



**TCS Board Meeting Open Session Minutes
2/18/25 @ 7:05 PM**

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

Board Members in Attendance

Jonas Byrer
Jennifer Danielson
Shawn Doorhy
John Herod
David Payton
JD Zeeman - virtually

Staff Members in Attendance

Steve Baly
Jon Vugteveen
Deanne Bekermeier
Bobby Sylvester (former Empower representative) - Urban Center representative

Community Members in Attendance

None

Devotions: Shawn D.

- 1 Samuel 16:1-13: Leading from the Heart

Prayer Requests/Prayer: Shawn D.

- Mrs. Lewis' family – experienced a lot of loss in a short amount of time
- Mr. V's aunt Sharon in ICU
- Daniel's son – health and recovery
- Shorewood police liaison medical diagnosis
- Newberry family – lost son in car accident
- Family of Andrew Goodman
- Mrs. Woodford's travel back to Illinois.

Minutes Approved: January 2025

- Motion by Jonas B.
- Second by David P.
- 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.**

HOS Report, Summary of Department Reports: Jon V. (See Reports)

- At a glance calendar had one change – Walkathon date has moved to 10/3/25
- Gym AC unit
 - Can be fixed (same Freeon) for \$45,000, confident we can continue to get Freeon for awhile.
 - Entire system replaced for \$250,000
 - Waiting on one more quote from TCS family.
 - Hoping to get it repaired or replaced before Spring.

Director of Education Report: Rachel W. reported by Jon V. (See Report)

- Remind board to attend Board Training on Thursday, February 20, 2025 from 5 pm – 9 pm with Jeff Mattner.
- ACSI Leadership Certifications level
 - Jon and Rachel to determine which level is best for their job title and descriptions. Board supports this decision.
- Erin's Law curriculum being developed and will be presented to all K-8 students per Illinois State Board of Education recognition requirement.

Education Choice for Children Act (ECCA): guest Bobby S.

- Strong possibility (~60-65%) that Congress is going to pass the Education Choice for Children Act (ECCA).
- \$10 billion limit of donor funded grant money available nationwide to be made available for private school scholarships.
 - \$20 million is allocated for Illinois.
 - Will likely go quickly.
- A new income threshold of \$250,000 or less would qualify a student for scholarships.
- A donor could earn 100% federal tax credit for up to 10% of Adjusted Gross Income.
- Corporations can also give up to 5% of federal revenue.
- Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO) makes all decisions for who gets scholarships.
 - Empower Illinois will not be an SGO for this program.
 - SGOs are 501C3 organizations whose goal is to disperse scholarships to students.
 - SGO keeps up to 10% of donations as administrative costs.
- TCS needs to find an SGO.
 - ACSI is an SGO nationwide
 - Could consider making a statewide SGO with other Christian schools.
 - Could also consider a local SGO.
 - Could be part of more than one SGO.
 - There is a minimum of at least two schools in an SGO.
 - Need to put in writing that donor money needs to be earmarked for Trinity Christian School to ensure our students get the money from donors. This is called donor designation.
 - SGO needs to determine what the process is for scholarship dispersal.
- Timeline for success

- Congress originally planned to have it pass in April.
- Might move on into summer.
- Likely January 1, 2026 implementation date
- Start having SGO conversations now and have one in place by summer 2025.
- Congress people to contact communicating support
 - Darrin Lahood – on House Ways and Means committee which is where this initiative comes from.
 - Continue to contact U.S. Congress people in support of this initiative.

Director of Development: Deanne B. (See Report)

- Prayers for wise choices when determining SGO participation.
- Communicating with ACSI as an SGO about donor designation.

Director of Business Services: Steve B.

- None

Special Events: Adalys C. presented by Jon V. (See Report)

- Board asks that Special Events committee submits a food and beverage plan to the board.
- Dave P. asks if there are audio/visual materials needed for the event.

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

None

Next Meeting

Meeting adjourned for Open Session at 8:27.

Next Open Session – March 18, 2025, 7:00| 901 Shorewood Dr. Shorewood, IL 60404