



CATHOLIC TEACHERS UNION

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From the President

Fellow CTU Members,

It’s April, but “Baby, it’s cold outside!” The good news is, we still have Easter break ahead of us. More good news - registrations at all three high schools are up from last year for the second year in a row. That’s really good news!

CTU will be negotiating contracts with both Holy Spirit and Camden Catholic this Spring. Camden Catholic will be using Interest Based Bargaining and starting negotiations right after Easter. The negotiating team will be Bob Cranston, Matt Hoover, and Mary Kay Rossi. Plans are not yet set for Holy Spirit, but we hope they will be scheduled soon. If you have any contract issues, please report them to your building delegate as soon as possible.

The administration at Camden Catholic desires to eliminate the position of Media Center Specialist. This is problematic for several reasons. The Media Center Specialist is a bargaining unit position and cannot be eliminated without consent of CTU. There is also a Memo of Understanding between CTU and the diocese that any school with enrollment over 500 will have a full-time Media Center Specialist. Grievances filed by CTU at the principal’s level and the superintendent’s level have both

been denied. CTU has moved the grievance to Step 3A of the grievance procedure as outlined in our contract and requested outside arbitration. We are set to begin arbitration on May 31, 2022.

CTU and the Office of Human Resources for the diocese held a retirement seminar on March 23. We had seventeen attendees. Speakers included Stephen Porto from Gallagher Insurance (Medicare), Chip Faller from The Faller Company LLC (retirement planning), and Kathy Passantino from Gallagher Insurance (Social Security). The presentation was recorded, and we hope to add it to the CTU website soon.

More good news – it’s time to bring back the annual General Membership Meeting! This year it will be held at TopGolf in Mt. Laurel on Wednesday, June 15. Stay tuned for more information from your building delegates.

Finally, James Keough (Camden Catholic), CTU vice president at large has resigned to accept a position in CCHS administration. He will be a beneficial addition to the administration. Nevertheless, his work ethic, passion for Catholic education, insight, and writing skills will be sorely missed by the CTU Executive Board. We wish James the best in his new position and thank him sincerely for his work at CTU.

Executive Board

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Layout/Editor: Len Cava (PVI)



Treasury Report

As of the end of February 2022, CTU is operating at a balance of \$173,863.08. This is a typical balance for us, and there have not been any atypical major expenses to report. All detailed quarterly financial reports can be found on the CTU membership page.

Some major anticipated upcoming expenses include contract negotiations at Camden Catholic and Holy Spirit, both of which will begin in the upcoming weeks. The return of our annual General Membership Meeting is a welcome development,

and I am personally very much looking forward to having it at Top Golf this year! The little bit of extra expense that the new venue created is easily offset by the fact that we did not have a general membership meeting last year. As always, please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns.

Matt Hoover
CTU Treasurer

Report of Schools

Camden Catholic High School

CTU Area Vice President James Keough has taken the school administrative position of Dean of Students effective March 2022. We wish James the best of luck in his new position and thank him for his service to the CTU Executive Board.

The President of Camden Catholic has offered an additional retirement package to any full-time teachers who are 65 years of age or older with at least 20 years of service. Teachers who accept this offer will receive 50% of their final salary paid over a three-year period. CCHS will have the following four teachers retire at the end of the school year: John Kearney, Michael De Meo, Joanne Rell and Frank Solometo. We would like to thank each of them for their dedication to CCHS over their many years of teaching and wish them a wonderful retirement.

As of 3/15/22, CCHS has an incoming freshmen class of 138 students. This figure is in line with the school’s goal of 160 students for the start of the 2022-2023 school year.

After some postponements and delays, the arbitration hearing for the full-time librarian position has now been scheduled for May 31st.

CCHS is in the final year of its four-year contract and is looking forward to negotiating a new contract with the school using the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (Interest-Based Bargaining) sometime after Easter. A date has yet to be determined.

Bob Cranston
CTU Vice President



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Report of Schools

Holy Spirit High School

Holy Spirit slipped into the second semester with the usual relief of making it to mid-terms and the anticipation of the Lenten season and milder weather. All students were required to be on campus to take their exams. Parent-Teacher conferences were held on February 3rd using both methods: in-person and zoom. The winter sports concluded with a fine finish from our basketball teams while the wrestling team qualified several members for States. *Newsies*, our musical, opened on March 11th and was performed before a large audience who enjoyed both a great show and the experience of finally being able to see a live performance again. Now spring sports are up and running with the usual great expectations.

Registration for the Class of 2026 has been very encouraging. We have at least 20 more students than for the same period last year. Of course, the end of the mask mandate has created a more relaxed and "normal" atmosphere. Teachers are finally learning what their students look like, and many of the male students now need to shave.

This year is another contract year, and the process of deciding on dates for negotiations has begun. Although there is still much work to be done, before we know it (does anyone really believe that phrase?), we will be into April and then May. Understandably, we stretch for the end of the year and the promise of a glorious summer.

Scott Higbee
CTU Area Vice President

Paul VI High School

Paul VI is experiencing a vibrant early spring. The February 26 registration day resulted in over 200 prospective freshmen joining the Class of 2026. The big news, though, came with the announcement of the resignation of Sr. Marianne McCann as principal of PVI. Sr. Marianne McCann has been in charge since September 2001 and was vice-principal for 25 years before that. The school community awaits the naming of a successor.

Paul VI completed the MSA self-evaluation process and has been reaccruited. Thanks go to all the staff, especially coordinators Talia Bisirri and Len Cava. The end of the mask mandate has resulted in no notable health problems at PVI. There has been an increase in smiling students and relieved teachers.

Kevin Gallagher
CTU Area Vice President

Contact Information

Medical Plan	800-355-2583	www.HorizonBlue.com
Prescription Plan	800-451-6245	www.Express-scripts.com
Dental Plan	866-328-1319	www.Deltadentalnj.com
Vision Plan	800-432-4966	www.VBAplans.com
Life/Long-Term Disability	877-225-2712	www.Unum.com
Issues: Contact Candy Newhouse	856-583-2872	candynewhouse@ajg.com cnewhouse@camdendiocese.org