

From: Jelinski, Tim

Date: Saturday, November 9, 2024

Subject: Catholic Conscience re: trustee candidate information

From <jelinskitim@gmail.com>

Thank you for the opportunity to share some information regarding my candidacy.

I am an active member of my parish and have served in a variety of ministries at both the parish and diocesan level. For most of my adult life, I have been involved with Catholic education, serving as a teacher, principal (elementary and high school), a director of education, and as a trustee (past ten years). I believe that serving as a trustee is a ministry of service to our church, and to society.

As a parent, a former employee in Catholic schools, and now as a trustee, I have witnessed firsthand the numerous blessings of Catholic education. Catholic schools recognize and affirm that parents are the prime educators of their children, and that Catholic education assists parents with the passing on of the faith. Catholic schools are different than our public counterparts. Both pursue academic excellence; however, Catholic schools pursue academic excellence in a faith-filled environment. In our schools, our Catholic faith permeates all we do. It is more than a crucifix on the wall, a statue, or an icon. It is more than religion classes, morning prayers, sacramental preparation, classroom, or school-wide liturgies... It is all of these and more! Catholic schools are different and special because in Catholic schools we proclaim the Good News! In our schools there is an ethos of faith, hope, and compassion. Students and staff encounter Jesus Christ throughout the day, and through their interactions with each other. In our schools, children and youth learn about their faith, but more importantly, experience their faith. Ideally, our students and staff understand that they are unconditionally loved by God, and that they are precious gifts, given by God, to enrich our world. Through their encounter with Jesus Christ, everyone associated with Catholic education comes to know that they are called to use their gifts for the betterment of all. They are called to reach out and transform the world.

I believe that serving as a trustee is a vocation, and that with my experience, understanding and unwavering commitment, I can make a difference in protecting and strengthening Catholic education.

Thank you.

Tim Jelinski