



# CATHOLIC TEACHERS UNION

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## From the President

Fellow CTU members,

As September comes to an end, it is my hope that the new school year is off to a great start for everyone. The year will be filled with plenty of success stories as well as some challenges for all of us, but please know that the union is here to represent you whenever necessary.

At this time, the executive board continues to work with school administrators on a new end of the year summative evaluation form for teachers. This year will prove to be a busy one as well with new contracts being negotiated at both Paul VI and Holy Spirit in the Spring. Our goal, as a union, is to always look out for the financial needs and working conditions of our members as new contracts are being negotiated with the schools. We look forward to receiving input on issues that are important to our members.

So again, for the “Old (and not so Old) Guard” at Camden Catholic, Holy Spirit and Paul VI, welcome back and for those who are new to the schools, “Welcome to the fold.”

Have a great year.

Bob Cranston  
CTU President



### Vision Coverage is now available through EyeMed!

This plan took effect 7/1/24. It replaced VBA and is a few cents cheaper per pay. This was also the plan available during open enrollment and took effect 9/1/24 if you enrolled in August.

You can find an in network provider and coverage information at [eyemed.com](http://eyemed.com).

You should have received your vision coverage medical cards in the mail. If you did not receive your card, you can contact them at (866) 800-5457.

Diocese of Camden group #1055236.

Exam	Once every plan year
Lenses	Once every plan year
Frame	Once every two plan year
Contact Lenses	Once every plan year
Contact Lens Fit and Follow-Up	Unlimited



### Executive Board

Bob Cranston (CCHS)  
President

Ben Jones (PVI)  
Executive Vice President

Maureen Simzak (PVI)  
Executive Secretary

Jamie Bottino (PVI)  
Treasurer

### Delegates

Bob Moffett (CCHS)

Scott Higbee (HSHS)

Kelly Ogle (PVI)

### Helpful Links

[Horizon \[Medical\]](#)

[Express Scripts \[Prescription\]](#)

[Delta Dental of NJ](#)

[Eye Med \[Vision Plan\]](#)

[Life/Long Term Disability](#)

[403\(b\) \[Retirement Plan\]](#)

[ABCO Credit Union](#)

[Camden Diocese Human Resources](#)

*Layout/Editor: Len Cava (PVI)*



# CATHOLIC TEACHERS UNION

## From the Executive Vice President

Dear Members of Catholic Teachers Union (CTU),

Welcome back to a new school year. As we prepare for another exciting and productive year, we have some important information to share with you. First, a few reminders and updates regarding healthcare: It is essential to ensure that all your healthcare providers are in network, as our EPO plan requires extra cost for the insured when using out-of-network services. If you receive care outside the network, you will be responsible for 100% of the costs. AdvoCare is in-network, while both Larchmont and SJ Radiology are no longer covered. Please take a moment to review your healthcare options to ensure you are fully informed of these changes.



We would also like to take this opportunity to once again thank Candy Newhouse for her many years of dedicated service and assistance to CTU. Her contributions have been invaluable, and we wish her all the best in her future endeavors. At the same time, we extend a warm welcome to Luis Maldonado and Doug Player, who will be stepping into Candy's role. We are excited to work alongside them and look forward to a successful collaboration as we continue our journey together.

I wish you all a fantastic school year, and I want to remind you that your unwavering dedication to our schools is invaluable in shaping the future of our students and fostering a vibrant learning community. Thank you for all that you do.

Sincerely,

Ben Jones,  
CTU Executive Vice President

## Know Your Contract

### Bereavement Leave

Bereavement leave requires the employee to notify the principal of absence. Granted time off is determined based on the relationship to the employee. The principal may request proof of the deceased relationship to the employee.

All employees are eligible for a maximum of six (6) working days immediately following the date of death of a spouse, parent, sibling, or child. The passing of a child includes the unfortunate event of miscarriage or stillborn birth.

Two (2) days' pay is granted in the event of death of the employee's grandparents, grand-child, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, or anyone living in the employee's home.

Teachers may also use one (1) additional bereavement day per year, which will be subtracted from the employee's accumulated sick leave days for the death of someone not mentioned above.

Bereavement leave does not apply if school is not in session at the time of death.

Kelly Ogle  
CTU Delegate



**Log into your CTUNJ.com  
Members Only section here.**



**[www.CTUNJ.com/login](http://www.CTUNJ.com/login)**

*Any issues logging in, please contact Len Cava:  
[communicationscoordinator@ctunj.com](mailto:communicationscoordinator@ctunj.com)*



# CATHOLIC TEACHERS UNION

## Treasurer Report

As of August of 2024, CTU is operating with a balance of \$189,547.59. The largest expense to note from the end of last year was the general membership meeting. With dues collected this school year and increased interest rates on our investments keep CTU in good financial standing. Our net income during the fiscal year ending in August of 2024 was \$23,944.18. We continue to strive for growth and stability as we enter a new school year.

