

FATHER SCECINA



Magazine

WINTER 2025 | ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25



IHSAA State Finalist
Soccer Team

**AN UNFORGETTABLE SEASON:
HEART, HUSTLE, AND HISTORY**



On November 13, a group of Scecina seniors visited CSO Architects for a tour, an innovation presentation, conversations with CSO's human resources director about their future careers, and a Q&A session. Scecina's objective is to help students build meaningful, real-world relationships with local industry leaders as part of our Career and Technical Education (CTE) program.



**SCECINA
MEMORIAL
HIGH SCHOOL**

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On the cover: *Boys soccer team poses with their Semi-State championship trophy*

EAST DEANERY PARISHES
AND SCHOOLS

**Holy Spirit
Catholic Church and School**
Pastor: Rev. Michael O'Mara
Principal: Gina Fleming

**Little Flower
Catholic Church and School**
Administrator: Rev. Jude Meril
Sahayam
Principal: Kevin Gawryns

**Our Lady of Lourdes
Catholic Church and School**
Administrator: Rev. Jude Meril
Sahayam
Principal: Angie (Leffler)
Therber '84

**St. Michael (Greenfield)
Catholic Church and School**
Pastor: Rev. Aaron Jenkins
Principal: Ruth Hittel

**St. Philip Neri
Catholic Church and School**
Pastor: Rev. Jeffrey L. Dufresne
Principal: Chelsea Sheets

Additional East Deanery Parishes

SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral
Rector: Very Rev. James
Brockmeier

St. Rita
Parish Administrator: Rev.
Benjamin D. Syberg

St. Mary
Pastor: Father José Aragón Briñez

**St. Thomas the Apostle
(Fortville)**
Pastor: Rev. Aaron Jenkins

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Scecina
Memorial
Community,

*"I will press on
toward the goal
to win the prize
for which God*

*has called me heavenward in Christ
Jesus" (Philippians 3:13).*

About 15 years ago, Scecina's annual fund carried the theme "Giving Back, Looking Forward" for a few years. We were seeking a theme that reflected the spirit of giving back that so many alumni and friends hold dear, while also wanting a theme that would invite us to look ahead.

While we now call it The Scecina Fund, "Giving Back, Looking Forward" is a phrase that still resonates and reflects the spirit of generosity and hope that defines our community.

This past year reminded us of that spirit as we bid farewell to three remarkable servant leaders: **Wayne "Mike" Kolbus '58**, a tireless volunteer and advocate for Scecina; **Gregg Dwyer '61**, a successful attorney whose passion for justice and charity touched countless lives; and **Lou Zimmerman**, former Scecina Board Chair and Booster Club leader, whose dedication to Scecina was legendary.

Each man embodied what it means to give back while looking forward. Catholic schools endure and thrive from one generation to the next because of people like Mike, Gregg, and Lou.

You can read our memorials on pages 28 and 29.

Next, we must give thanks to **George T. Newhart '60** for his outstanding years of service as Chair of the Scecina Board of Directors. George's grace, wisdom, perseverance, humor, and friendship have guided every major improvement at Scecina. His leadership has been a gift to our school.

George truly gives back and always looks forward. His inspiring final letter as Board chair is on page 11.

August 2025 marked a historic milestone: the first-ever varsity football event on campus, held on the new Jim Drury and Dick Dufour Friendship Field. This achievement was possible because of years of hard work and community generosity during our capital campaign — a true example of giving back and looking forward.

Finally, our boys soccer team finished the 2025 season as Indiana state runner-up, with senior Carter Hartman earning the prestigious C. Eugene Cato Mental Attitude Award. Coaches **Quinn Cloghessy** and **Gabe Wells** led an extraordinary season that showcased talent, teamwork, and character.

These stories represent the heart of Scecina: a community of faith-driven servant-leaders who make our Catholic ministry thrive from one generation to the next.

Thank you for your partnership in this vital mission.

Sincerely,

Joseph S. Therber
President

NOWLAND NEWS

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM: HANNAH MCMAHON

This year Scecina started to offer students a range of Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses through our partnered schools. The courses are designed to provide students with hands-on training and real-world experience in their chosen field. Students attend either at the start or end of their day, depending on their class schedule.

Our CTE partner schools include:

- KLR Medical Certification Training School
- Walker Career Center
- J. Everett Light Career Center
- ABC Construction Prep Academy

KLR offers virtual online training programs in medical certification, providing flexibility and convenience for our students.

Walker, J. Everett, and ABC Prep offer a variety of programs that our students can attend in person.

HANNAH McMAHON

While still a senior at Scecina, **Hannah McMahon** is putting her passion for pets into her career dreams. Hannah is one of 14 students enrolled in the CTE program at Scecina for 2025-26.

She takes veterinary science classes online through KLR Medical



Hannah McMahon (left) and Ashle Gutierrez at KLR's Skills Day

Certification Training School and next semester will start a hands-on, work-based learning experience at a veterinary clinic.

“It’s been my dream to be a vet since I was little, since fourth grade,” said Hannah, who went to Little Flower Catholic School, where she also is an altar server.

Hannah received high honors in the program for the first quarter and was named student of the week in October.

VETERINARY VISION

The KLR Veterinary Science Course continues to deliver hands-on learning in animal care, common animal illnesses and diseases, and bodily systems/functions, helping students build skills and confidence for future success.

SKILLS DAY

On November 17, Hannah, along with **Ashle Gutierrez**, attended Skills Day, an event hosted by KLR.

Skills Day provides students with an exciting opportunity to get hands-on experience in many different areas of the medical field.

Even though Hannah is enrolled in the Veterinary course and Ashle in the Clinical Certified Medical Assistant (CCMA) course, they were able to explore many other areas of healthcare that may spark their interest. During Skills Day, several healthcare employers from each school's community set up booths and led 10-minute, hands-on activities. Students were grouped and rotated through each booth to ensure they experienced everything.

It was truly a valuable experience! ■



Hannah takes part in a simulated testing process at KLR's Skills Day



HISTORY IN THE MAKING: FIRST VARSITY SCRIMMAGE ON CAMPUS

For the first time, Seccina hosted an IHSAA-sanctioned varsity football scrimmage vs. Arsenal Tech on August 15 at Jim Drury and Dick Dufour Friendship Field. Drury and Dufour were football players in the Class of 1960. Nearly 300 fans showed up to watch this historic first varsity game played on the Seccina campus.

