

Meeting of Lourdes Academy Board of Trustees
Central Business Office, 250 N. Sawyer St., Oshkosh, WI
September 17, 2025
6:15pm

Call to Order, Opening Prayer and Pledge:

Mark Nielsen called the meeting to order at 6:15pm. The meeting opened with prayer led by Fr. Louis, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Dave Flora, Jennifer Geffers, Fr. Louis Golamari, Dave Hetzel, Dcn. Rick Hocking, Renee Husman, Sharon Keuler, Fr. Tom Long, Mark Nielsen, Vanessa Wellens, Tina Wickham

Excused: Peter Derleth

Others present include: Karen Boehm, John Dinegan, Amy Hughes, Chad Rath, Lois Reischl, Quin Ruark, Abigail Thorson

Open Forum:

- John welcomed our student representatives and each person at the meeting introduced themselves.

Approval of Agenda:

- Fr. Tom motioned to approve the September 17, 2025 agenda. Fr. Louis seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:

- Dcn. Rick motioned to approve the June 18, 2025 meeting minutes. Dave Hetzel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

President's Report:

- A. The focus has been on everything to start the school year off
- B. The UKnighted campaign continues to move forward as it is still in the silent phase.
- C. CatholicLeader Academy met today for their first small group session, which will continue monthly. This session focused on positive communication which is timely as parent-teacher conferences are next week.
- D. John will be attending the GBD school leadership retreat in Green Lake on October 1st and 2nd.
- E. Student and building safety has been a focus, even prior to the incident in Minneapolis. As an administrative team constant dialog is taking place.

Official Action:

- Dcn. Rick motion to approve adding "Review of Mission" before "Open Forum" on the standing agenda of the monthly Board of Trustees meetings. The motion was seconded by Vanessa Wellens. Motion carried.
- Vanessa Wellens motioned to approve Dave Flora to serve as the St. Mary-Winneconne Parish Representative to the Lourdes Academy Board of Trustees for his second three-year term. Renee Husman seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Reports and Communications:

- A. Lourdes Academy Foundation Report –
 - a. Chad reviewed the status of funds which has grown about \$1.5M over the past 5 years.
 - b. Gary Griedl and Mary Buttke attended the Mason presentation which manages the fund for the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation.
 - c. Chad presented the 25/26 fiscal budget for the Foundation
 - d. The 25/26 Slate of officers were approved
 - e. John provided an update for ELC/athletic field capital campaign to the Foundation
 - f. Karen handed out a first draft of the planned giving brochure.
- B. Student Representatives Report –
 - a. Currently football is 4 and 0, with a home game this week. Volleyball is 4 and 5.
 - b. Homecoming plans are coming together; powder puff and theme days have been chosen.
 - c. Freshman have elected their class representatives
 - d. The new Madrigal advisor is starting practices. Students are pretty excited about the program.
 - e. Soccer team is 6 and 0 and the Cross Country team is doing well.
 - f. This week the advancement staff talked with the high school students about what they do at Lourdes.
 - g. There is a Trades Job Fair open to all high school students at the Sunnyview Expo Center for those interested in a career in the trades.
 - h. Girls tennis has a match this week
 - i. The freshman class held their retreat at Fr. Carr's
- C. Parish Representative Communication
 - a. A message from Fr. Louis and photos were shared for the new Oshkosh adoration chapel, St. Carol Acutis Adoration Chapel. Ground breaking will take place on September 28th, after the 11am mass at 12:30pm.
 - b. Tina Wickham reported that Bishop Ricken will be presiding at mass at St. Mary, Omro on October 12th. This will be the first time in 20 years that they have had him at the parish.

