

SMCS Board of Trustees – Meeting Minutes

Meeting held October 18, 2023

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

Attendance:

Present: Leila Mousai, Daniel McKenna, Ron Steffen, Kristen Bergstrom, Meghan Healy, Bryan Rosiejka, Paul Seveska (via phone), Dr David DeWitt, William Bittner (via phone) Ron Schreier, Ron Steffen, Troy Noel, Rev. Judah Pigon

Missing: Father Mike Lightner, Fr. Nonito Barra

Guests: Patrick Batey, Dave Dietrich Clifton Larson, Alyssa Ertl, Jill Ahles

BOT MEETING START TIME: 6:02 PM

Opening Prayer: Kristen Bergstrom

AUDIT REPORT

- Clifton Larson and Alyssa Ertl presented the Financial Audit Report
 - Additional financial loss over last year, not a concern as long as it does not continue to get worse
 - Need to continue to monitor
- Audit concluded at 6:47

MOTION:

CONSENT RESOLUTION

- Ron Steffen moved to accept the May BOT and September/October Executive committee meeting minutes as amended. Ron to send out September BOT minutes after gathering information from BOT members
- Second by Ron Schreier
- Call to vote – unanimous
- Motion carried

OPEN FORUM

- No open forum

MIDDLE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP WORK

- From Jill Ahles middle school principal
 - Been at the middle school for 6 years
 - Need students to be leaders
 - Need to teach them to be leaders
 - Infusing leadership

- Feeling in the middle school that the changes are positive and affective
- Presenting the CharacterStrong program
 - CharacterStrong provides research-based Pre-K through 12th grade social & emotional learning curricula and professional learning services that positively impact lives.
 - Lead by:
 - Mr. Brown; retired principal
 - Mr. Bogey; younger math teacher
 - Right two people to lead this
 - There is a donor for this program
 - Sponsorship initial investment covered, maintenance fee to be covered by the school
 - Work with students for 30 days for social/emotional lessons
 - Three prongs
 - Improve Engagement
 - Increase Belonging
 - Promote Well Being
 - Requires a culture shift
 - Requires 7 graders to take a leadership class
 - Building leadership
 - Community leadership with 8th graders
 - Morning leadership group
 - Charity before the day starts
 - 30 – 40 students at 7 am
 - Local leaders come in and present
 - 6th, 7th and 8th graders are invited
 - Usually, full
 - Officers selected and apply what they learn
 - 11 officers in the group of 7th and 8th graders
 - Appears to be more courtesies throughout the whole middle school
 - Noted by one person that the middle school is kinder

ADVANCEMENT UPDATE

- Momentum campaign
 - Wave of energy and positivity
 - Memo in packet
 - What is next?
 - In solicitation phase
 - 12-to-16-month phase of solicitation
 - Well received
 - More coming next week
 - A lot of behind-the-scenes work
 - Hoping for a lot of success
 - NO asks during the presentation

- Diocesan committee met with Dan and Kristen
- Questions about the 20-million-dollar goal
 - Noted benchmarks
 - Voted and passed
 - Going to finance council for a final vote
 - It was noted that SMC should have gotten approval prior to starting campaign
- Do not let the campaign interfere with other campaigns (like One)
 - No more additional campaigns
- Need a message to parents about what fundraiser does what
- All Aboard; November 11th
 - Met on Sunday
 - Behind on sponsors
 - Christmas theme
 - Some games
 - Hors d'oeuvres
 - Do a veterans note

NEW/OLD LUNCH PROGRAM UPDATE

- Chartwell is out of the lunch program
 - Lunch program was not great before
 - Tracy L has taken over and working well
 - Much better than before
 - Food is better per the students
 - Tracy settling in and starting to get comfortable

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Mike Picard started this week, Mike will be teaching as well
- Two teaching positions open, one with special needs
- Would like to have a day of reflection with seniors
 - Day of daily adult responsibility training
 - Checking
 - Banking
 - Going to Church
- Father Mark still here
- Spirt day tomorrow
- Hoping for good attendance
- Kelly going over test reports next month (Star tests/Forward tests)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Got all conflict-of-interest reports turned in
- Charters updated and will be reviewed and voted on next month
- Mary Krueger resigning the board

- Dan and Kristen to talk about her committee replacement
- Bryan noted we still have enough members, no replacement is needed until the following year

UPDATED METRICS ON STRATEGIC PLAN

- Update on modified budget ending Sept 30th
- Headline we are tracking toward the modified budget
- School choice increase was a big help
 - Huge gift to bridge gap
 - As long as we hit budget, we will be good
- Targeting faculty 80 percent wages and benefits
 - Currently underbudget for wages
 - We budgeted on wages to bridge gap between public and private schools
 - We try to reflect budgets that includes turnover and increase in replacement positions
 - Need to review and adjust budget better
 - Do we need to account for a travel budget?
- Only one student down from modified budget
- Finance committee met in October and will look at a 5-year plan to bridge budget deficits
- Try to hit milestones for Momentum, this is a must do
- Approximately \$309,000 from Shippeck estate, closed out now
 - Approximately \$75,000 added to the foundation

OLD BUSINESS

- No old business to discuss

New Business

- Difficulty getting international students
 - Very common in the Fox Valley
 - Sue used to run but not likely why is it short
 - Kelly taking over and ramping up
 - Kelly getting a better feel for how to manage the program (hitting revenue)
 - Kelly has some mentors to assist in setting up program (Leila has a contact)
- Was there a survey on vacation during Thanksgiving?
 - Many schools take the week off
 - Can have parent/teacher conferences
 - Dan to bring in draft
 - Meghan brought up
 - Staff has a lot of input
- Becky Walker new superintendent of school
 - Would like to provide multi-year contracts for faculty
 - Likely changing next year
 - No gage on the years

Closing Prayer – Kristen Bergstrom

MOTION

- Ron Schreier moved to end the BOT meeting
- Second by Meghan Healy
- Call to vote – unanimous
- Motion carried

Meeting ended at 7:52 PM