes, St. Joseph Catholic Academy, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, and Immaculate Conception School. The presentation is titled “Bullying: Look at the Heart First” and will be held at 1 p.m. at Immaculate Conception.

**Director of Development:** Becky Conroy reported that the Alumni Association had their annual Alumni Weekend with a Friday night football game on September 13, 2024. During this game Bobby Cornelison was honored for his many years of service to SCS. Saturday, September 14, 2024, was Alumni Reunion Banquet. There was about a 20% increase in attendance over last year with a very large group representing the class of 1974 as they celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> class reunion! On September 28, 2024, we had our Shamrock Showdown. This year it was held at Springfield Catholic High School. It was a successful event but we didn’t quite reach the monetary goal we were hoping for. We will likely move the event back to the later part of August so as not to compete with multiple other Catholic fundraisers in September. We will also avoid a three-day weekend as that worked against us this year. Becky also shared that our new Donor Wall is up! There are some final touches to be made but it looks great! Becky also shared that October is Shepherds’ Fund Month, so SCS is doing some special events to highlight our teachers/employees – Facebook posts, school event pictures, Mass petitions, etc...

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Maintenance and Construction Committee:** Sr. Cecilia Ann (for Larry O’Reilly) provided updates on maintenance and construction, including the installation of LED lights for various fields. We will also look into getting rebates from City Utilities. Fr. Tom Kiefer made a motion to move this project forward, Boyd Crockett seconded the motion, and the board approved the motion. We will write to Bishop Rice and see if we can proceed with getting LED lighting for the football and baseball fields. Sister mentioned the need that the potholes in the back drive at Springfield Catholic High School are scheduled to be filled and the last part of the drive resurfaced on Saturday, October 19, 2024. We will also be looking for a way to close off the entrance to the new service road created when the mound was being removed from the area east of the football field. It was suggested that we get several large boulders to block the drive.

**Faculty and Relations Committee:** JoAnne Bailes shared that a survey was sent out to faculty to inquire about the interest of utilizing a late start (9 a.m. or 10 a.m.) during inclement weather. Feedback from the faculty reflected that 55.3% were not in favor of the late start so at this time we will not survey the parents and will not move forward with this consideration. It may be reviewed at a later date.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Revised Budget:** Margaret shared the revised budget. It reflects a total increase in revenue of \$288,648. However, \$220,000 is for the Shepherds’ Fund, and thus only \$68,000 is the net increase. The increase of expenses is \$173,992 which results in a \$105,344 deficit. We hope to get \$134,092 from EANSIIa which would result in a \$28,748 excess in revenue. This excess would be placed in Maintenance Reserve. Kent asked for a motion to approve the revised budget. Jane Fairchild made a motion to approve the revised budget and Fr. Tom Kiefer seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

**Long Range Planning Committee:** Sr. Cecilia Ann shared that the committee met on October 2, 2024, to review projects completed since the last time they met and to consider future projects. We continue to focus on programs/practices to assist struggling students, building our Catholic identity, and service.

**Policy Committee:** We had the first reading of policies:

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

Kent Lammers suggested that we add “mental health” to the list of reasons why people may request time away from work (Policy 2.13).

**CLOSING PRAYER** Fr. Thomas Kiefer closed the meeting with a prayer.

The meeting ended at 7:16 p.m.