



**TCS Board Meeting Open Session Minutes
2/20/24 @ 7:00 PM**

Trinity Christian School – 901 Shorewood Dr. Shorewood, IL 60404

Board Members in Attendance

Fred Alexander
Jennifer Danielson
Shawn Doorhy
John Herod
Jonas Byrer
JD Zeeman – virtually
David Payton – virtually @ 8:00

Staff Members in Attendance

Steve Baly
Jon Vugteveen
Ron Naling
Deanne Bekermeier
Toya Thomas
Terese Osacky/Chris McBride – virtually

Community Members in Attendance

Kari Sommerville
Karen Kapsch
Dawn Pollard
Heather Cole
Adam Zilvitis
Erin Zilvitis
Bob Lechelt
Tiffany Hardy
Bianca Rodriguez
Miguel Rodriguez
Paige Gravitt
Audrey Banahene
Amy McKnight – virtually
Bobby Sylvester – Executive Director of Community and Government Affairs, Empower Illinois

Devotions: Jonas B.

- “Making Excuses” - Exodus 4:10-16

Prayer Requests/Prayer: Jonas B.

Empower Illinois Update: Deanne B., Bobby S.

- Empower expired
- One more chance in May 2024
- CTU opposes the program
- Trade unions, police unions, private schools, charter schools, selective enrollment schools oppose CTU
- Local Catholic schools have closed due to lack of Empower funding
- Teachers' Unions are one of the largest political contributors to elected officials.
- Teachers' Unions are refusing to support elected officials who supported the bill.

Open Session (30 minute max, 3 minute time limit):

- Several parent attendees expressed concerns about bullying behavior by other students directed at their children, citing specific examples and requesting more consistency in application of the discipline policy.
- The Board thanked these parents for bringing the issue to the Board's attention and committed to investigating and discussing the matter with Administration.

Prayer Over Parent Concerns: John H.

Minutes Approved: January 2024

- Motion by Shawn D.
- Second by John H.
- Minutes approved
- Open Session minutes to be put on school website by Jack Hayward.

***Written Reports provided for the General Session. See Teams folders for full reports.**

Board Development: None

Teacher Representative Report: None

Curriculum and Admissions Report: Rachel W. (See Report, Presented by Jon V.)

- Jonas asked how many accreditation visits we need for accreditation.
 - One visit. Our visit will be Spring of 2025. 2-3 days visit. If everything is approved, accreditation would be granted.
 - 3-year visit cycle after initial accreditation

Building Maintenance Report: Tom F. (See Report, Presented by Fred A.)

- Working with C. Sharp to replace carpet.
- Jonas asked how often stairs get vacuumed.
 - Should be once/day but could use reminders.

Development Report - Deanne B. (See Report)

- Fred asked if CTU really does dominate the political world.
 - Deanne shared that CTU has money and power.
- Constituents can ask their representatives where they get their funding from.
 - Many politicians locally get funding from CTU.
- Many legislators think the program is a good idea. However, they frequently lose funding for supporting it.
- Deanne working to form a plan in light of what Bobby shared to be proactive in getting funding for our school.
- Asking Board to fill a table of 8 for benefit night.
- Open house brought in ~50 families. ~20-30 families are typical.
- Fred asked if we promote on Christian radio.
 - Deanne said we share our events on the Christian radio calendar but have not paid for radio promotions in a while.

Preschool Report – Amy B. (See Report, Presented by Jon V.)

Security Report – Jon V. (See Principal’s Report)

PTM Report – Kari S.(See Report)

- Daddy/Daughter date night is only 4 less than last year which was our biggest daddy/daughter date night ever.
- Text reminders work.
- Gifting money to teachers or groups at school
 - PTM would like to buy the supplies moving forward.
 - Need to set parameters on when the money will be gifted and when it has to be spent.
- Kari working with Toya and Deanne about getting business sponsors for teacher appreciation week. Looking to start with parent owned small businesses within the school.
- Jonas asked how many times we can do a restaurant night.
 - We currently do it once/month.
 - Team is talking about this consistency. Team is not aware of a limit.
 - Texas Roadhouse and Hazel Marie’s have reached out to PTM about doing fundraiser nights.
 - Canes has been a good local business partner with the school. They reached out to PTM and said they are available to help.

Special Events/Volunteer Coordinator Report: Toya T. (See Report)

- Volunteer Hour Update
 - 219 families total
 - 64 have reached their quota
 - 65 are close
- 90 Benefit Night RSVPs so far

- Teachers are creating wish lists and Jack is putting them together for a bidding option at the benefit event.
- Shawn asked that a text blast be done weekly up to the event with links for RSVP and sponsorship links.
- Fred asked for a word document of event information that he can email out to his contacts.

Social Media/Marketing Report: Jack H. (See Report, Presented by Fred A.)

Building Supervisor Report: None

Finance Committee Report: None

Technology Report: Ron N. (See Report)

- Fred asked the cause of the outage.
 - The cause was an update to the software.
 - It did not impact operations because of the time of the outage.
- Shawn asked if software updates are typically done outside of school hours.
 - Ron has them scheduled after 9.
 - This was done around 6. Did have a few teachers unable to access the internet at that time but it was resolved.

Administrator Report: Jon V. (See Report)

- Next Open House is March 19, 6-8. Jon asked board members to be available for tours.
 - Board will have a shortened Open Session on 3/19/24 at 7:00 pm.
- Jon shared that Angie J. published a new book called “God Created Girls to be Girls”. He showed the book and encouraged the board to check it out.
- Jon will send the board a new bill that just came out regarding health choices for students.
 - Board will look it over and discuss next steps.

Next Meeting

Meeting adjourned for Open Session at 8:50

Next Open Session - March 19, 2024 7:00| 901 Shorewood Dr. Shorewood, IL 60404