Above, President **Joe Therber** and Crusaders football players join members of the Class of 1960 (from left): **George Newhart, Mike Guinan, Dick Dufour, and Ken Landeck.** ■

PARISH DAY 2025

Helping students build deeper connections with their faith and parish homes was the focus of Seccina Parish Day 2025, where more than 270 students gathered on Wednesday, Aug. 27, for a day of conversation, reflection, and invitation.

The initiative, led by Director of Campus Ministry **Ben Potts**, featured sessions with **Father Jeffrey Dufresne** of St. Philip Neri, **Father Michael O'Mara** of Holy Spirit, and **Father Jude Meril Sahayam** of Little Flower and Our Lady of Lourdes, along with parish staff members.

Doughnuts and conversations became a highlight of the day,



(left to right) Lola Carey, Mairead Maguire, Father Jude, Lucy Certo, and Shea McNulty

offering students a relaxed setting to spend meaningful time with their pastors. These one-on-one moments provided students with the opportunity to ask questions, share experiences, and foster stronger connections with their pastors.

Parish Day reflects Seccina's commitment to student faith

formation, helping young people grow spiritually and remain rooted in their parish communities. Through these sessions, students had the opportunity to:

- Meet their pastors and parish leaders in a personal setting
- Hear the Good News and discuss its impact on their lives
- Build deeper parish connections
- Receive invitations to engage more fully in parish life.

This day served as a living example of faith in action, bringing students, parish leaders, and campus ministry together to inspire, encourage, and strengthen Catholic identity. ■

SCECINA SENIOR RECOGNIZED AS NATIONAL MERIT COMMENDED STUDENT

Seccina Memorial High School senior **Bradley Hilbers** was recently named a Commended Student in the 2026 National Merit Scholarship Program.

About 34,000 Commended Students across the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. These students place among the top 50,000 nationwide who entered the 2026 competition by taking the 2024 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

Bradley said he is honored to represent Seccina with this distinction.

“I was able to achieve this thanks to the academic foundation laid by my teachers at St. Michael and



Principal Dr. Peg Dispenzieri, Bradley Hilbers, Director of Counseling Doug Hadley, and President Joe Therber

built upon by teachers here at Seccina,” he said. “This motivates me to continue pushing myself academically to achieve future goals.”

Bradley is captain of the cross country team, runs track, and is a member of the National Honor Society. Beyond school, he participates in Boy Scouts and 4-H and volunteers weekly at a local food pantry.

He is most passionate about math and business, interests that grew through his Seccina coursework. He plans to study actuarial science in college.

“I enjoy math and business for similar reasons, such as their practical applications throughout life and their use of numbers and logic to understand aspects of the world,” he said.

Bradley encourages classmates to stay consistent in their studies.

“The most important thing to challenging yourself is to maintain discipline and get things done in a timely manner,” he said. “You have to be willing to put the work in continuously, or you will not see much growth over time.” ■

FATHER TOM DAY

Seccina is honored to bear the name of Father Thomas Scecina, whose remarkable life continues to inspire people around the world.

Father Tom, a priest of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, served both God and country as a military chaplain during World War II. He gave his life in 1944 when he perished at sea alongside fellow U.S. prisoners of war.

Although tragic, his story remains a powerful testament to Christian faith lived out in service and sacrifice.

On October 24, Seccina faculty, staff, students, alumni, veterans, and friends gathered for our annual Father Tom Day Mass to honor his legacy.



George Newhart '60

Congratulations to this year’s Father Tom Service Award honorees, **George Newhart '60**, past chair of Seccina’s Board of Directors, and **Beth Murphy**, director of development, for their outstanding dedication and leadership. ■



Beth Murphy

SACRED MUSIC CONCERT

Seccina's choirs took the stage on September 29 at Little Flower Catholic Church for this annual concert that rotates each year at a different parish. The choirs, under the direction of Paul Pitts, performed eight pieces, including an a cappella version of "Don't Stop Believin,'" "Dona Nobis Pacem," "Elijah Rock," and "Sing Hallelujah." ■



A TWIST ON PETER PAN

Seccina's fall play, "The Neverland Project," performed November 7 and 8, retells the well-known story of Peter Pan from the perspective of Wendy Darling, played by junior **Kate Certo** (center). Theatre Director **Leslie (Zimmerman) Young '99** announced the spring musical will be "Disney's The Little Mermaid." ■



INDIANA LATINO INSTITUTE EDUCATION SUMMIT

On Nov. 11, 28 Seccina juniors and seniors participated in the annual Indiana Latino Institute Education Summit. The event featured keynote speaker Ovidilio "Ovi" Vasquez, whose inspiring message encouraged students to dream boldly. Raised in a small Guatemalan kitchen without walls, a refrigerator, or even a microwave, Vasquez shared how perseverance and hope helped him achieve his goals to become a successful author and speaker and showed students that they can accomplish their dreams too. ■



WARM CLOTHING DRIVE

Seccina students collected warm clothing for Wheeler Mission in Indianapolis and Birthline, a pro-life ministry of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis that offers free and confidential support to pregnant women and mothers of infants in need. **Jenny (Braun) McNulty '04** (left), coordinator of Birthline for the archdiocese, accepted the donation of 500 pieces of warm clothing for young children from Seccina students, represented by **Lucy Certo, Natalee Darzentas, John Ramirez-Hernandez,** and **Ben Gonzalez-Esparza.** ■



ATHLETICS



(left) Sectional champs, photo by Liam Branson (right) Seccina goalie Dreik Marin-Ballesteros at game against Christel House

BOYS SOCCER: A SEASON TO REMEMBER

The Crusaders boys soccer team reached the biggest game of Indiana high school soccer, vying for a state championship on Halloween night at the Michael A. Carroll stadium at IU Indianapolis.

Both teams in the championship were making their first appearance in the State Finals.

Although the Seccina boys came up short against Fort Wayne Blackhawk Christian, 3-0, the game marked the end of a remarkable Crusaders season, a record-setting performance of passion by senior goalie **Dreik Marin-Ballesteros**, and capped off by a Crusader, **Carter Hartman**, winning the prestigious mental attitude award (see story on page 7).

“It was a fantastic year,” said head coach **Quinn Cloghessy**, “and although it hurts that we did not end the season the way we planned,

I know in 5, 10, 15 years, this team will be in a room somewhere talking about how special this was.”