As always, detailed quarterly financial reports can be found on [CTU membership page](#). Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. Have a great school year!

Jamie Bottino  
CTU Treasurer



## Updated Contacts for Benefits

Please note updated contact information for Camden Diocese HR Department below:

**Doug Player**

Phone: [\(856\) 583-2872](tel:(856)583-2872)

email: [doug.player@camdendiocese.org](mailto:doug.player@camdendiocese.org)

**Luis Maldonado**

Phone: [\(856\) 583-2869](tel:(856)583-2869)

email: [luis.maldonado@camdendiocese.org](mailto:luis.maldonado@camdendiocese.org)

## Report of Schools

*NEW: Click on the school link or logo to access our contract.*

### Camden Catholic High School

Camden Catholic teachers are beginning the second year of a four year contract.

CCHS would like to welcome the following new full-time teachers to Camden Catholic: Michael Carandang (Religion)(Previously Part-time); Carleen Baron (Music) (Previously Part-Time); Nancy Davenport (Art/Photography); Paul Sbarra (Science); Donald Whirlow (Math); Marie Mosquera (Languages) and Andrea Allen(Languages/Math) (Previously Part-Time)

CCHS has a current freshmen enrollment of 162 students and a total school enrollment of 604 students.

Bob Cranston  
CTU President





# CATHOLIC TEACHERS UNION

## Report of Schools continued

*NEW: Click on the school link or logo to access our contract.*

### Holy Spirit High School

The school year opened with a new head of the school, Mike McGhee, a 1988 Holy Spirit graduate. With new leadership the atmosphere around the school has been extremely positive. Several new teachers have been hired, with a few of them returning after a year away from the school.

Our Back-to-School Night on September 19th was very well attended and had an upbeat, energetic vibe. The same can be said for the opening Mass on September

23rd, with both outgoing Bishop Sullivan and incoming Bishop Williams attending.

Athletics and other activities are in full-swing, and with the addition of new programs and practices, we have once again zeroed in on our goal of educating the youth of America.

Scott Higbee  
CTU Delegate



### Paul VI High School

Paul VI is off to a great start for the 24-25 school year. For the second year in a row we are opening with a large freshman class. The uptick in enrollment allowed for an additional teacher to be hired. We would like to welcome Janet Reardigan to the mathematics department. PVI is also happy to welcome full time religion teachers Katheryn Wassong and alumni Katelyn McCann, both of whom filled vacant positions in the Religion department.

Last year, CTU filed a grievance regarding a teacher who was denied use of accumulated sick time. The school claimed the teacher had a pattern of abuse, due to 12 absences in the school year, an administrative interpretation of the contract with which CTU disagrees. The grievance was denied at the school level but upheld

at the superintendent level. Accordingly, the teacher received back pay for the two days withheld by the school. The administrative interpretation of contract language remains in dispute.

This is the final year of the teacher contract. CTU will request the opening of negotiations with administration in the Spring. Any union member with contractual concerns or suggestions should communicate them to any member of the executive board. As always your building delegate is available for any concerns that arise during the school year.

Kelly Ogle  
CTU Delegate



## Contact Information

Medical Plan	<a href="tel:800-355-2583">800-355-2583</a>	<a href="http://www.HorizonBlue.com">www.HorizonBlue.com</a>
Prescription Plan	<a href="tel:800-451-6245">800-451-6245</a>	<a href="http://www.Express-scripts.com">www.Express-scripts.com</a>
Dental Plan	<a href="tel:866-328-1319">866-328-1319</a>	<a href="http://www.Deltadentalnj.com">www.Deltadentalnj.com</a>
Vision Plan	<a href="tel:800-432-4966">800-432-4966</a>	<a href="http://www.EyeMed.com">www.EyeMed.com</a>
Life/Long-Term Disability	<a href="tel:877-225-2712">877-225-2712</a>	<a href="http://www.Unum.com">www.Unum.com</a>
Camden Diocese HR:		
Luis Maldonado	<a href="tel:856-583-2869">856-583-2869</a>	<a href="mailto:luis.maldonado@camdendiocese.org">luis.maldonado@camdendiocese.org</a>
Doug Player	<a href="tel:856-583-2872">856-583-2872</a>	<a href="mailto:doug.player@camdendiocese.org">doug.player@camdendiocese.org</a>