

**Saratoga Central Catholic School
Board of Trustees**

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 30, 2024

Opening

The regular meeting of the Saratoga Central Catholic School Board was called to order at 4:36 pm. Father James Ebert led the opening prayer.

Present

Dan Kumlander- Chair, Jeff Pompa - Vice Chair, Trish Dugan - Secretary, Chris Signor - School Principal, Mike Lenz, Steve Benton, Lisa Moser, Rose Place and Father James Ebert were all present.

Approval of Minutes

Lisa Moser made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes. Dan Kumlander seconded. Motion was approved by board.

State of the School Report: (Chris Signor, Principal)

- Principal Signor discussed many activities happening with the school for the remainder of October into November.

Socktober Drive, Halloween Costume Party for Grades 6-9, Staff Service Project at Corpus Christi Church, November Food Drive, Toys for Toga, Seniors Symposium for Environmental Justice, SCC's Third Annual Costume Contest, All Saints Day Mass, Faith Formation Day, Chic-Fil-A Day hosted each Wednesday by Track and Field until the end of the year. Junior retreat day at Siena, Staff Volleyball Game, Home Coming at SCC for Grades 9-12, National Honor Society Induction Ceremony, BOCES Luncheon, Family Bingo Night and the Thanksgiving Mass.

- SCC Athletics assisted with the Pink Day fundraiser for the Mollie Wilmot Radiation Oncology Center at Saratoga Hospital. Each team (Boys and Girls Cross Country, Soccer, Volleyball and Golf) collectively raised \$2500 in total.
- Cognia update: We are currently ahead of schedule with the mapping curriculum. This will be a 3 year project. There will be an accreditation visit in the fall of 2026. We have innovated weekly departmental meetings where we rotate Principal and Assistant Principals. The administrative staff is currently working on standards and continuum. We are cultivating individual lesson plans to map out next year. Our Teachers are embracing it. We scheduled the meetings from 2:20-3pm and the staff was very open to it.
- The Assistant Principals are working out great. There are now multiple levels of accountability. We continue to encourage Teachers to handle issues independently. There is a more consistent level of discipline across the board. With nine new Teachers we are able to fully support them with Assistant Principals.
- Curriculum items; every Teacher at SCC is responsible for one form of assessment of their students each week. This assessment is to be put into the grade book. This will allow grading to be more consistent and improve our overall standards.

Committee Reports:

a. Advancement and Development (Lisa Moser)

- The **2026** Gala was discussed. Lisa Moser said it will take place at the Automobile Museum. It will be a high end cocktail party with exotic cars on display. The date and time is Saturday January 11th 2025 from 6-10pm.
- The Golf Tournament is still in the works Principal Signor, Dan Kumlander, Heather Bott and Lisa Moser are forming a planning committee.
- The capital campaign was addressed and the possibility of getting students involved was discussed.
- The surplus from the 2024 gala is available for capital improvement including possible bathroom remodel project. Additional donations from private donors. The Athletic Department received a donation of \$50,000 for four new baskets for basketball and \$20,000 was also donated by another individual for an additional bus/van.

b. Enrollment and Retention (Nikki Hartmann)

- Nikki Hartmann reported to Chair Dan Kumlander that the Fall Open House for St. Mary's was cancelled due to last minute sports conflicts for student ambassadors. The event has been rescheduled for December 11th.
- Additional collaboration dates with St. Mary's of Ballston Spa were provided starting December 2, 2024, through May 3, 2025.
- Enrollment at SCC is 210 currently.
- Communication with sister schools continues. Understanding the value of K-12 education the ERC, Principals, Coordinators and Marketing individuals have been working on various opportunities to connect the schools.

c. Mission Enhancement (Trish Dugan)

- The campus ministry report was submitted. Masses will be celebrated for feast days, memorial days or other forms of celebration. Father James Ebert will also be presenting mass as teaching mass. It is the hope that the more each student understands Catholic teachings and traditions, the more they will accept the faith and Jesus into their hearts.
- Peer Ministry members have been assembled as a 13 member team and they are ready to serve our students and the community. They are responsible for the morning prayer, pledge planning and presenting retreats for grades 6-10 and participating in all masses. They will also be working with the St. Mary's Ballston Spa students for their grade level retreats as well as spiritual support for SCC students.
- The Service Club is a student run community service club with 40 members. Meeting monthly there are various activities the service club contributes their time to. Currently they are collecting donations for "Birthday in a Bag" for the Franklin Center for the Families. Students are gathering items to give families in need for a birthday party for 8-10 children. They are also preparing for the Polar Plunge in Lake George Nov 23rd for the Special Olympics. They are gathering volunteers and trying to put together one team in hopes of raising \$1,000.
- We welcomed new Religion / Theology Teachers; Rita Penny (Middle School + 9th Grade) and Tom Horn (Grades 10, 11, 12).

d. Finance (Dan Kumlander)

- The 24/25 budget was finalized at a \$3,000 projected surplus. This is tighter than the 23/24 budget. The difference is due to increase in budgeted salaries and benefits of \$284,000 over last year. As a percentage of net tuition, budgeted salaries and benefits are 95.5% for 24/25 compared to 88.6% for 23/24. A material portion of this has to do with creating the Assistant Principal positions. We are working with the Diocese to see if there are any corrections or adjustments.
- Budgeted tuition is up \$175,600 compared to last year.
Three months ending September 30, 2024, actual is off the budget by \$11,607.

e. Facilities (Jeff Pompa)

- The boiler is up and running.
- Roof replacement and patching is still being considered and explored.
- Bathrooms, cosmetics and rugs are being discussed for improvements in the school.
- We have four individuals on staff as hourly employees for maintenance since last February. These individuals are part of the budgeted salary and are called in on an as needed basis.

Discussion was had to add a line item to the budget for emergency maintenance funds if there are unforeseen expenses for facilities in the future, (rainy day funds).

f. Nominations (Lisa Moser, Jeff Pompa, Rose Place)

- The committee is still looking for one community member or alumni to join the Board of Directors.

Additional Agenda Items

1. Old Business

- None

2. New Business

- Chair Dan Kumlander presented an action item for the Saratoga Central Catholic School Board of Trustees for approval of the Spring Track and Field Holy Trinity Merger between Saratoga Central Catholic School, Notre Dame Bishop Gibbons and Catholic Central School. Saratoga Central Catholic School will be the lead in the merger.

Steve Benton put a motion forward to approve the merger and Lisa Moser seconded. The SCC BOT were all in favor and approved of the motion with a unanimous vote.

Closing Prayer – (Chris Signor)

- There was a motion to adjourn by Rose Place and seconded by Lisa Moser. The meeting was adjourned at 5:38pm. Principal Signor led the closing prayer.