

SMCS Board of Trustees – Meeting Minutes

Meeting held January 19, 2022

Mission: Preparing and inspiring students to lead meaningful lives, rooted in the teachings of Christ, in our Catholic tradition.

Attendance:

Present: Daniel McKenna, Phil Kerwin, William Bittner, Leila Mousai, Lori Vegso, Terry Jack, Ron Schreier, Paul Seveska, Ron Steffen, Fr Bob Kollath, Fr. Jude Egbuna, Bryan Rosiejka

Missing: Fr. Dennis Bergsbaken, Fr Michael Lightner, Dr David DeWitt, Steve Pable

Guests: Jaimie Frink, Kristin Bergstrom

BOT MEETING START TIME: 6:33 PM

Opening Prayer: Phil Kerwin

MOTION:

Ron Steffen moved to allow the January meeting of the SMCS Board of Trustees to be conducted both in person and via video conference and teleconference, notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary contained in the Constitution or any By-Laws.

- Second by Ron Schreier
- Call to vote – unanimous
- Motion carried

OPEN FORUM

No one here for open forum

CONSENT RESOLUTION

- December meeting minutes motioned
- Motion Phil Kerwin
- Second by Ron Schreier
- Call to vote – unanimous
- Motion carried

FINANCE COMMITTEE

- Parish subsidy is declining 9.7% on our own planning reflected in annual budget.
- Pre K eligibility from Parental Choice program added 15 more students.
 - Leads into discussion on tuition.
 - Requesting tuition increase of approximately 5% .
 - Xavier increase is on the sheet and we are slightly (4% and 6% (high school) increase at Xavier) for same reasons as us.
 - Looking for approval tonight.

Q&A –

- Bryan Rosiejka agrees and thinks it could be higher.
 - Jamie Frink responded Daniel McKenna doesn't think we can make this up in a year and keep the 5%.
- Ron Schreier appreciates the work done to model this.
- Fr Bob Kollath wanted to know about parish contribution, it is being lowered.
- About \$38,000 more funds with an additional 1% tuition increase.
- Cannot reach the medical benefits that are offered in the public school, so trying to increase other benefits. No specific benefit changes being voted on.

Motion made to approve 5% tuition increase. Motion made by Ron Schreier

Second by Leila Mousai

Call to vote – unanimous

Motion carried

- Value of Miller grant is still at \$4.75 million due to good stock market.
 - Been using approximately \$300,000 to \$400,000 yearly.
 - Should we draw more?
 - Terry did some Monte Carlo simulations that show we could draw another \$100,000 and not run out of Miller grant money in 10 years.
 - Proposing to take another \$100,000 out yearly
- Planning on an additional 30 students (15 normal 15 choice) does not balance budget.
 - Employees that have students here are eligible for a discount (30%) grows by 1% per year of service for school staff.
 - Approximately 25 employees benefit and would like to change to 50% and 60% for long term employees.
 - May recruit new teachers.
 - Unfunded line item for this benefit. For all eligible students, use the Miller fund to subsidize.
- Proposing new position of director of student activities.
 - Summer camp exceeded limits and be run by new position.
 - Developed into a day care program but trying to get it back to its roots and add more value.
 - Leila Mousai excited about the change.
 - She was sold on the enrichment program and glad more time is being spent on it.
 - Position will be reference for sporting events and coaching.
 - This person would also coordinate as well.
 - Help find kids across all campuses.
- Dan mentioned we are trying to get an increase in student experience.
 - Just hired a new marketing/communications position.
 - Had a virtual Spanish teacher, now hired a teacher at the school.
 - Filled a math teacher position.

- Middle school is understaffed, targeting math positions as a maximum benefit hiring.
- No Chinese being offered.
- Director of student services added for accelerated and needs help students.
- Gifted student program being removed and going back to the classroom with help from director of student services.
- Added middle school German teacher.
- Restructured principal program.
 - Task force tasked with improving recommend restructuring admin in elementary schools.

Bill final comment on salaries, trying to increase salaries and benefits.