Special indeed. In the championship matchup, Marin-Ballesteros recorded 14 saves, a Class A state-finals record. That kept the game scoreless through the 50th minute.

“I gave them all my 100%,” Marin-Ballesteros told The Indianapolis Star. “I know we fell short, but I’m really proud of these boys. At the end of the day, you know, we all made it.”

The special season followed an 8-11 season in 2024 when the team won the Sectional championship.

This year’s team knew it had the capability to make the run they did, said Cloghessy. The team scored 107 goals and had only 27 goals scored against them. Two members

made the All-City Team (Marin-Ballesteros, **Roman Romo**). Other honors include:

- Three members on All-Conference Team (**Adrian Romo, Alejandro Calzadacano, Miguel Ferrer Mir**)
- One on the Indiana Soccer Coaches’ 2nd Team All-District (Marin-Ballesteros)
- Three members on the Indiana Soccer Coaches’ Association Academic All-State Team (**Ben Gonzalez-Esparza, Ben Gaudreau, Hartman**).

Cloghessy also noted how the team made Seccina history.

“We were the first team to win back-to-back Sectional titles in eight years, first Regional title in nine years, first Semi-State championship win, and the first Seccina appearance in the state championship for soccer.” ■

STATE MENTAL ATTITUDE AWARD

Senior **Carter Hartman** was named the recipient of the C. Eugene Cato Mental Attitude Award for Class A soccer after the IHSAA championship game on October 31.

The award is presented annually to a senior, nominated by his principal and coach, who has demonstrated excellence in mental attitude, scholarship, leadership, and athletic ability during his four years in high school. The award comes with a \$1,000 award for the school.

Besides playing soccer, Carter also is in the Mass choir, appears on stage in Scecina musicals, and takes part in the Indiana State School Music Association vocal competition. He plays on the men's volleyball team, and is in the chess, archery, Student Council, National Honor Society, and liturgy clubs. He also has participated in track and the Academic Superbowl Team. ■



Carter Hartman (photo by Walt Thomas, Double Edge Media)

IHSAA CHAMPION OF EDUCATION AWARD: MATT BLACK '10

The IHSAA Champion of Education award honors teachers, coaches, and administrators who go above and beyond for their students. One educator from each school participating in a state championship game is recognized for their exceptional dedication to student success.

The Scecina boys soccer team selected Mr. **Matt Black '10** as their Champion of Education. He was recognized at the State Final game on October 31.

Mr. Black returned to his alma mater to teach in 2014 and is now in his 12th year as a Scecina educator. Over the years, he has coached the girls soccer team to their first conference championship alongside Kurt Guldner, and last year he launched the Crusader Cup — a friendly competition that has greatly enhanced student life, pride, and school culture. He also moderates the Student Council and Roblox, Minecraft, Gaming, and Red and Gold Going Green clubs.



Mr. Matt Black '10

Reflecting on this recognition, Mr. Black shared, “I’m grateful for all the amazing teachers and co-workers who have helped shape me into the educator I am today. I strive to make Scecina a fun and challenging experience that leaves a lasting impact on students.” ■

SEASON RECAPS

CHEERLEADING

Coach Jana Montgomery

Cheerleading had a wonderful season led by seniors **Alaya Wilson** and **Sarah Bui**. The squad consisted of many veteran cheerleaders, which allowed for focus and achievement of personal goals set at the beginning of the season. We cheered at all football games and made history by cheering at a volleyball game. We aspire to continue to cheer on football, volleyball and various sports in seasons to come. Go Crusaders!

CROSS COUNTRY

Coach Kevin Egan and Coach Alie Bachus

The 2025 cross country team put in the work — and the miles — this year. From summer conditioning in June through Regionals in October, the team logged an estimated 3,000 miles.

That hard work paid off. The boys team earned third place at the East Central Invitational, fifth at the City Meet, and another third at Conference.

The girls fielded a scoring team for the first time in many years, marking an exciting milestone for the program.

Individually, **Luci Tovar** claimed first place at the East Central Invitational. **Bradley Hilbers** and **Sky Davis** advanced to Regionals as top 15 finishers — a notable achievement given we compete against the largest schools in Indiana. Tovar was just short of advancement with her 16th- place finish. She is poised for a great season in 2026.

End-of-year recognition went to Hilbers and Tovar as Runners of the Year; Newcomer Award to Davis and **Ellie Hadley**; and Most improved to **Adan Perez** and **Alexa Alonso**.

With over half the 13-member team new to cross country this year, we showed remarkable growth and teamwork.

FOOTBALL

Coach Dan Harris

The 2025 Crusaders ended the season with a 6-4 overall record, while going 4-1 in the Indiana Crossroads Conference, finishing second in the conference.

Some key highlights of the season include: a season-opening win against Fort Wayne Concordia with a multitude of school records broken, a back-and-forth shootout win against Heritage Christian, and an exciting Homecoming victory over Covenant Christian.

The 2025 team rewrote the Scecina football record book, with **Bryce Mathis** becoming: first in receiving TDs for a game, first in receiving TDs for a season, first and second for receiving yards in a game, and first in receiving yards in a season.



Eric Montgomery now holds the record of highest punt average for a season (40.9 yds per punt). Junior **Tristan Brown** is tied for first in receptions for a game and junior **Bryce McDonald** holds the record for passing yards per game in a season.

GIRLS GOLF

Coach Matt Schroeder

The Girls Golf Team, led by seniors **Riley Sandlin** (Most Valuable) and **Hannah McMahon** (Mental Attitude), had a very productive season.

With only three team members, they did not have a complete team and could not officially win any matches. However, the girls scored better than five opponents that were willing to compare the top three scores. The girls also had the best score of the teams with incomplete scores in the three tournaments they competed in.

Sophomore **Bella Campell** (Most Improved) is hopeful that next year there will be enough players to field a truly competitive team.

GIRLS SOCCER

Coach Monica Tobolski

Despite a challenging schedule that led to a 5-10-2 record, the girls soccer team showed tremendous heart and unity, anchored by the leadership of our eight seniors who set the tone both on and off the field. Their dedication created a legacy for the younger players to build upon.

Together, this group demonstrated perseverance, teamwork, and pride, making the season one to celebrate and remember.

