

President's Message

Summer 2017



LOCAL # 3504

ESTABLISHED 1968

Youngstown Diocesan Confederation of Teachers

Happy Eastertide everyone! Christ is Risen! Resurrexit sicut dixit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Oftentimes, when we hear the word “Easter”, we tend to think only of Easter Sunday; however, Easter is Fifty Days, from Easter Sunday until the Solemnity of Pentecost (4 June 17). We, as a redeemed people, have entered this Great Fifty Days of Easter, a celebration of the victory of our Risen Lord over death and sin. So, let’s fill our Easter Season with time for prayer, feasting, and charity! And, once the Fifty Days have concluded, we can all look forward to our instructional time being replaced with other activities long-delayed, including traveling, grilling, relaxing, and “growing the crops”! Until then, let’s savor the remaining school days and provide our students with the best instructional time possible!

After eight meetings, the YDCT and the OCS are STILL negotiating the salary schedules for the remaining two years of the LC Local Issues; even though, on 1 May 17, the YDCT (inadvertently) learned of the 1 August 17 disbanding of the LC School System, according to our legal counsel, the Contract, Local Issues, and agreed-upon salaries, will remain binding, and in effect, for the duration of the contractual agreement, which concludes on 16 August 19. On 9 May 17, our LC Colleagues unanimously-rejected the OCS salary proposal of 8 May 17. Hopefully, and with a spirit of collegiality and good Faith negotiating, the YDCT will be able to secure, by the end of May, a fair and just wage for our LC teachers, and thus avoid preparing for mediation.

On 1 May 2017, our second Grievance Appeal was heard by the Grievance Appeal Panel. This grievance concerned a violation by an Elementary Administrator of the Lay-off Policy, Article VII, p.21, in the Elementary Basic Contract. The grievance was resolved to the satisfaction of the aggrieved teacher and the YDCT. Many thanks to all involved who worked so diligently to reach this agreement, especially our legal counsel, Attorney Dennis Haines.

The High School Negotiation Team met with the Negotiation Team of the OCS on 15 May 2017, to present our respective issues. Subsequently, sub-committees consisting of representatives from both sides were formed, and will be meeting during the Summer months to negotiate the issues. A list of the issues, (as presented by both entities) will be forthcoming from John Peplowski, HS Chief Negotiator, to the HS Building Representatives, who will then share said information with the membership. As the Negotiation Team represents the YDCT, it is imperative that the entire high school membership is aware of the issues being negotiated. Stay tuned!

In other news, Building Representative elections were held, and we thank them for their willingness to serve: Maria Leone Dick, Central Catholic; JoAnn Frattaroli, St. Charles; Gina Heeter, St. Nicholas; Peggy Jenkins, St. Rose; Rebecca Lowry, St. Rose; Jeanne Maher, St. Thomas Aquinas; Aimee Morrison, Ursuline; Caroline Mulhall, Holy Family; Diane Oswald, John F. Kennedy, (Lower Campus); Jennifer Policy, Cardinal Mooney; Sara Reece, St. James; Patricia Willis, St. Christine; Katy Welch-Young, John F. Kennedy High School. Thanks as well to our membership for your expression of confidence in all of us, on the Executive Board, as we serve to protect you and our negotiated agreements. As I have often stated, our Union work can be very challenging at times, so please keep all of us in your prayers as we continue to do what is best for our teachers, students, and our schools, under the advisement of NACST President, Dr. Rita C. Schwartz, our legal Counsel, Attorney Dennis Haines, and our Accountant, Linda Cappelli-Sladick.

