



**SMCS Board of Trustees  
President's Report  
February 17, 2016**

**Curriculum/Professional Development**

**Professional Development**

Shirley Paulson was invited to work with all teachers on “differentiated Instruction” during our professional development day on Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup>. Shirley’s background spans elementary education, secondary education, and post-secondary education as both a teacher and an administrator. Shirley was Green Bay Area Public Schools Supervisor for Gifted and Talented from 1999 until retiring in 2013.

Shirley met with the early childhood and elementary teachers in the morning and the middle and high school teachers in the afternoon. When teachers were not working with the presenter, they spent time in department/grade level meetings and working on their professional growth via the Effectiveness Project. Pupil services, fine arts, and early childhood groups had time to meet during the day.

**Effectiveness Project**

The teachers spent time on February 5<sup>th</sup> working in My Learning Plan (software for the Effectiveness Project). They have done their mid-year check on their SLO (student learning objective/outcome), finalizing student surveys, and working on their documentation logs.

**Instructional Material Needs**

Because of the high price attached to curriculum materials, we need to plan in advance for costs. Choosing updated materials requires time to research pedagogy, inventory current practices/materials, review instructional materials available, select new materials, gain approval from the diocese, provide training, and implement into our schools. Our current plan needs to be reviewed and updated.

**Enrollment**

Based on 2016-17 enrollment numbers (as of 2.9.16), next year’s transition grades show very high retention through SMCS:

- PK to Kindergarten = **74%** retention (61 total students enrolled for Kindergarten)
- 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade = **93%** retention (61 total students enrolled for 6<sup>th</sup> grade)
- 8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> grade = **82%** retention (52 total students enrolled for 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

**Staffing**

Liz Uhlenbrauck started as the Director of Admissions on 2.1.16. She has been busy training and meeting with principals internally, at our feeder schools and with parent groups.

We have recently added several subs to our substitute teacher list. We are currently sourcing substitutes for needs in Spanish and music.

Diana Stadler is working as a long term computer teacher sub for the middle school. We are evaluating our needs in this area for next year.

Katie Weber is returning as our director of summer day care and is currently working on securing teachers/aides.

Letters of intent went out February 11 and we are starting the process of preparing contracts.

### **Fine Arts**

Nine of the fifteen works of art by SMCS students that were on display at the Bergstrom-Mahler museum have been moved to the state capitol in Madison for display, February 27-March 11 for Youth Art Month.

The high school will welcome nearly 500 musicians from nine area schools on Saturday, February 27 when SMCS hosts the competition for the Wisconsin School Music Association (WSMA) District Solo & Ensemble Music Festival.

The middle school musical, *Bye, Bye Birdie*, directed by Kathleen McCurdy, finished strong to large audiences. This year the high school students had an opportunity to help manage the middle school production and set creation. All of the sound and lighting was managed by middle school students.

Some of the band and choir student are going to Chicago this Saturday to attend *Beautiful* and to take in other cultural activities.

Fruit sale orders have been submitted; this was promoted to all SMCS families this year.

### **Business Services: Technology-Finance-Food Service**

#### **Technology Update**

- Developing Student Responsibility Strategies for one-to-one laptop program at middle school and high school as situations arise
- Tech team and business office working together to define support needs for school fund-raisers related to internet access, credit card processing, on-line registrations and night-of-event software
- ERATE renewal beginning: Bill Schulze and Gary Elmer taking the lead
- Challenges
  - E550 equipment purchased last year (75) has a USB flaw causing minor, but irritating problems. Lenovo very responsive and is at the point of replacing all affected units with new model.
  - Sign-on continues to be slow; researching group policies and security roll-out paths; cautious progress being made as decisions and actions are complicated and risky.
- Pat Hickey reviewed Technology Plan with stakeholders: principals, librarian, technology educators; prepared preliminary results for review by President and Technology Team

## **Business Services Update**

- Compliance, Compliance, Compliance
  - School Choice
    - Registration open - many new “rules” from legislative revisions still not clearly defined resulting in re-work by both business staff and parents.
    - Enrollment audit date moved from September 1 to May 1
  - Affordable Health Care Act –
    - Worked with payroll processor (Schenck) to meet new requirements for reporting health care costs and coverage
    - Work nearly completed for March deadline
  - Great Plains
    - Met with new CLA auditors and Great Plains consultant to discuss transition to new accounts, time line for activities, roles and responsibilities
    - Met with payroll processors (Schenck) to transition new accounts and refine report downloads; work in process pending Schenck’s transition to new software.
    - Working on policies and procedures for identifying endowed scholarship revenue on Operational Income Statement separate from interest income on balance sheet.

## **Other**

**State of Our Schools** - Will take place in the multipurpose room at St. Mary Catholic Middle School on **Tuesday, February 23 at 6:30 p.m.** and **Monday, February 29 at 4:00 p.m.** The format this year will be a more informal setting with refreshments and a relaxed seating arrangements.

**The SMCS Newsletter** - The new semi-annual newsletter is now available online. It is full of pertinent and interesting information about our schools. Please encourage people to go online to [smcatholicsschools.org](http://smcatholicsschools.org) and click on the SMCS Newsletter Box to read or download it.