BOYS TENNIS

Coach Trent Short '18

The boys tennis team will graduate six seniors who will need to be replaced. **Adrian Hill, Cole**

Gaudreau, Nate Wilhelm, Taggart Henderson, Kenton Miller, and **Garrison Gray** led the Crusaders for four years. During their tenure, they finished conference runner-up and won the Speedway Invite two times.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Coach Maegan Dickerson

The 2025 Scecina Memorial girls volleyball team, under first-year head coach **Maegan Dickerson**, finished 10-19 overall and 2-3 in conference play. Seniors **Makayla Gary** (Academic All-State Gold), **Sarah Causemaker**, and **Ruby Rittenhouse** (Academic All-State Silver) led the team, while junior **Olivia Anglemyer** earned All-City, All-Conference, and All-District honors, and freshman **Mykela Dickerson** made All-City. Despite the record, the team showed tremendous growth, and the JV and freshman squads displayed promising development for the future. ■



ATHLETICS

ERIC MONTGOMERY NAMED INDIANA LATINO YOUTH HONOR NOMINEE

Scecina Memorial High School senior **Eric Montgomery** has been named a nominee for the NFL's Latino Youth Honors program. This recognition celebrates



Eric Montgomery

outstanding young leaders in athletics, academics, and community involvement across the state. All 32 NFL teams are invited to select one male and one female high school senior football player to represent their team and state. Eric was chosen as the male student to represent the Indianapolis Colts in this year's program.

At Scecina, Eric is one of three captains on the Crusaders varsity football team, where he leads with energy, discipline, and faith. He is also a member of the track and field team and participates in the National Honor Society. Beyond athletics and academics, Eric serves as a Student Ambassador, welcoming prospective families and representing Scecina at events.

"I love to show up for our sports and school events," Eric said. "It's important to me to support our community and help make it bigger and better." ■

INDIVIDUAL HONORS

ALL-CITY

BOYS SOCCER

Dreik Marin-Ballesteros
Roman Romo

FOOTBALL

Gavin Connel
Bryce Mathis
Eric Montgomery
Brady Ray

VOLLEYBALL

Olivia Anglemyer
Mykela Dickerson

ALL-CONFERENCE

BOYS SOCCER

Miguel Ferrer Mir
Alejandro Calzada-Cano
Adrian Romo

CROSS COUNTRY

Bradley Hilbers
Sky Davis
Luci Tovar

FOOTBALL

Gavin Connel
Bryce Mathis
Eric Montgomery
Brady Ray

GIRLS SOCCER

Aviana Mount

VOLLEYBALL

Olivia Anglemyer

ALL-DISTRICT

BOYS SOCCER

Dreik Marin-Ballesteros
SECOND TEAM

VOLLEYBALL

Olivia Anglemyer

ACADEMIC

ALL-CONFERENCE

BOYS SOCCER

Benjamin Gaudreau
Benjamin Gonzalez-Esparza
Carter Hartman
Jacob Minton

BOYS TENNIS

Cole Gaudreau

CHEER

Sarah Bui

CROSS COUNTRY

Lucy Certo
Bradley Hilbers

FOOTBALL

Keaten Nolton Drake
Owen Weinzierl

GIRLS SOCCER

Mila Christopher
Lillian Linn
Dayana Lopez
Leslie Molina

VOLLEYBALL

Olivia Anglemyer
Makayla Gary
Ashley Orozco Montgomery

2024-25

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



As I write this message for the final time as chair of the Scecina Board of Directors, my heart is full of joy, gratitude, and hope.

Joy for the years that it has been my honor, privilege, and pleasure to serve in this capacity, and for the truly remarkable accomplishments we have experienced during this time.

Gratitude for the outstanding support that I have received from you, the Scecina Community, and most especially from my fellow Board Members and the school administration.

Hope for the promise of the even greater achievements that await us.

Recapping fiscal 2024-25, our graduating students achieved a record-setting \$5.1 million in scholarship offers, originating from 69 colleges and universities. Once again, we are sending an excellent group of Crusaders into the academic, workforce, and military service worlds.

Our student athletes achieved significant recognition, including All-Conference, All-City, and All-State honors. Eight of our students signed to play collegiate athletics in football, soccer, and cross country and track and field.

During the 2024-25 fiscal year, Scecina reached another significant milestone. As a result of the generosity of the Scecina Community, and the dedicated efforts of the Development team,

more than \$2.2 million was raised in support of our mission. Thank you so much for your support that allows the continuation and expansion of our tuition assistance programs, the enhancement of our educational opportunities, and our capability to attract and retain the very best faculty, administrators and staff.

As we say “goodbye and thank you” to our beloved retiring members, who have given so much of their time, talent, expertise, and financial support, I ask for your prayers and support for our new officers: **Dr. Sheila Gamache '79**, board chair; **Patsy Bates '76**, vice chair; and **Dr. William McNiece**, secretary. We also welcome new members **Brandon Folck '96** and **Cory McNulty '98** to the Board.

No Board message would be complete without recognizing the truly remarkable performance of President **Joe Therber** and the members of the Scecina faculty, administration and staff. Under Joe’s leadership, Scecina is financially strong and is adding substantially to the level of our endowments. With your support, dear Scecina family members, the school’s light will continue to shine brightly as the beacon of hope for our community.

As I bid my “last farewell,” I offer a heartfelt thank you! And I ask once more for your prayers and support for our wonderful school. I wish you and yours a healthy and enjoyable holiday season.

George T. Newhart '60
Chair

2024-25 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

George T. Newhart, Jr. '60, *Chair*

J. Barry Schneider,
Immediate Past Chair

Steve Hodgson '74, *Vice Chair*

Leon Waninger, *Treasurer*

Father Robert Gilday, *Secretary*

Patsy (O'Connor) Bates '76

Lara Beck

Dr. Sheila (Barton) Bosron '60

Kate Broshears '06

Col. Dan Bruno '77

Brandon Folck '96

Dr. Sheila (McNelis) Gamache '79

Marie McNelis

Dr. William (Bill) McNiece

Cory McNulty '96

Anne O'Connor

Nick Petrone

Rick Smith '69

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Father Rick Ginther,

Dean of Indianapolis East Deanery

Joseph Therber, *President*

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Christopher Felts '87

Tim Jeffers '83

Jim Joven '85

Phil Kenney

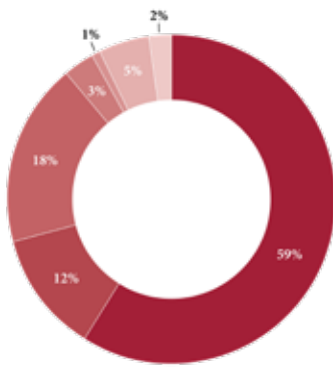
Phil Wilhelm '59 (*deceased*)