Annually, the YDCT distributes over \$6000.00 in scholarship money to students in our five high schools, via contributions by our High School membership to the YDCT Scholarship Fund. (N.B. The EB is researching the possibility of including contributions from our Elementary membership in this fund, so that tuition assistance may be dispersed, next year, to our elementary students as well.) This annual disbursement, has a two-fold purpose: one, it provides tuition assistance to our students to attend our schools, thereby demonstrating that the YDCT is actively-concerned in helping to provide that opportunity, but it is also effective in enabling our Union to participate in another component very vital to the success of our Catholic Schools---marketing! If student enrollment in our Catholic Schools is to be maintained, and increased, then we must all be willing to be a part of the “growing of the crops”! We must all (Faculty and Administration) do what we can to ensure the survival of our Catholic Schools, by engaging in marketing efforts which promote our schools. In fact, if not in progress already, it would be advantageous for every Diocesan school to implement marketing goals. And, if we profoundly believe what we profess, that Catholic Schools: embrace the Gospel Values; nurture Faith formation; teach values for life, and life-skills; offer rigorous academic instruction; build community; welcome diversity; encourage responsible citizenry; and save taxpayers money, then it is the responsibility of the many, and not the few, to participate in marketing activities designed to produce positive effects from which our schools will benefit! Now it is a given that many of us are Senior Faculty members who have generously-invested many faithful years and have shared our talents, for the good of our students and schools. But it is also a given that neophytes are needed to support, and promote, all that we cherish about teaching in our Catholic schools, and a means by which that goal can be accomplished is to encourage the growth of the seeds in our “garden” via marketing projects! To achieve what was once (possibly) thought as unnecessary, all of us, working together, can ensure the sustainability of not only our schools, but also our employment, for nothing is impossible with God! It is also apropos to recall the words of Charles Dickens, who once said, “No one is useless in this world who lightens the burdens of another!” Therefore, let’s all lend a hand in lifting up our schools, promoting whole-heartedly the Catholic school experience, helping where needed, and “growing the crops” for the greater good and the glory of God, alone! Soli Deo Gloria!

In 2018, our Union will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary! It will be the task of the 50th Anniversary Committee, to gather input as to how we might best honor this wonderful occasion, and then to commence the planning. It is with gratitude that we thank retirees Joanne Fossesco, Tom Nally, and Kathy Thompson, for their willingness to be a part of the 50th Anniversary Committee. If any member, or retiree, would like to join our 50th Anniversary Committee, please call our YDCT Office. Remember: it is the responsibility of the many, not the few, to “grow the crops”!

Almighty God has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy! May He watch over us, protect and guide us, and during a well-deserved respite from our instructional time, may our Easter joy blossom!

As always, if you are in need of assistance regarding a contractual issue, please contact your Building Representative. Have a restful, peaceful and enjoyable Summer!

Take care, Barbara

St. Rose School As our school year is winding down, we have had a very busy and exciting Spring. In the month of April, our Home & School Association hosted our annual Father/Daughter Dance. Our second grade students also celebrated their First Holy Communion on April 29th. We are so very proud of Sophia Alleman, a sixth grade Social Studies student of Mrs. Becky Lowry, who won 1st prize at History Day in Columbus, after winning First Place at YSU for her dramatic presentation of Nellie Bly. She will now compete in the National History Day Competition. Congratulations also to three of our English Festival participants, under the guidance of Mr. Paul Miller, for winning prizes at YSU. Colleen Rowland, Keila Cortes, and Samantha Vinopal, all won for writing games and Not So Trivial Pursuit. We honored Mothers at our annual Mother's Day Tea. Grades 4-8 are looking forward to attending a YSU baseball game at Eastwood Field. Grades K-3 are also looking forward to a fun-filled day at Wagon Trails. We will end our school year with our annual picnic at Tod Park.

St. James School It has been a busy Spring at SJS. On Holy Thursday, we had a special prayer service, baked Easter Bread, and had a visit from Father Joe. Our priest continues to convalesce in Poland, Ohio, and hopes to return before our last day. He had surgery in January. Please continue to pray for Father Joe and his improving health. On April 25, the entire school was treated to a field trip to the MAPS museum by a secret benefactor. The children loved learning about all of the vintage aircraft and MASH units from our veteran tour guides. It was an awesome adventure near the Canton/Akron airport. Our annual Angel Auction was held on Saturday May 13th. All of the classes created special items for this event.