- Paul S thanks all that developed this year's budget
 - Another deficit budget does not agree with goals of BOT.
 - Need to keep realistic wants since people are the major factor in the costs of a business.
 - What fund access are we getting, shortfall getting covered by profits left over from PPP funds.
 - \$970,000 received used to offset last years budget and some of this year's budget.
 - Should still have some funds left over after this year (approx. \$500,000 available) to go thru 23/24 maybe 24/25.
 - Asked about getting mileage out of Miller fund.
 - Should be letting students know about the fund and how they should appreciate it.
 - Phasing spending and having money available before hiring employees, so we do not hurt ourselves financially.
 - Want to promote school as best we can to show our quality as we work to get donations to continue higher level education.

Voting on budget

Ron Schreier moved to accept the budget proposed by the Finance Committee.

Terry Jack second

2 abstains - Approved

- Talking about 5-year plan, no voting or discussion.
 - Need to fund 10 million in the next five years to cover known additional costs and revenue decreases.
 - Giving BOT the sticker shock, so we can develop a plan to cover, since we will likely not fund these thru contributions.
 - Thanks to all in finance committee for all the work they have done.
- Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS) program, is \$529,000 this year for I-pads and curriculum to elevate school funds.
- Jamie applied again and will be getting more this year, an update to be provided in February about \$580,000 for this year. EANS money.

Dan superintendent report

Feb to vote

- Bishop will say Mass on October 25 at St Gabriel's
- Meeting with Pastors to discuss position to get someone to coordinate faith adult ministry.
 - SMC to provide office /computer for Eric Rudd and new person to work together.
 - Dan to work with parish BOT to implement.
 - Not final but working toward.
- Martha B to work with system to draw in Spanish students.
- Getting Rosemary Shipek bequest of \$640,000.
 - Need to approve use of bequest.
 - Will vote on use next month.
- Using opt out option rather than opt in for school registration
 - Rather hear about opt outers instead of tracking down folks that will stay but forgot to opt in.
 - But opt out for Miller fund. Must reenroll.
- Enrollment up a little, at about 945
- Covid still here.

School 2022/23 Calendar

- Calendar for 22/23 year is complete

Bryan Rosiejka moved to accept proposed Calendar

Ron Schreier second

Approved.

Committee reports

- No comments/questions

Old business

- No volunteer proposal ready yet

New business

- Board of Directors meeting – on March 10 at 2pm
- Governance Committee has been meeting more regularly with a full agenda.
- Annual review of Superintendent by Board coming up and self evaluation.
- Timing of meeting and review are not aligned.
- Best time may be at the end of the school year.
- Forgo producing an evaluation of Superintendent and BOT the end of the end of the school year.
- Lori added recommended providing a progress report to align with yearly goals.
- Fr Bob wanted to know if this is ok with Bishop.
- BOT should reach out to Bishop thru Todd to verify it is OK.

- Hard to provide an evaluation of Dan since he hasn't been her for a year.
- Size of board, where to go from here.
- Need to recruit some new ones.
- 19 too large currently at 15 includes four parish leaders, but not always here.
- Current level we should keep the same, keeping a variety of backgrounds of the members.
- Cap at 15 and 4 for parish priests.

No vote, in bylaws

- Top heavy from SMM looking for trustees from other parishes.
 - Also need more women members.
- Phase 3 of exec committee next year.
- Lori stated we need a succession plan for exec and bot.
- Need new chair and vice chair for exec committee.
- Try to get potential board members on committees now and BOT later.

Governance committee.

- Three year are asked to serve can do twice for a total of six.
 - By the time you get up to speed it is time to leave, resulting in a lot of turnover.
 - Our 6 year limit is short, but may need to extend to keep others on board.
 - Extend Paul's and Lori's membership one more year and potentially extend depending on how the membership goes.
 - Paul would like to extend one year.
- Dan noted Austin had the same board setup, they would have members stay on a committee.
 - Only need to be off one year to start over, work on a committee and come back.
 - Move to close in February.
 - Kristin noted there was different perspective and a way to recharge and be just a parent and stayed on a committee.

Closing blessing

Phil Kerwin

Move to close meeting by Ron Schreier

Second by Fr Bob Kollath

Approved.

Move to executive session

Ron Schreier motion to move out of executive session

Second by Fr Bob Kollath

Approved.

Terry Jack motioned to move out of BOT meeting

Bryan Rosiejka second

Approved.