Lou Zimmerman (*deceased*)

2024-25 OPERATING REVENUE AND EXPENSES

2024-25 (Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025)

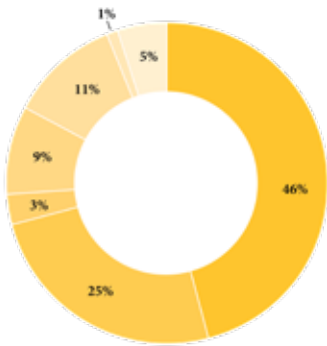
2024-25 OPERATING REVENUE



Category	Percentage	Amount
Tuition and Instructional Fees	59%	\$4,540,521
Parish and Archdiocesan Support	12%	\$894,823
Advancement Gifts, Grants & Special Events	18%	\$1,392,486
Athletics, Co-curriculars, & Other Activities	3%	\$233,081
School Improvement & Fund for Future Needs	1%	\$57,002
Cafeteria and Spirit Shop Sales	5%	\$364,950
Endowment Distributions	2%	\$145,592

TOTAL **\$7,628,455**

2024-25 OPERATING EXPENSES



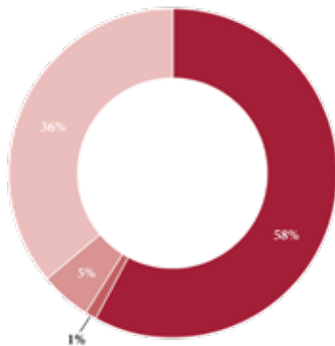
Category	Percentage	Amount
Instruction	46%	\$3,254,887
Administration	25%	\$1,758,640
Technology	3%	\$237,802
Athletics and Co-curriculars	9%	\$599,749
Facilities	11%	\$757,059
School Improvements	1%	\$57,002
Cafeteria & Spirit Shop	5%	\$332,930

TOTAL **\$6,998,069**

GROSS OPERATING SURPLUS FOR 2024-25	\$630,386
Allocated to Fund for Future Needs	\$220,603
Allocated to Deferred Maintenance	\$315,148
Allocated to School Improvements	\$91,393
NET OPERATING SURPLUS FOR 2024-25	\$3,242

ADVANCEMENT FUNDS RAISED

These figures represent annual support gifts pledged or received in the 2024-25 fiscal year through the school's advancement efforts, excluding Capital Campaign.



Category	Percentage	Amount
The Scecina Fund	58%	\$1,305,852
Memorial Gifts	1%	\$16,720
Other Restricted Purposes	5%	\$113,439
Endowment Contributions	36%	\$797,980

TOTAL **\$2,233,991**

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PROGRESS
TOTAL AS OF JUNE 30, 2025**

Capital Campaign donations pledged	\$7,610,421
Capital Campaign cash received	\$7,469,167

2024-25 ENDOWMENT ACTIVITY

Beginning balance 7/1/2024	\$3,412,122
Investment earnings	\$398,461
New endowments or additions to existing endowments	\$803,250
Distributions for intended ministry purposes at Sccecina	(\$145,592)
Ending balance 6/30/2025	\$4,468,242*

**Endowment numbers are shown to the nearest dollar.
Sccecina's endowments are managed by the Catholic Community Foundation of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.
For more information, please contact Beth Murphy, Director of Development, at bmurphy@sccecina.org or 317-352-3227.*

SCECINA ENDOWMENTS

(As of June 30, 2025)

Sccecina Memorial High School Endowment Fund	\$16,846	David S. and Mary Robinson ('61) Allen Endowment Fund	\$111,475
Joe McNelis Endowment Fund	\$28,493	Patricia "Trish" McMahon ('73) Sergi Endowment Fund	\$29,460
Father Thomas SMHS Godparent Program Endowment Fund	\$692,681	Class of 1966 Academic Excellence Scholarship Endowment Fund	\$16,167
Ray Riley Educational Endowment Fund	\$320,091	Philip J. Wilhelm Endowment Fund	\$183,273
John Edson Educational Endowment Fund	\$43,723	Eileen Hurrle Memorial Scholarship Fund	\$19,414
Timothy and Jane McGinley Family Endowment Fund	\$174,058	Catherine & Robert J. Dangler Scholarship Fund	\$50,287
SMHS Facilities Endowment Fund	\$521,316	Class of 1968 John Meyer & Jeffrey Young Memorial Scholarship Fund	\$34,951
Sister Hortense Endowment Fund	\$46,610	First Responders Tuition Assistance Endowment Fund	\$490,124
Joe Ajamie Donor Advised Endowment Fund	\$43,848	Father Tom Academic Excellence Endowment Fund	\$1,299,322
Class of 1959 Scholarship Fund	\$21,527	William Daley Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund	\$35,549
Fred and Patty Gause Endowment Fund	\$33,669	Patrick Nicholas Berg Kindness Scholarship Endowment Fund	\$20,206
Steve Farrell Endowment Fund	\$32,168		
Class of 1963 William F. Kuntz We Care Scholarship Endowment Fund	\$186,090		
Sr. Lavonne Long - Sisters of St. Francis Endowment Fund	\$16,893		

2024-25 HONOR ROLL OF DONORS: ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

2024-25 (Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025)

\$20,000+

Mary A. (Robinson) '61 and David S. Allen
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Sheila (McNelis) '79 Gamache and Robert Bates
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Hare Family Charitable Trust
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Judy (Spitzer) '63 and Bill Ripberger
James '68 and Vickie (Mayo) '68 Roe +
Roy Saunders '60
John '61 and Marilyn Schneider +
Daniel L. '62 and Diane P. Shimer

\$10,000-\$19,999

Anonymous
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Crum & Forster +
Gregg '61 (*Dec*) and Patareka Dwyer
Christopher P. '87 and Paje Felts
J. Kevin '77 and Lori K. (Watts) '77 Johnson +
Thomas J. Kirchner '60
Michael '81 and Angela (Greiner) '81 McNelis
Mark R. '69 and Jeanine T. Rattermann +
Richard J. '69 and Patricia A. (Nonte) '71 Smith +
Mark T. '78 and Susan Writt +