St. Christine School The school year is coming to an end and we are very busy at St. Christine. On May 5th, we had Grandparents Day. We started this wonderful day with Mass, a tour of the school, special activities in each classroom, a photo booth, and special lunches prepared for the grandparents by their grandchild. Our May Crowning was held on May 9, with the eighth and second graders processing and a band concert was held on the 16th. The eighth graders went on their class trip to Pittsburgh with great activities jammed into every minute. The kindergarten students are anxiously awaiting their graduation so they can become "graders"! The Home and School Association is planning a fun school picnic on the 26th, and we bid farewell to our eighth graders on their graduation day on May 30. We wish them all the best! We are so happy for Tiffany Toman (St. Christine) and Carey Palermo (Ursuline) on their upcoming August wedding. Congratulations! Please pray for the recovery of a very special teacher.

St. Charles School The last few months were filled with prayer, academic growth, field trips, assemblies and projects. Separately, our 6th and 8th grade students led the school and parish in reenactments of Stations of the Cross. The performances were beautifully done and meaningful to all. Kindergarten children celebrated the Resurrection of Jesus with a special evening retreat. Second grade students held their First Communion retreat and participated fully in the Sacrament on May 6. The Student Council had a cake raffle and an assembly titled "Animals Around the World." The presentation allowed each child to touch an exotic animal while learning about its country of origin. The 7th grade students presented months of work at History Day and our 2nd and 3rd grade classes visited Oh Wow Science Center in Youngstown. Saint Charles will graduate 40 eighth grade students on June 1 with a special Mass and dinner. We wish them well as they enter High School. Students in kindergarten through grade 7 are looking forward to their picnics and end of the year celebrations.

Holy Family On April 24, our sixth graders went to Camp Fitch and had a wonderful time. Jean MacIntrye is the sixth-grade teacher. On April 28th, twenty-nine seventh and eighth graders went to the YSU English Festival. Six students won awards. Everyone had an enjoyable day. Thanks to Linda Taylor and Marilyn Kuboff (Retired HFS teachers) for helping out that day! On Tuesday, May 2, HFS had a concert and an art show. Our choir, band, and flutophones were exceptional. The artwork in all grades was spectacular. Special Thanks to Dan Danch, Tom Matramico, and Liz Kovalik for a fantastic display of musical talent and artistic ability. HFS Academic Awards Dinner was held Thursday, May 5. Students in sixth, seventh, and eighth grade with a GPA of 3.7 or higher were honored. Eighth graders received their honor cords to be worn at graduation. Congrats to all! Career Day was held on Friday, May 5. Nine different careers were showcased, and students had the opportunity to choose the speakers they wanted to hear. Our second graders made their First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 6. Congratulations to Shari Safara and her students. Eighth grade students went to Washington DC on May 18-20. Field day for students in grades K-7 and a retreat for grade 8 will be on May 31. Graduation this year is June 1. Congratulations to Maria Valley who is retiring after 34 years of teaching. We will miss you, Maria!

JFK Lower Many thanks to Mrs. Aulet and her second grade class for presenting the Stations of the Cross during Holy Week. It was a solemn and prayerful experience. Congratulations to Mrs. Kim Gray, a recipient of the Golden Apple Award. Thank you to Mrs. Kachersky and Miss Brown for coordinating the Relay for Life. This year, the relay was dedicated to Jaden, a Fourth Grade student who is terminally ill. We are Jaden strong. With sadness in our hearts, we prayed for Mr. Gillen and his family at our school Mass. Mr. Gillen went to Eternal Life in Heaven after a brief illness. May God Bless him and his family.

