



Cotter Schools Board of Directors
March 26, 2024

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

Board Members not present: All members present

Board Chair, Amy Donnenwerth at 7:30 am, called the meeting to order. Father Russ led our prayer.

Agenda: The 3-26-24 Agenda was reviewed and approved

The following Minutes were reviewed and approved:

Board of Directors minutes (2-27-24)

Committee Minutes:

Operational Vitality (3/19/24)

Advancement (3/14/24)

Mission Effectiveness (3/14/24)

Governance (3/12/24)

Committee Reports:

Operational Vitality Committee:

The March meeting minutes reflected Operational Vitality's review of the March financial reports and the preliminary FY25 Budget Report. They also reflected the presentation review of our audit report from our auditor, Clifton Larson Allen. We invited board members to respond with questions or comments after review of the committee's minutes.

Our Committee Chair provided an overview of the budget; however, there is a little more work to be done before the budget is final. We will ask for board approval at our April meeting.

Governance:

The March meeting minutes reflected Governance's work on board education planning, board policy review and the President's evaluation process. We invited board members to respond with questions or comments after review of the committee's minutes.

Mission Effectiveness:

The March meeting minutes reflected Mission Effectiveness's work on Cotter's Strategic Plan – Together in Community – Year 2 and the presentation by our Junior High Dean and Junior High Curriculum Advisor reflecting a new J.H. schedule for next year. The goal of these changes is to provide a supportive schedule for

our staff and to promote a positive junior high culture and more meaningful engagement from our students. We invited board members to respond with questions or comments after review of the committee's minutes.

Advancement:

The March minutes reflected Advancement's work on enrollment for academic year 2024-2025 and the work being done to identify those individuals with key positions at area businesses who can serve as contacts for Cotter fundraising initiatives. We invited board members to respond with questions or comments after review of the committee's minutes.

President's Report: The confidential President's Report had been posted for the board to review and Mary Eileen shared the following additional information:

- Cotter Alumni event: Mary Eileen thanked the board members who were able to attend. She also shared the positive feedback that she received, how many felt the event was uplifting and inspirational.
- Vision 2020 – Asset transfer: After consultation with our attorney, we will be facilitating an asset transfer for our St. Joseph (Roger Bacon) campus to restore ownership back under the umbrella of Cotter Schools. The Vision 2020 Foundation had purchased St. Joseph (Roger Bacon) prior to its renovation and is the only Cotter Schools building currently not under Cotter Schools' ownership. Erica Jerowski made a motion to proceed with the asset transfer. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Deacon Sean Costello, Superintendent of Catholic Schools – Presentation on the Mission of Catholic Schools

In an effort to provide continuing Board Education, we invited Deacon Costello to present to our Board. He spoke to Catholic Schools' goals of academic excellence, the Catholic School culture and Catholic Identity. He invited all members to feel free to contact him at any time for further conversation or questions.

Regular meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Guzzo, Secretary