\$5,000-\$9,999

A-Pallet Co., Inc. +
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Paul H. Berg and Angela L. Everhart-Berg *
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Margaret and Ty Hays
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Thomas B. Huter '62 +
Kevin '70 and Linda Kane
Albert T. Kohout '89 +
Timothy J. '83 and Kristine A. Kolbus
Jeffrey J. '96 and Jennifer Lathrop +
Robert '61 and Ann (Steiner) '63 Melloh +
Paula E. and Ron Moore
Richard J. Moore '61 +
Jack V. '58 and Martha (Dinn) '58 Moriarty +
Kevin C. Murray '71 +
Peter Myren '09 *
Michael and Anne O'Connor +
J. Barry and Krista Schneider
Joseph P. '71 and Josephine A. Simon +
Thomas A. '60 and Judith A. Steiner +
Rosanne Taylor '65 and Ed Ripperger
George L. '66 and Sharon Walker

\$2,500-\$4,999

Anonymous (2)
Anonymous *
Dan '89 and Betsy (Catton) '89 Babcock +
Janis (Page) '69 and Gordon Becker +
Teresa J. Berg *
John J. '67 and Colleen (Cook) '67 Dangler

Kevin P. '65 and Beverly J. (Walke) '65 Farrell +
Gerald W. '60 and Melinda (Lynch) '61 Finn +
Rev. Robert J. Gilday
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Terry Fahey Memorial Golf Tournament

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Anonymous (2)
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Andrew Baase '61 +
Ann (Suesz) '64 and David Babcock
Joe & Carol Bates Foundation Fund
Diane (Collins) Beasley '58

* Denotes matching gift from employer. + Denotes a portion or all of donation made via the Indiana Tax Credit Scholarship Program.

Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy of the information in this report. We apologize for any error. If there are questions about your listing, please contact Gia Spaulding, Advancement Coordinator, at 317-352-3229, or gspaulding@scecina.org.

Michael E. '67 and Peggy (Branson) '65
Beltrame +
Michael A. '66 and Terri J. Berlier +
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Joan Burke +
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Hassfurder +
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Christina (Clingerman) '75 and Mark
Hemphill
Christopher Hess '00 and Dr. Jennifer
Walker '99
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Jenkins +
Patrick Jerrell +
Jockamo Upper Crust Pizza
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'72 Johnson
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Ronald F. Jones '57
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Bernadette Dufour Lathrop '64 +
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James Lathrop '63 +

Melvin J. '68 and Donna K. Lathrop +
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Adam '01 and Grace Layton
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Brown
Patricia Brown '68
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Ryan Costello '99
Thomas and Mary Martha Costello
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 McCoy Class Reps

2024-25 HONOR ROLL OF DONORS: ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

2024-25 (Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025)

Joe '69 and Stephanie McDonald
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Jim '68 and Jayne (Myers) '74 McGuinness
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Matt Newett '96
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★ Annual giving list reflects annual support pledges made during the fiscal year of Seccina Memorial High School, which was July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

ALUMNI NEWS

FULL CIRCLE: CASSIE (BYRD) ECHEGARAY '07 FINDS HER WAY HOME

In the spring of 2007, **Cassie (Byrd) Echegaray '07**, stood on the softball field as cheers erupted around her. The Scecina Crusaders had just won the state softball championship, a victory years in the making and one that captured everything she loved about her Eastside Catholic community.

“We worked so hard from the time we were freshmen to get there,” Echegaray said. “Winning State was magical. It showed us what dedication, teamwork, and faith could do.”

Echegaray attended Scecina from 2003 to 2007 and threw herself into student life, from school musicals and spirit weeks to Friday night football games. But her greatest passion was on the softball field. With guidance from the late longtime coach **Tom Moorman '66**, she developed the drive and discipline that would shape both her playing career and her life.

That drive led her to Trine University, formerly Tri-State University, where she played collegiate softball while earning a bachelor's degree in civil engineering. After several years of designing and building infrastructure projects, she realized she was being called to a different kind of foundation building.



Cassie (Byrd) Echegaray '07 with Little Flower students

While working full-time and expecting her first child, Echegaray enrolled in the Transition to Teaching program at Indiana Wesleyan University. She later completed her master's degree in school administration at Indiana Wesleyan and earned a certification in Catholic School Management from Villanova University.

Now in her 11th year at Little Flower, Echegaray has taught grades 2 through 5 and is in her second year as assistant principal.

“I realized more than ever that education was my vocation,” she said. “Every day, I get to live my faith, mentor kids, and be part of their story.”

Her dedication to Catholic education earned her recognition in January 2024, when she was named a finalist for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis' Saint Mother Theodora Guérin Excellence in

Education Award. The honor celebrates Catholic educators who exemplify leadership, faith, and service.

Returning to the Eastside is not just a career move for Echegaray; it is a calling. She believes her work is a continuation of Scecina's mission to form servant leaders grounded in faith, knowledge, and love.

“Scecina and Little Flower have always felt like home,” she said. “They shaped who I am and the values my family lives by. Being able to give back here is truly special.”

Each morning, as she walks the halls at Little Flower, she sees the same faith and enthusiasm that once inspired her at Scecina. It reminds her that full circles are not endings, but beginnings renewed in every student who believes, works hard, and leads with heart. ■

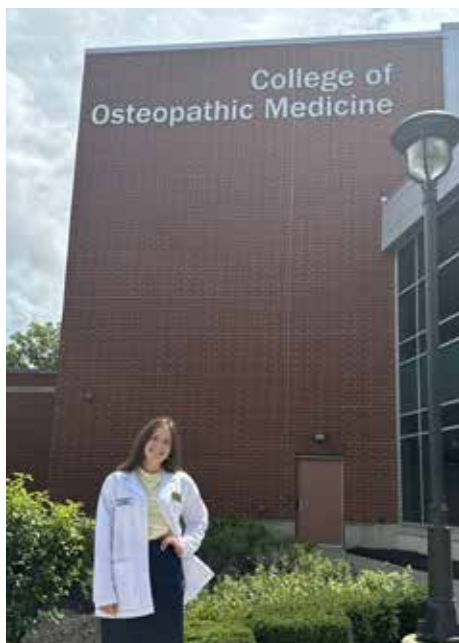
ALUM CARRIES THE SCECINA MISSION INTO MODERN MEDICINE

From the moment she stepped into Scecina Memorial as a freshman, **Christina Schroedle '19** embraced every opportunity to learn, lead, and grow. She came to Scecina from St. Simon the Apostle Catholic School, where her family are longtime parishioners, bringing with her a strong faith foundation and a readiness to be involved. At Scecina, she joined clubs, tried new sports, traveled abroad, and took on leadership roles that would prepare her for the rigors of college and the challenges of a career in medicine.