St. Nicholas School The seventh and eighth grade students had a wonderful time on their class trip to Niagara Falls. Students in grades 4-6 are preparing for their Vocabulary Parade, which will take place on May 26th. The students will dress up like their vocabulary word and create riddles to try to have others guess which word they are. The third grade students are busy researching famous people in preparation for a trip to the Wax Museum. They will get the opportunity to dress up like a famous person and share stories about that person's life. The fourth graders are busy learning about Ohio inventions and are excited to devise their very own inventions in class. The students in fourth grade are also preparing to create a living ecosystem in science class, using aquatic plants, snails, fish and earthworms. As the school year is drawing to an end, we want to wish our eighth grade students the best of luck as they endeavor on a new journey and begin High School.



Accountability

We all received the Diocesan Technology Use Policy and Workplace Behavior Policies in our Faculty Handbook at our Opening School Inservices. These contain important items about avoiding inappropriateness that need to be followed such as not using school computers, emails, etc. for personal or other business reasons during school. We are also reminded that the Diocesan network/wi-fi is for professional use only. It's part of our accountability that we only use these resources for educational purposes and that we are "on task" in our classes at all times. We should also remember to be aware of what's in the newly-revised Diocesan policies, *The Standards of Ministerial Behavior*, *The Child Protection Policy*, and *The Anti-Bullying, Harassment, and Intimidation Policy*. These policies can be found at <http://www.doyocs.org/index.php/teachers/policies-and-handbooks> and <http://doy.org/index.php/child-policy>. N.B. No Union business is to be conducted via the Diocesan e-mail. All Union members are therefore instructed to contact their Building Representative for assistance.

YDCT Executive Board

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Barbara J. McVicker - President
Ursuline High School

John Peplowski - Vice President
Ursuline High School

Karen Joseph - Vice President
St. Christine School

Mary Ann Morrison - Treasurer
Central Catholic High School

Chuck Lozier - Secretary
Central Catholic High School

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St. Nicholas School

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St. Christine School

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JFK Lower Campus

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St. Charles School

Peggy Jenkins
St. Rose School

Jeanne Maher
St. Thomas Aquinas

Becky Lowry
St. Rose School

Sara Reece
St. James School

Aimee Morrison
Ursuline High School

Caroline Mulhall
Holy Family School

Katy Welch-Young
JFK Upper Campus

N.B. Only those listed above are authorized to interpret the Basic Contract, advise, and represent the membership; therefore, please consult only with your Building Representative, if in need of assistance.

St. Thomas Aquinas High School Students participated in May Day and were busy with Spring sports and preparing for exams. Bishop Murry visited our school and took a tour of the building. He stopped into classes to observe and converse with the teachers and students. Spring also brought the Annual Auction. Many staff members were in attendance. It was a lovely evening for all. The school play, *Daze of Olde*, was also attended by many. Congratulations to Science teacher, Mrs. Abby Robertson Betsa and husband, on the upcoming June birth of their first child. Please pray for Mrs. Joanne Barnhouse's husband, who is ill.

Warren JFK Upper Campus On April 19, the John F. Kennedy Upper Campus family was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Athletic Director, and former teacher, John Gillen. Mr. Gillen's calling hours and funeral were attended by numerous students, faculty, and alumni before the funeral procession passed through the upper campus grounds. Mr. Gillen will be fondly remembered and is sorely missed. The Boys' Varsity Basketball Team ended their season as regional semifinalists on March 18. In late March, eleven junior and senior high students represented Kennedy at the Diocesan Art Show. During the last week of March, the 8th grade traveled to Washington, D.C. for their annual field trip. While there, students had the opportunity to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and tour the U.S. Capital. In early April nearly 100 Kennedy Junior High students participated in the Region 4 History Day competition at Youngstown State University. On April 29, Kennedy students placed second at the State History Day competition, qualifying for Nationals. On April 28, senior high students spent the morning performing service in the neighborhood surrounding the upper campus. Students picked up litter, raked ditches, and planted a tree.