- c. A groundbreaking was held for the new parish center at St. Mary, Winneconne two weeks ago.
 - d. Renee Husman is the new Parish Rep for Most Blessed Sacrament parish.
 - a. It was reported that Franki Moscato has been added to the staff as director of music and liturgy.
 - b. Each month MBS hosts *Encounter*, the last Tuesday of the month, with a witness talk, adoration, and spiritual music with mass following. All are welcome.
- D. Advancement Report:
- a. Karen handed out an enrollment recap that shows trends over the past 10 years
 - b. Enrollment is currently at 695, budgeted 733. As of July 8th there were 722 students enrolled. Some of the top reasons for the change between July and the start of school: family moving, financial barrier, student interaction or more opportunities (i.e. shop classes and additional trade opportunities), some are waiting to enroll in the School Choice program for 26/27, behavior/educational support needs greater than we can offer, and pre-school student isn't quite ready to start. More information will be reported in October.
 - c. Karen spoke about the 10 year enrollment trends; MS growth when Vel Phillips opened, HS has lost international students (20 students).
 - d. Recap of Golf outing was discussed - \$41,732 net (handout)
 - e. The annual Gala is coming up November 1st. It's the biggest revenue event for Lourdes and a great community event. If you or someone you know is interested in sponsorship of this event, please pass contact information onto Karen.
 - a. In past years, the Board of Trustees has sponsored an auction basket, this year will be a golf excursion package. Board members are asked to donate to this basket. Funds can be given to Karen.
 - f. Karen share a Mission Moment...she was meeting with a HS teacher and some community members in the high school area. When the meeting ended they were in the hallway when class change took place. One community member mentioned how respectfully dressed and respectful the students acted. Great job students!!
- E. Curriculum and Instruction Report –
- a. Elementary PTA hosted a back-to-school picnic at South Park, it was a great turnout.
 - b. The PTA also hosted a BooHoo Wahoo breakfast for parents on the first day of school.
 - c. PTA and PALS held their first meetings. The two groups are discussing possibly merging.
 - d. STAR testing has started at the elem and middle school level
 - e. The back-to-school mass and procession was held with 3rd -12th grades at mass and then the procession was welcomed by the 4K – 2nd grade students when Jesus arrived back in our campus.
 - f. The 24/25 high school AP results were shared.
 - g. New courses offered at the high school level this year; Algebra fundamentals, SNC Theology, Youth Apprenticeship program and additional electives are available through NWTC and FVTC (American Sign Language, Sales Management, Music Theory and Aviation.)
 - h. The Tomorrow's Leaders program held their first meeting.
- F. Committee Reports
- a. Finance Committee
 - a. Dcn. Rick reported that there will be a \$284,000 shortfall based on budgeted enrollment.
 - Chad discussed how we're working through the process to maintain at least a neutral cash flow due to this.
 - b. Facilities Committee
 - a. Shawn Klysen has resigned from the committee. A Board chairperson for this committee is still needed.
 - b. There were no questions on the committee report.
 - c. Marketing Committee
 - a. Nothing to report
 - d. Advancement Committee
 - a. The advancement committee had a good first meeting where discussion was held on ways to increase revenue.
 - b. The group is just starting and great things will be coming.
 - e. Human Resources Committee
 - a. No meeting held
 - f. Curriculum Committee
 - a. The committee met to go over goals for the year.
 - The religion curriculum review has been completed and this year the group will focus on English/language arts.
 - In addition the committee continues to focus on meeting the needs of new students transferring in from the public school; how we can set them up for success at Lourdes.

New Business:

- A. Lois shared a proposed policy change offering our tuition discount to all new employees, waiving the one-year waiting period, with the stipulation that if the employee leaves before their first anniversary, the tuition discount would be repaid to Lourdes. This would be effective with the 26/27 school year. If Board members have any questions, please contact Lois. This policy change will be brought to official action at the October meeting.

Old Business:

- A. ELC/Athletic Complex Capital Campaign update – update already given earlier in the meeting.

Announcements

- Nothing brought forward

Future Agenda Items

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Adjournment:

A motion was made by Dave Hetzel at 7:11pm and seconded by Renee Husman to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted: Lois Reischl, Recording Secretary