Those experiences, friendships, and values, she says, are the reason she is where she is today as a second-year student at Marian University's Tom and Julie Wood College of Osteopathic Medicine, pursuing her dream of becoming a physician.

This past summer, she worked at the Cleveland Clinic's Neurological Institute, where she collaborated with Dr. Devon Conway on research in neuroimmunology, focusing on multiple sclerosis. Her project studied the multiple sclerosis (MS) and ulcerative colitis drug Ozanimod, tracking how patients respond to the newly approved medication in real-world clinical settings.

Christina's path to medical school began after graduating from Scecina and enrolling at the University of Dayton, where she found a campus culture that, like



Christina Schroedle '19

Scecina, was rooted in community and service. She balanced lectures, labs, and long study sessions with shifts as an emergency medical technician (EMT), responding to calls and helping patients in need.

She graduated from the University of Dayton in 2023 with a degree in pre-medicine and minors in psychology, biology, and neuroscience. To deepen her clinical experience before starting medical school, she joined the Medical Observation and Scribe Training (MOST) Fellowship, a prestigious program hosted at the Cleveland Clinic in collaboration with Stanford University.

“During this year-long experience, I had the opportunity to lead and engage in various clinical

workshops and presentations, work as a medical scribe, and shadow a diverse group of physicians,” said Christina.

Christina's ability to thrive in those demanding environments began years earlier at Scecina. “Choosing to attend Scecina was one of the best decisions I have ever made,” she said. “The smaller class sizes let me get involved in so many activities, from student council to clubs and sports. I always felt seen, heard, and supported by both my peers and the faculty.”

Those early leadership opportunities were a steppingstone for many more to come. In college, she took executive roles in her sorority and led service events. As a medical student, she continues to pursue leadership opportunities through interest groups and community outreach.

“The foundation for all of that was built at Scecina, where I was encouraged, supported, and challenged to grow every step of the way,” she said.

Christina believes in staying connected to the school that gave her so much. “It is more than just a high school; it is a family,” she said. “Staying connected allows me to give back to the community that gave so much to me. It is important to celebrate each other's growth and support future generations of Crusaders.” ■

ALUMNI NEWS



(left to right): Principal Peg Dispenzieri, President Joe Therber, Golden Anniversary Team: Mark Shilling, Nick Boulse, Kevin McMahon, Larry Youngstafel, Bob Sego, Mark Youngstafel, Dr. John Ritter, Paul Heazeltine, Mike Blackwell, Athletic Director Jason Kehrer '88, and Head Coach Dan Harris.

HOMECOMING 2025

This year's homecoming on September 19 was a night full of Crusader pride!

Alumni and friends gathered for a great tailgate, we celebrated the Golden Anniversary 1975 football team (graduating seniors of Class of 1976), the Class of 2001's 25-year reunion, and the Crusaders brought home a 27-14 win over Covenant Christian. ■



Class of 2001 celebrated their 25-year reunion at halftime.

REUNIONS



The Class of 1975 50th reunion.



The Class of 1965 60th reunion.



The Class of 2005 20th reunion.

Class of 1976 - 50th Class Reunion

Save the date for September 26, 2026.

Mass in the new chapel and school tours at Scecina followed by the reunion at the Irvington Event Center, 6767 E. Washington St., Indianapolis. ■



ALUMNI APPRECIATION NIGHT



Join us for the varsity boys basketball game at Scecina against Purdue Polytechnic Englewood on **Friday, February 20, 2026**. Scecina alumni and their families will receive free admission (up to 4 tickets) and a free popcorn and beverage. Don't miss your chance to take a tour of the school and enter a raffle to win an exclusive signed Pascal Siakam Pacers jersey. Stay tuned for information on how to register for this special event.

DEVELOPMENT

YOU TOO CAN LEAVE A LASTING GIFT TO SCECINA

Tom Griffin '62

was a true and devoted friend to Scecina Memorial High School. He attended events and sports contests while he was able and spent hours volunteering for the Development department to input valuable information into the school's database.



When Tom died in August 2024, mourners wore the school colors to his funeral Mass at Little Flower Catholic Church to recall his love of his alma mater.

While we cherish Tom's memory, he also left behind a legacy that will live on with a significant bequest

to Scecina in his will. Thank you, Tom!

Designating a gift to Scecina in your will, as Tom did, is a meaningful way to support future generations of students and ensure that your values continue to make a difference long after your lifetime.

One of the first steps is to identify the programs, initiatives, or needs that matter most to you—whether that's scholarships for students, funding for arts or academic programs, campus improvements, or general support.

You can speak with our Development team to discuss your vision, Scecina's priorities, and how your legacy gift can have the greatest impact. We also can

provide suggested language and guidance to make the process straightforward.

Once you know what you want your gift to accomplish, you can work with an attorney or estate-planning professional to include the school in your will using the appropriate legal wording. This could take the form of a specific dollar amount, a percentage of your estate, or a residual gift that is distributed after other bequests are made.

It can also be helpful to notify the school of your plans, which allows us to express appreciation, recognize your commitment if you wish, and plan for how your gift will shape Scecina's future. ■

COMMUNITY SUPPORT POWERS TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES

Thanks to the generosity of alumni and friends, Scecina raised more than \$70,000 during last summer's effort to fund technology upgrades for the student media program and computers for freshmen.

The school has purchased a new sound booth, professional-grade audio mixers, and updated computers for the media lab, giving students access to industry-standard tools that elevate their



Ashley Mendez uses the new sound booth to record a voice over.

work in broadcasting, journalism, and digital production, said **Chad**

Tuley, Student Media teacher and Fine Arts Department chair.

Investments like these “open doors for students to explore their interests and pursue excellence with the right resources at their fingertips,” said Mr. Tuley.