Cardinal Mooney High School Cardinal Mooney students and faculty advisors have had an exciting Spring at various competitions. The robotics team took part in the Buckeye Regional Robotics competition at Cleveland State University. Teams from Ohio, Michigan, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and New York competed. Mooney faculty members Jennifer Policy, John Lukes, Paul Day, Father Peter and Mitzi Smith are the advisors for the Robocards. The Art department has had a busy year. At the Scholastic Art and Writing Competition, Mooney was well represented and the following students won Silver Keys in photography: Hannah Frisone, Dylan Herman, and Lizzie Philibin. Jenna Ronshak, daughter of Industrial Arts teacher, Sam Ronshak, won a Gold Key in photography. The students were under the advisement of Maureen Kandray. At the Governor's Youth Art Exhibition, Jamie Sklenar was a Regional Winner. Mooney made a fine showing at the Diocesan Art Show. In the Mixed Media category, Allie Sayhoun placed second and Gianna Viglotti placed third. Mooney swept the top three places in photography with Taylor Martin placing 1st, Hannah Frisone 2nd and Taylor Myers 3rd. Great job Mrs. Kandray and Mr. Bulter. At the erudite and recently concluded Youngstown State University English Festival, Mooney students were well represented and turned in an excellent overall performance. Congratulations to the following award winners: Matthew Rossi honorable mention Music, Jennifer Hoang honorable mention Art, Shannon Reardon first prize Limericks, Maria Pelini honorable mention Writing Games, Grace Haddad second prize Limericks, Michelle Hanna honorable mention Impromptu, Katrina Reed second prize Not So Trivial Pursuit and Elizabeth Vennetti fourth prize Writing Games. Also, congratulations to Mooney's Dom Leone Contest Winners, Annie Driscoll first prize grade 9 and Jayda Benson, second prize grades 10-12. English Department chair, Mark Rinehart, worked diligently over the past few months organizing the students in preparing for this event. Two Cardinal Mooney students were awarded the Eagle of the Cross. Congratulations Mark Ricciardi and Olivia Christopher. Mr. Lawrence Bozick, English, will be retiring at the end of the year. He also served as a Confederation Negotiator. Larry will be missed by both students and his fellow faculty members. This year is the last of the three-year remodeling of Cardinal Mooney High School. The side of the building facing the parking lot and junior hall are going to be completed this year. The building is brand new inside while still looking like the old Mooney that alumni fondly remember. Tours are available.

Ursuline High School The Spring Quarter at Ursuline has been extremely busy: the Theatre Department is preparing for *Guys & Dolls*; the band is practicing for their Spring Concert; Spanish classes hosted the Fiesta de Las Americas; many juniors were inducted into NHS; and for Sophomore Week, the 10th Graders enjoyed numerous field trips, visits from their 3rd grade pen pals, and were mentored by area professionals for Career Day. We congratulate Marie Bond, the daughter of Barbara Bond at St. Nicholas, for earning the title of Co-Valedictorian, along with Aaron Coates. We also recognize Richard Weitzel for being named a National Merit Scholar. Best of luck to Adam Dwinnells, Alex Stoneman, and Spencer Humphries who qualified for the National Speech and Debate Tournament this summer. Congratulations to Megan Preston for winning the WFMJ Class Act Award! A dedication was held in April to bless the newly renovated Science Wing. The Biology Room is a gift from the Ulicney children in honor of their dad John who taught for 46 years. The Anatomy Room is in memory of Mr. Wilfred Sanders for his 46 years of teaching. Finally, we want to honor our retirees! Sr. Regina Rogers is retiring from her position as Assistant Principal (again) though she will be back to teach one religion class next year! Gina Clark, our Cafeteria Manager, is retiring, but will occasionally sub. Mr. Russ Nalepa is retiring from the Mathematics Department after 40 years of teaching at Ursuline. His expertise, love of movies and books, and "hilarious" comments will be missed. He, too, will be back to teach one class next year. Blessed retirement to all!

