



Cotter Schools Board of Directors
August 29, 2023

Board Members present: Amy Donnenwerth, Meg Krinke, Barry McRaith, Mary Kirk, Christina Uribe Nitti, Erica Jerowski, Kurt Knuesel, Kevin Gorman, Jennifer Miller, Ann Renk, Fr. Mark McNea, Fr. Pat Arens, Mary Eileen Fitch

Board Members not present: All members present

Meeting called to order by Board Chair, Amy Donnenwerth at 7:30 a.m. A special prayer for Father Cronin was led by Fr. McNea.

Agenda: The 8-29-23 Agenda was reviewed and approved.

Minutes: The following Minutes were reviewed and approved:

Board of Directors minutes: 6-27-23

Committee minutes: Operational Vitality: 8-22-23, Slaggie Capital – Quarterly Investment: 8-16-23

Amy reminded the Board of the new procedure this year to provide the President's Report regarding general information prior to the meeting. The board will be encouraged to review the Presidents Report, together with the Committee Minutes, prior to our full board meeting. We will then welcome questions and any follow up conversation during the board meeting.

Committee Reports:

Operational Vitality Committee: Barry gave a financial reports overview together with reviewing some new formatting that our Financial Director will be designing to better illustrate some of our financial highlights such as fundraising and tuition numbers. Barry also advised that we had had our quarterly investment meeting with Slaggie Capital Investments and reports were shared with the board.

Governance – Meg Krinke

No report at this time

Mission Effectiveness – Amy Donnenwerth

No report at this time

Advancement – Christina Uribe Nitti

No report at this time

President's Report: In addition to the information previously provided in the confidential President's Report, Mary Eileen shared the following:

- We will be working on our accreditation this year which is a lengthy process. Evaluations and surveys will be given this fall. Our Strategic Plan data should prove fruitful in providing many of the requirements of the accreditation process.
- The first week of school in St. Luke Hall was very encouraging. We received many positive compliments from students, families, staff and the community.
- Two handouts that were previously shared at our December, 2022 board retreat, as well as in the onboarding documentation, were shared again today. These handouts reflect information as to the role of a board member and a checklist of responsibilities of a board member. Many times board members are asked questions in the community and/or at school events and we thought it would be beneficial to share these handouts again to serve as a guide for our members.

Cotter Good News: Barry McRaith shared that his daughter, Ellie, just celebrated her first week of teaching at Cotter Schools – a full circle moment as she is teaching next to several teachers that she was taught by. Dawn Guzzo shared a story about running into a Cotter 2003 boarding school graduate who was in town and was excited about visiting our campus and was admiring our campus improvements and commented that he hopes to send his children here someday.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Guzzo
Secretary