The summer development effort also funded the purchase of new Chromebooks for every student in the freshman class. ■

IN MEMORIAM

ALUMNI DEATHS

David Felts '57
Judith (Market) Cosgrove '58
Wayne "Mike" Kolbus '58
Roselyn (Priller) Royce '58
Clarissa (Hurley) Wilkinson '58
Gerald Jenn '59
Richard Kramer '59
Frances (Sodeman) Lester '59
Robert Maloof '59
William Schnorr '59
Mary Lou (Withem) Ward '59
Gregg Dwyer '61
Diane (Hofmeister) Elzroth '61
Barbara (Kinney) Kleiber '61
Mary "Susie" (McCann) Dial '62
Joseph Kramer '62
Stephen "Steve" Murphy '62
Ronald Schmidt '63
Antonette (Burkart) Burks '64
Mary Ann (Mindrup) Grzelak '64
Michael Metzger, Sr. '64
Robert Michael O'Neil '64
Bill Thompson '65

Thomas P. Brown '66
Robert Burrows '67
Richard Eliot '67
Richard Hess '67
James "Mooney" Meunier '67
Shirley (Whitaker) Miles '67
Hubert Nally '67
John D. Popp '67
Robert H. Shoemaker, Jr. '67
Linda (Nonte) Bevan '68
Donald F. Andrews '69
Mary Lou (Feld) Moran '69
Terri (Andrews) Lawrence '72
Michael Underhill '72
Barbara (Fiddler) Lewis '73
Sandra Lyn Martin '74
Daniel "Danny" Smith '75
Robert Crick '76

Christopher Method '76
Matthew Arney '79
James "Jimmy" Murphy '79
Scott Dixon '80
Michele (Rubush) Coffin '86
Amy (Griffin) Giesler '92
Kyle LaPrees '98

FORMER FACULTY AND STAFF DEATHS

Sr. Teresa Marie Boersig

SCECINA COMMUNITY DEATHS

Kathleen (Kiesel) Lyons
Vincent J. Noe
Jeremiah "Jerry" O'Grady
Lou Zimmerman

In Memoriam reflect notices received on or before November 30, 2025.

To update your information (home or email address), submit a class note, or report an alumni death, please contact Gia Spaulding, Advancement Coordinator, at gspaulding@scecina.org, or submit information via the online form at www.scecina.org/alumni.

ACTIVE, INACTIVE, OR RETIRED MILITARY? WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

To the Scecina alumni and friends who are active, inactive, or retired members of the United States military services: We deeply appreciate your bravery and your spirit of service and sacrifice!

To properly thank and recognize you, we want to continually update our listing of Scecina alumni and friends who are active in or retired from each branch of the U.S. military services.



Scan the QR code to update your information or visit scecina.org/veterans.

GREGG DWYER '61

By George Newhart '60

On September 15, 2025, we lost one of our truly All-Time Greats. **Gregg Allen Dwyer '61** died after a long and courageous battle with Parkinson's disease.

From Gregg's modest early life to rising to the highest levels of corporate America, he was always

the same genuine, unassuming, and considerate person. Gregg was an inspiration and mentor to all he met.



Gregg and **Pat (Patareka)**, his college and lifetime sweetheart, raised a beautiful family. Even

with the demands of an extremely challenging career, family was a priority, and there could never be a better role model. He was a kind, supportive, patient, and intelligent man, a true example of what hard work, determination, sincerity, integrity, and doing the right thing at the right time can accomplish.

We will miss you, Counselor. ■

MIKE KOLBUS '58

Wayne "Mike" Kolbus '58, an original member of the Scecina Board of Governors, died



Mike '58 and Eleanor '60 Kolbus

July 12, 2025, at 85. He helped Scecina with fundraising and founded the school's Reverse Raffle, serving as chair for many years. He also was integral in the drive to replace the

school windows. Mike and his wife, **Eleanor '60**, were very active as parents in the Booster Club.

Mike and Eleanor are the parents of four Scecina alumni: **Mark '81**, **Tim '83**, **Jeff '84**, and **Carol '87**.

Scecina honored Mike as a Scecina Wall of Honor recipient twice, in 1996-97 and again with Eleanor in 1999-2000. He received the Clarissimus Amicus Award in 1990.

From the Catholic Youth Organization of Indianapolis, Mike received the St. John Bosco Award and the Monsignor Albert Busald Service Award

Mike was co-owner of Capitol Supplies for 25 years and later acquired A Taste of Indiana with Eleanor, celebrating the local products and spirit of the Hoosier state. ■

LOU ZIMMERMAN

Howard Louis "Lou" Zimmerman, 70, died on November 9, 2025. He began serving on the Scecina Board of Directors in 1997, was chair of the Board from 2003-2005, and then became an Honorary Life Member.

He was a member of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, where he also had served on the school commission.

He was a prolific and enthusiastic 50/50 salesman at Scecina events for years, giving back to the school that played a big part in the lives of his family members.



Lou and Sylvia Zimmerman

Lou and his wife, **Sylvia**, received the Clarissimus Amicus Award from Scecina in 2007.

Lou and Sylvia are the parents of four Scecina graduates: **Leslie Young '99**, **Abby Doster '01**, **Sarah Harris '05**, and **Hannah Okerson '09**. Leslie is Scecina's theater teacher and director. ■



**SCECINA
MEMORIAL
HIGH SCHOOL**

5000 NOWLAND AVENUE
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46201



@SeccinaMemorial



@SeccinaNow



@SeccinaNow

MAXIMIZE TAX BENEFITS BY DECEMBER 31

Indiana residents and businesses who donate through the Institute for Quality Education, our scholarship-granting organization (SGO), can receive a tax credit of 50% of their gift to help Seccina students with tuition aid.

- Donations to SGOs are eligible for a 50% state tax credit, reducing state income tax liability for the current year.
- Contributions are also eligible for a federal tax deduction, further maximizing your tax benefit.

Donate by December 31 for credit this tax year and help 372 Seccina students who qualify to receive this need-based aid.

In addition, Indiana residents and non-residents also can give to The Seccina Fund through cash, check, or credit card. If you are 70½ or older, consider making a qualified charitable deduction (QCD) from your IRA and avoid taxes on your distribution. ■

“Thanks to the scholarship program, I’m able to attend Seccina and be part of an incredible community. I love my teachers and playing soccer here, and I’ve had the chance to get involved in so many great clubs and activities. Thank you so much for making it possible!”

BENJAMIN GONZALEZ-ESPARZA, CLASS OF 2027



Scan the QR code
to give directly
through the SGO

