

# **SMCS Board of Trustees' Meeting**

Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - 6:30 p.m.

**Present,** Kristen Bergstrom, Nancy Braatz, Pat Breen, Dan Engelhard, Helen Englebert, Kathleen Healy-Osland, Terry Jack, Phil Kerwin, Mary Krueger, Kim Massey, Dustin McClone, Steve Pable, Fr. Paul Paider, Brian Rosiejka, Fr. Larry Seidl, Paul Seveska, Ron Steffens and Lori Vegso.

Jeanne Lee, Natalie Ripley, Christine Cedergren, Susan Marti, Jay Marti, Lori Lynch, Mona Sherwood, Kim Berg, Katherine Ford, Evelyn Zimmerman, Sarah-Beth Jensen, Gretchen Dimmer, Robert Mittlestedt, Chris Schoeni, Kaylyn Brenn, Cindi Auth, Ameer Pable, Ryan Ripley, Pam Hillnagel, Kathy Weiss, Naomi Benz, Barb Unruh, Ted Moore, Lisa Moore, Annette Schultz, Quiana Betchner, Keegan Weiss.

**Absent/Excused:** Fr. Dennis Bergsbaken

Meeting Began at 6:30 p.m.

**Opening Prayer:** Ms. Healy-Osland led the group in opening prayer.

**Open Forum:** Natalie Ripley made a presentation to the Board. Many of the guests in attendance were here to support Ms. Ripley's presentation. Ms. Ripley's presentation focused on opportunities to increase the expression of Catholic Identity at St. Mary Catholic School System, particularly the high school. A copy of Ms. Ripley's presentation was distributed to all members of the Board after the meeting. The Board was unable to take up discussion of the presentation at this meeting.

After the presentation all non-Board members other than Jeanne Lee left.

**Consent Agenda:** Consent Agenda items included: Board of Trustee December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Meeting Minutes, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Executive Committee Minutes. Motion to approve by Mr. Seveska. Second by Mr. McClone. Motion passed unanimously.

**President's Report:**

Ms. Englebert presented her written report to the Board.

**Committee Dashboard:**

Ms. Vegso discussed how the Board will use the Strategic Task Force and BOT Committee Dashboard as the main tool for updates. Progress against goals will be shown in the documents. Each task force and committee may supplement with a report where necessary.

**Task Force/Committee Updates:**

**- Marketing/Recruitment Task Force-**

From a marketing plan perspective, a draft plan was presented to the SMCS leadership team and input was received. The input was appreciated and will be incorporated. On track for March goal date.

**- Finance Task Force -**

No updates

**– Academic Excellence Task Force -**

Still on track. May have to move one goal date back.

**– Community and Continuity Task Force - .**

Meetings occurring in the five focus areas. Goal is visibility and accountability. We are early in the process. Ms. Vegso is more than willing to take input and make changes to the dashboard.

**Committee Updates**

Another discussion about using the dashboard for goal updates. Changes in goals and deadlines are particularly important to communicate. Updates to the dashboard need to be communicated to Ms. Vegso one week before the Board meeting.

**Athletic Committee:**

**Finance Committee:** Main discussion here. Draft of proposed budgets and preliminary financial statements gone through in detail. Discussion about what the Board would like to include in the budget versus for what there are funds. The goal is a finalized version in February. The Finance Committee itself has not voted on a budget yet. Goal of raising teacher's salaries to target. Currently we are striving to get to 75% of public school wage. Long term goals would be at least 80%. Discussion about how we find the money to do this and other high priority items. Reference made to Ms. Ripley's presentation and the need to look into finding funds for a campus minister. The System needs to look into funding these items both short and long term. Is a Teacher Salary endowment fund a possibility? This would run through the Foundation. 5% distribution each year.

Brief discussion about the need for marketing. Patti Purcell was mentioned as a resource person as she has just done some marketing work for Lourdes system in Oshkosh. As part of the look at marketing, there is a need to audit efficacy of current marketing efforts.

Discussion of what positions we would have on our wish list. Campus Ministry, Marketing. The issue is finding long-term funding for these positions.

It was mentioned that at Regis High School in Eau Claire, there is a Catholic school system with a religious component to its booster club. They fundraise for providing opportunities for ministry trips and other things. Father Larry supported looking into the viability of this idea for SMCS. Ms. Krueger suggested looking at St. Norbert graduates for potential Campus Ministers. Is there opportunity with youth ministers at the parishes?

Ms. Healy-Osland stated that we cannot shy away from looking at how we can competitively deliver catholic education. Can we afford 3 elementary schools? We have 3 schools drawing from the same geographic area. If we consolidated, the money would free up for marketing and campus ministry. The Board must be willing to look at all options.

**Building and Grounds:**

**Fund Development:**

**Marketing:.**

**Governance:**

**Technology:**

**Catholic Identity:** They are collecting information. So far 2 of 5 campuses have answered. Second request made.

**Old Business:**

Foundation active. Board has met monthly after initially planning quarterly. 1<sup>st</sup> item includes looking at present funds to see if they can and should be transferred to the Foundation. One concern to avoid is transferring money in a manner that would incur an additional audit. This information would be needed before the Board votes on the matter. Dale Glen and Keith Depies will be consulted

2<sup>nd</sup> item was a follow up on a question asked at the last BOT meeting if it would be easier to start with the Miller funds in the Foundation. Ms. Englebert would talk with family to move Miller funds to foundation. Timing may move to next fiscal year to not trigger an additional audit.

3<sup>rd</sup> item would be the gift acceptance policy. Brian Valentine has a draft and several examples and he is merging them to create one for the Foundation. SMCS System would be welcome to use it when completed. It will be the one used by the Foundation.

Brief discussion about the need to let people know about the Foundation.

Revised Proposed 2019-2020 SMCS System Calendar. No one noticed that version approved last meeting had the wrong day for Thanksgiving. Motion to approve by Mr. Seveska. Second by Ms. Bergstrom. Motion passed unanimously.

**New Business:**

Need to address what came up in open forum at next meeting. Ms. Bergstrom suggested adding Catholic Identity to Community and Continuity. Need a school contact person. It was noted that the high school currently has mass every other Wednesday and the first Friday of the month.

**Motion to adjourn:** Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Engelhard. Seconded by Ms. Bergstrom. Motion approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned 9:15 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Phillip Kerwin