

Light of Christ Catholic Schools
Board of Directors



Light of Christ Catholic Schools

January 18th, 2024
SMCHS – Forum Room
1:15 pm Board Meeting

I. Call to Order – Opening Prayer

Present: Fr. Ehli, Fr. Hochhalter, Fr. Johnson, Fr. Kovash, Msgr. Schumacher, Mitch Armstrong, Lorne Duppong, Greg Vetter

Absent: Elizabeth Jones

In attendance: Gerald Vetter, Daniel Neff, Tracy Friesen

II. Approval of Agenda/Minutes - *(emailed document)*

A motion was made to approve the agenda, as well as the minutes from the November 16, 2023 board meeting.

Moved: Mitch Armstrong

Second: Fr. Kovash

The agenda and minutes were approved unanimously.

III. Management Reports

a. VP of Academic Affairs

i. Academic Update

1. Tracy Friesen presented an update on curriculum review and other academic items. She highlighted that there are currently 13 student teachers placed in a Light of Christ Catholic School.

IV. Existing Business

a. Upcoming Events

i. SM Carnival – February 2nd, 3rd, and 4th

1. The St. Mary's Carnival will take place at the St. Mary's Academy from February 2-4. Volunteers are still needed and parishes have been encouraged to promote volunteer sign-up and raffle ticket sales.

V. New Business

a. PMOU – *(Discussion per direction of Bishop Kagan)*

- i. The board discussed several items related to the Permanent Memorandum of Understanding between Light of Christ Catholic Schools and the sponsoring parishes. Bishop Kagan will meet with Gerald Vetter and the five pastors on February 22nd to discuss. The Business Operations Committee will include this item on the agenda for the February 8th BOC meeting. Items to consider include: Capital Expenditure Policy, the creation of escrow accounts for the

*Note: All approvals by the Light of Christ Board still need to be *confirmed* by the Bishop (the Board President).
All approved contracts also need to be passed through Diocesan Legal Counsel and Catholic Mutual Group.

Safe Harbor Allowance, parking lot improvements and specials, and the drafting of lease agreements. Bishop Kagan has requested to finalize the PMOU by Easter with full implementation taking effect July 1, 2024.

- ii. As of January 18, 2024, Dan Neff is reporting that the financial impact to Light of Christ is a net loss of \$58,100, primarily due to the shared expenses shifting from the current 75% LOC and 25% parish model to 100% LOC.

VI. Living Mission

a. President's Office

i. Re-Enrollment and Enrollment Report

1. Enrollment – *(Update)*

- a. Gerald Vetter provided an update on student enrollment. To date, there are a total of 1,475 students enrolled in Light of Christ Catholic Schools.

2. Parish Enrollment Letter – *(Update)*

- a. Each of the five sponsoring parishes sent a signed letter by their pastor to all families of their parishes with children from the age of 3 to current juniors in high school. The letter was sent to both LOC families, thanking them for their continued enrollment and support, as well as non-LOC families, inviting them to consider enrolling their children in a Light of Christ Catholic School.
- b. Nearly 90% of re-enrollment for the 2024-2025 academic year is complete, with 126 new students already enrolled. A strong push and enrollment effort will be needed for the incoming kindergarten class.

ii. School Activities Report

1. Elementary School Logos – *(Update)*

- a. The requested change for the elementary school logos included uppercase letters and center alignment. The intended goal is for school and system unity.

2. Athletics Report – *(Update)*

- a. Gerald Vetter provided an update on strength and conditioning, the development of an athletics strategy committee, and facilities usage.

3. 2024-25 School Calendar – *(Update)*

- a. The board approved calendar for the 2024-2025 academic year was communicated to all families and posted on the website on January 18th.

4. Central America Mission Trip – *(Update)*

- a. Plans are in place to resume the Senior Mission Trip to Lima, Peru in July of 2024.

iii. SANS and Legislature

1. School Choice – *(Update)*

- a. A standing virtual meeting takes place each Friday at 11:30 am with a focus on legislative impact and tuition relief.

VII. Finance & Mission Advancement Offices:

a. BOC Committee Report by Committee Chair – *(Update)*

- i. The Business Operations Committee met on January 4, 2024. Items discussed included the hiring of Dean Jilek as a Mission Advancement Officer, athletic programs, the 2024-2025 budget and the St. Mary's Carnival.
 - b. Mission Advancement Report – *(Update)*
 - i. Dan Neff provided a summary of activity for the Mission Advancement Department, which included the St. Mary's Carnival, Calendar Raffle, St. Patrick's Day Mug Club, Saints Ball, and staffing.
 - c. Financial Report - *(emailed document)*
 - i. Dan Neff presented the financial report from the month of December.
- VIII. Board Requests to Business Operations Committee *(Standing agenda item if needed)*
- a. The board requested the BOC to include the Permanent Memorandum of Understanding on the agenda for the next BOC meeting, which was scheduled for 11:00 am on February 8th.
- IX. Closing Prayer – Adjournment
- a. Next Meeting: *February 15th, 2024, @ 1:15pm*
 - b. The meeting adjourned at 3:29 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Fr. Jared M. Johnson
Secretary, Light of Christ Board of Directors