

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

**Call to Order, Opening Prayer and Pledge:**

Peter Derleth called the meeting to order at 6:16pm. The meeting opened with prayer led by Fr. Louis, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:** Peter Derleth, Dave Flora, Jennifer Geffers, Fr. Louis Golamari, Dave Hetzel, Dcn. Rick Hocking, Renee Husman, Fr. Tom Long, Mark Nielsen, Tina Wickham

Vanessa Wellens arrived at 6:42pm

Excused: Sharon Keuler

Others present include: Karen Boehm, John Dinegan, Dan Moore, Chad Rath, Lois Reischl, Quin Ruark, Abigail Thorson, Theresa Warwick

**Review of Mission:** John read the Lourdes Academy mission statement. Homecoming festivities; the alumni, parents, grandparents and students on our front lawn was a great thing to see. All the good and fellowship seen is beautiful thing that is done in a Catholic school. In addition the Advancement team did a great job on Grandparents Knight. One grandparent stopped John and said that "this school is the best around". We have our challenges but our mission is played out in many good ways. Our family environment is reflected in all of us.

**Open Forum:**

- Nothing brought up

**Approval of Agenda:**

- Mark Nielsen motioned to approve the October 15, 2025 agenda. Jenni Geffers seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:**

- Mark Nielsen motioned to approve the September 17, 2025 meeting minutes. Dave Hetzel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**President's Report:**

- A. John attended the Diocesan all-school mass today at the Shrine of our Lady of Champion. Our 7<sup>th</sup> grade class also attended. They were very well behaved. About 750 students from the diocese were in attendance. The priest of the Shrine led the whole group after mass, praying the rosary on the grounds.
- B. Both Ganther and Rettler are working on getting updated figures for the capital campaign. New project numbers should be available in the next few weeks.
- C. John attended the Diocesan Administration retreat at Green Lake. The featured speaker was a priest from University of Mary in Bismarck, ND.
- D. The Awards banquet with the athletic hall of fame induction, outstanding alum and distinguished stewardship were celebrated. It was a fantastic event.

**Official Action:**

- Mark Nielsen motioned to approve updated policy 4114-Employee Tuition & Child Care Discount. The motion was seconded by Father Tom. Motion carried, with one dissent.
- Dcn. Rick motioned to approve the FY25 Financial Audit as prepared by CliftonLarsonAllen. Fr. Louis seconded the motion. Motion approved.
- Dave Hetzel motioned to approve the updated facilities usage rates, effective immediately. Renee Husman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Reports and Communications:**

- A. Lourdes Academy Foundation Report –
  - a. No meeting held
- B. Student Representatives Report –
  - a. Quin Ruark reported that boys soccer remains undefeated and won conference for the first time in 31 years.
  - b. The entire school system celebrated the living rosary last week.
  - c. Sasha Quandt is headed to state for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time for tennis this week.
  - d. Tomorrow's Leaders met last week
  - e. Football is undefeated and has won conference.
  - f. Volleyball is 21-13 and plays again this week.
  - g. Homecoming was a lot of fun. Powderpuff was won by the seniors.
  - h. The junior retreat was held at Holy Hill on Tuesday. Abigail said it was one of the best experience she's had.
  - i. Ryan Rasmussen, from the Oshkosh Area Community Food Pantry, spoke to the high school students about the Battle on Bago food drive – Lourdes High School has won the last three years. Let's hope it'll be four in a row.
- C. Parish Representative Communication
  - a. Tina Wickham reported that it was an exciting weekend in Omro, with Bishop presiding at mass.
  - b. Coming up at St. Mary – Omro, a national speaker on bullying will be presenting on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Also, a youth mission trip is being planned for summer, 2026.

- c. Dave Flora reported that construction continues at St. Mary – Winneconne for their parish center.
- d. The Floras have invited two couples to attend the Gala.
- e. Renee Husman handed out the Most Blessed Sacrament parish rep report
  - a. Ground breaking for the St. Carlo Acutis Adoration Chapel took place on September 28<sup>th</sup>. All location priests, deacons and committee members attended the ground breaking along with many Catholic community members.
  - b. Dr. Peter Murphy and Katie Murphy will be presenting on “The Interior Life” to discover the power of prayer in staying healthy in ministry on October 30<sup>th</sup>, 6-8pm
  - c. Fr. Jerry offered the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick following two weekend masses.
- D. Advancement Report:
  - a. Karen thanked the Board for their generous support for the upcoming gala.
  - b. Enrollment has had a different start this year over previous years. In July there were 722 enrollments/applications but there was a lot of movement between then and actual fall enrollment. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday count was 691.
  - c. Theresa spoke about the breakdown of the reason for students not attending Lourdes.
    - a. Many reasons for not attending which were defined in the enrollment charts.
    - b. The goals on student retention in transition years were met.
- E. Curriculum and Instruction Report –
  - a. Dan Moore reported that the fall STAR testing window has closed. At the professional development day on Friday, the results will be discussed. Also on this day the new Diocesan academic standards will be reviewed along with the next CatholicLeader Academy session.
  - b. Students from UW-O met with 3<sup>rd</sup> graders to teach them about nature and the environment.
  - c. David Mikesell will be at the November Board meeting to discuss ACT scores.
- F. Committee Reports
  - a. Finance Committee
    - a. Dcn. Rick spoke about the budget shortfall of \$361,000 due to lower than budgeted enrollment. He led a meeting with the entire CBO staff to talk about ways to be strategic in efforts to address this.
  - b. Facilities Committee
    - a. No meeting held
  - c. Marketing Committee
    - a. No meeting held
  - d. Advancement Committee
    - a.
  - e. Human Resources Committee
    - a. No meeting held
  - f. Curriculum Committee
    - a. Renee reported that the focus is English/Language Arts curriculum. Also continuing to review the transition of new students to Lourdes.

#### **New Business:**

- A. Nothing brought up

#### **Old Business:**

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

#### **Announcements**

- The November Board meeting will begin at 6pm to allow for an additional Open Forum for School Choice parents.
- Dcn. Rick asked the student representatives to challenge their peers to market to bring in new students. Helping to grow enrollment is something that students can engage in that would help generate income.

#### **Future Agenda Items**

- Nothing brought up

A Glory Be was said prior to adjournment.

#### **Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Mark Nielsen at 7:27pm and seconded by Dcn. Rick to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted: Lois Reischl, Recording Secretary