Central Catholic High School We are praying for Father Kaylor's continued recovery from the stroke he suffered in March and are sending him many good wishes for health and wellness! Our auction on April 8th was a huge success thanks to the efforts of so many. We are sponsored a fundraiser on the weekend of May 20th called "Pedal For A Purpose." Participants obtained sponsors for time spent on the exercise bike—a great way to stay fit AND help our school. Congratulations to seniors Gabrielle Olivieri and Emily Paul for receiving the Eagle of the Cross award on May 2nd. Spring sports teams are working very hard as they near the end of their seasons. Our spring play, *Dracula*, was held on May 5th, 6th, and 7th. Congratulations to director David Scholl and the cast and crew for a successful performance. The annual outdoor Mass, May Crowning, and procession was held at Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto on Sunday, May 21st. May Crowning has been a tradition at Central Catholic for many decades. Recitation of the rosary is at 1:00 PM and Mass began at 1:30 PM. First Communicants from all Stark County parishes are invited to participate in the procession and May Crowning. Many congratulations and best wishes to English teacher John Wagner and librarian Lue Schwing who are retiring this year, as well as to our office staff member, Margie Jones, who is also retiring!

<u>Cardinal Mooney High School</u>	<u>Ursuline High School</u>	<u>Central Catholic High School</u>	<u>St Thomas Aquinas High School</u>
Jolene Baldado	Anne Cadle	Stephanie Cooper	Badre Bardawil
Cheryl Basista	Jennifer DePizzo	Maria Dick	Joanne Barnhouse
Sharon Bettura	Lisa Devlin	Lowell Klinefelter	Abigail Betsa
Lawrence Bozick	Patricia Fleming	Bruce Lenz	Louis Doenges
Sarah Brooke	Sean Fouse	Charles Lozier	Molly Doenges
Don Bucci	Timothy Gallagher	Kyle McBride	Eleni Granitsas
Sean Butler	Adrienne Gentry	Mary Ann Morrison	Jeanne Maher
Janet Cadman	Mary Bess George	James Naegeli	Terrence Murphy
Paul Day	Gordon Hartranft	David Oates	Sue Ann Ray
P. J. Fecko	Joy Huber	Jacqueline Paulus	Christine Schneider
Paul Gregory	Nannette Jacobs	Kevin Powell	Tamara Soehrlen
Tina Hughes	Nicholas Jaminet	Michael Ress	Nicholas Stanek
Maureen Kandray	Eleanor Klucinec	Mark Rogers	Deanna Stranan
Mark Lyden	Cynthia Lacko	Matthew Sands	Jodene Stroia
Ray Marks	Barbara McVicker	Lue Schwing	Joseph Vagedes
Diane Mastro Nard	Linda Miller	James Sicker	
Rich Matiussi	Paulina Montaldo	David Vincente	<u>John F. Kennedy Upper Campus</u>
Peggy Moore	Aimee Morrison		Sue Bendaali
Matthew Ohlin	Megan Preston		Charlene Brown
Robert Osthoff	Russ Nalepa		Alana Campbell
Jennifer Policy	Carey Palermo		Denise Hoover
Justin Prommersberger	John Peplowski		Charlene Mcguire
Toni Raseta	MarkUerling		Matt Pascarella
Rob Raseta	Edward Victor		Barb Rupinsky
Mark Rinehart	John Williams		Regina Steines
Mary Lou Rogers			Kathryn Welch-Young
Sam Ronshak			
Debra Scarnecchia			
Nancy Shugart			
Heather Sirney			
Jonathon Smith			
Melissa Smith			
Susan Trewell			
Antonette Vasquez			
Mark Vollmer			
Teresa Yarger			

Youngstown Diocesan Confederation of Teachers Scholarship

Thank you to our current and past donors of the Scholarship Fund.

This year, alone, the Confederation awarded twenty new scholarships. The awards were made to four freshmen in each of our five diocesan high schools. Coupled with previous winners from earlier years, the Confederation funds a total of sixty scholarships every year. Twelve students from each of the five high schools benefit from this program every year.

Contributions totaling the \$6000 necessary for this year's scholarships came mostly from teachers who pledged money through payroll deductions.

If you would like to join this group of sponsors, please see your Building Representative.