



SMCS Board of Trustees Meeting Wednesday, February 15, 2017 - 6:30 pm

Present: Dan Engelhard, Nancy Braatz, Lori Vegso, Pam Seidl, Pat Breen, Gary Elmer, Kathleen Healy Osland, Dustin McClone, Chris Hartrich, Kristen Bergstrom and Mary Krueger.

Absent/Excused: Fr. Ingold, Fr. Paider, Fr. Seidl, Helen Englebert and Paul Seveska

Guest: Jeanne Lee

Opening Prayer: Ms. Braatz began the meeting at 6:34 pm and led the opening prayer.

There were no guests for open forum.

Mr. Braatz called attention to the meeting minutes from the February 18, 2017 meeting. No corrections were made. Motion by Mr. McClone to approve the minutes. Second by Mr. Elmer. Motion passed.

Ms. Braatz called attention to the meeting agenda. No changes were proposed.

Strategic Plan Initiatives Update:

Catholic Identity: Ms. Braatz provided the report. The committee met and is continuing to work on the connection between the parishes and the schools. The committee sees a service opportunity that could be provided by the schools to the parishes. More to come on this topic.

Recruitment/Retention: Ms. Seidl provided the report. A dashboard was provided to the Board members which highlighted the current numbers in the transition grades of Kindergarten to first grade, fifth to sixth grade and eighth to ninth grade. A discussion was held regarding how the system tracks retention. A question was raised as to why preschool to 4K is not tracked. A question was asked regarding what targeting marketing effort is made once these numbers are known. The Board requested Ms. Seidl procure a copy of the marketing plan to that would cover the recruitment and retention efforts. Some questions about the plan included the age of the plan, whether it is measurable and what is driving the marketing plan. Ms. Braatz indicated she would speak with Ms. Englebert and ask her to address these issues at the next meeting.

Academic Excellence: Ms. Bergstrom delivered the report. The committee is scheduled to complete deep dives into curriculum at each grade level. They are considering changes as to how curriculum is developed. The principals have agreed to vertically and horizontally align the curriculum. Ms. Healy Osland is going to present to the teachers at the meeting on February 18th.

Student Experience: Ms. Vegso provided the report. Ms. Vegso is going to work with Ms. Seidl to combine the efforts of this committee with the Recruitment and Retention Committee.

Financial Model: Mr. Engelhard provided the report. Ms. Englebert will provide an update on the Miller gift at the March meeting. Mr. Breen is going to lead the Request for Proposals process for investment advisors. Mr. Engelhard solicited information prior to the meeting from board members regarding questions or concerns that they may have about the foundation. He will provide information to the board members prior to the March meeting to attempt to address those concerns. Mr. Engelhard noted that he is aware the development of a

foundation is an option, but not the only solution. The team plans to offer substantive information only about the foundation approach, versus in depth information about a menu of options. A request was made by the finance committee that it be brought to the finance committee prior to bringing it to the board for a vote. The board would then have the opportunity to review the thoughts of the members of the finance committee.

President's Report: Ms. Englebert was not present, but provided a written report. Items covered included:

Curriculum and Professional Development: The February 16th professional development day focus was on mental health. Speakers from NAMI (National Association of Mental Illness) will present on mental illness, treatment, stigma and recovery. The purpose of the presentation is to allow teachers the deal with students struggling with mental health issues. Materials for literacy are being ordered for early childhood through grade 6.

Aquinas Gifted and Talented Program: Principals Eleanor Healy and Jill Ahles continue with their visits to schools to look at their gifted and talented curriculum.

Enrollment: The dashboard for recruitment and retention was provided.

Staffing: We are currently hiring for a gifted and talented teacher/program coordinator, a business teacher, mental health counselor and administrative assistant at St. Gabriel. Second semester changes were made to include the reading specialist at the middle school.

Fine Arts: The annual fruit sale is underway. Tryouts for *Godspell* occurred at the middle school.

Business Services: Development of a policy and procedure manual will be the focus of the finance committee meetings.

Fund Development: Year to date, the annual fund has raised \$126,516.

Executive Committee Report: Minutes were provided the report. The Executive Committee discussed the use of the Miller gift and the Aquinas Program scheduled to begin at St. Mary elementary next school year.

Athletics: Mr. Breen provided the report. The committees in currently reviewing the compensation to coaches at the High School level. The pay by our system is on the lower level. Comparisons were provided to the board regarding St. Mary's Springs, Xavier and Lourdes. This pay is made by the system, not the Booster Club. The gate income goes to the schools to pay the salaries.

Building/Grounds: Ms. Vegso provided the report. There was no meeting since the January board meeting. The committee plans to continue on the 5 year budget/maintenance plan.

Catholic Identity: Ms. Braatz indicated the there is no report this month.

Finance: Mr. Elmer provided the report. The line of credit has been rested. The finance committee looked at cash flow. We are currently incurring expenses for Zephyrfest, but have not realized revenue yet. We are expecting two more payments from the state, which will assist with cash flow prior to April 8th. The finance committee requested that Ms. Englebert have the ability to invest the Miller funds in some fashion. Mr. Elmer moved to allow Ms. Englebert to find a short term, low risk investment option for the Miller funds that would exceed the current rate of return, if applicable. Second by Ms. Healy Osland. Motion passes. Ms. Lee noted that SCRIP is down and it will have an impact on the budget if not corrected.

Fund Development: Mr. McClone presented the report. A Phone-a-thon is planned for February 23rd from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. There are 355 people on the list to call and a match established for funds up to \$20,000. A mailing is going out. The numbers for Wines Around the World are not yet final, but early indications are that the gross

amount raised exceeds \$70,000. March 4th is the Winter Escape fundraiser for St. Mary Elementary. Zephyrfest is April 8th. The old “Jumbo Gumbo” will be re-named “Z-Night.” Plans are in the works to finance the tennis court resurfacing later this year. Seven board members have not yet given to the Annual Fund. The goal is 100% participation.

Governance: Ms. Seidl provided the report. There are plans to make various media appeals to alumni to serve on the board. Next step is to get the message for board service out to the bulletins and other places where we have traditionally solicited Board members. The committee will follow up with people who were interviewed, but not selected, from last year.

Marketing/Advancement: Ms. Seidl provided the report. The committee discussed ways that the SCRIP program could be supported and how to support recruitment efforts.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Motion for Executive Session by Ms. Seidl. Second by Ms. Healy Osland at 8:44. Executive Session ended at 9:09.

Adjournment: Ms. Braatz adjourned the meeting at 9:09 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Hartrich. Second by Mr. Breen. Motion passed.

Next Meeting: March 15, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Healy Osland