

## SMCS Board of Trustees – Meeting Minutes

Meeting held November 15, 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, Dr. David DeWitt, Paul Seveska (via phone), William Bittner, Troy Noel, Ron Schreier, Patti Purcell

Missing: Father Bob Kollath, Father Mike Lightner, Father Nonito Barra, Father Judah Pigon

Guests: Kelly Beisenstein-Weiss

BOT MEETING START TIME: 6:32 PM

Opening Prayer: Kristen Bergstrom

MOTION:

CONSENT RESOLUTION

- Ron Steffen moved to accept the Minutes of September BOT Meeting, Minutes of October BOT meeting and the Minutes of November BOT Executive Committee Meeting
- Second by Bryan Rosiejka
- Call to vote – unanimous
- Motion carried

OPEN FORUM

- No open forum

PRESENTATION OF SCHOOL TESTING RESULTS

- From Kelly
  - Wisconsin education standards recently updated, SMCS was updated as well
    - Renaissance Star is new testing method per Diocese for the elementary school system
    - Wisconsin forward exam was given to choice students
  - ACT given to junior high school students
  - AP testing in the spring
  - Difference with ACT is there must be a writing sample, only required by the state and not given to the colleges
    - 75% option out of the ACT
  - Renaissance Star
    - Test difficulty based on how the student answers
    - Kelly shared test result data
    - This year is a data collection year and used as a baseline for the Diocese
  - Ron wanted to know if there is a comparison to use.

- Renaissance Star is not used for most schools in the area, so there is some difficulty in comparing
- Only use for Catholic schools in the Diocese
- Shorter test can cause more error
- Committed to use Renaissance Star for the next 3 years
- Difficult to cross compare to other test methods
- Some disparity between results compared to testing done last year
- Kelly working on getting additional information on how to best present the gathered information
- Some useful data is being gathered for the teachers
  - Too confusing to share with parents at this point
- Kelly starting to plot the data (only one point right now)
- May have an open forum to explain the Renaissance Star testing method to parents
- Would like to see testing and results earlier
- Wisconsin Forward
  - Very comparable results
    - No gains or falls
  - Percentage gets thrown off due to small class size
  - Using data to find gaps in learning to update teachers
  - Wisconsin Forward will be completely redone and new benchmarks will be generated
    - Not good for comparing old data
- ACT
  - Slightly above state average
  - Wide range of scores that averages out to be a little better
  - ACT is a national test and no comparison to Wisconsin students can be made

## FINANCE

- Kristen
  - Discussion of phase two of the SMCHS project
    - Donor giving money over time and renovate STEM building to lockers/training/classroom
    - Donor pledged a total of \$400,000
      - Received an initial payment of \$66,667
    - Have some funding available
    - BOT being asked to approve project going forward
    - With BOT approval, will move forward for approval from the Diocese
      - For Diocesan approval, SMCS needs BOT approval
- Meghan Healy moved to request authorization from the Diocese to move forward with the project
- Second by Ron Schreier
- Call to vote – unanimous

Motion carried

- May need to draw a line of credit due to timing of donor funding
- Project has not started yet
- WPCP audit was reviewed for policy on what education projects can be funded
  - As part of audit, it was noted our policy on what is defined as an education cost needed to be updated.
  - Revised policy compliant with WPCP policy was voted on by Finance committee and unanimously approved.
- Dr. David DeWitt moved to allow for a draw on the line of credit to complete project
- Second by Troy Noel
- Call to vote – unanimous

Motion carried

#### BUDGET

- Tracking to modified budget
  - Dr. David DeWitt commented on some costs are seasonal
  - Travel and training poorly estimated
- Format driven money for playoff games
  - Only get concession money
  - Rest goes to WIAA
  - Hosting does bring in some additional money that goes to Matt's AD fund
- Cash flow discussion
  - There will be a release of funds (Miller particularly)
    - About \$600,000 in December
  - Finance committee met twice this month
    - Moving to a 10-year budget
    - "What if" scenarios being generated
    - Working on how to's on balancing budget
    - Goal to submit a balanced budget
      - Not quite there yet
    - The process highlights need for Momentum campaign
    - Parish investment has historically been a larger percentage of total revenue, but will not be as much going forward (currently a static amount)
    - Also, trying to get closer to paying teachers near public schools' salary

#### UPDATED METRICS ON STRATEGIC PLAN

- No questions on the Google Docs document
  - Some of the metrics do not have goals
  - Working to improve
  - Gave some gaps in the completion dates to ease the influx of answers
  - Should be able to come up with better metrics as we move forward
  - Would like to normally have done before the school year begins
- Will vote on in December
- Strategic plan will continue to be updated every year

## FOUNDATION UPDATE

- Talking about Momentum
  - Foundation excited about Momentum
  - Josh Dietrich new member on foundation board
  - Ryan's term on the foundation board will be completed at the end of the year
- Fundraising consultants finishing in April
- Discussing with potential donors
- Some high dollar ask outs
- Asking donors to make SMCS part of their estate

## PRESIDENTS REPORT

- Talked about foundation a little
- Update on the last month
- Highlighting
  - Hired a 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher
    - Previous candidates had not been strong candidates
    - Hired an excellent teacher
    - Good first impression
- Hired a math consultant (about \$3000, covered by a donor)
  - To spend time in elementary classes and come up with some findings
    - How are we reaching kids
  - Should be interesting and useful results
    - Will use results to advise on revised math delivery
- Working on calendar
  - Adding Diocesan events
- Vicker meeting at the Diocese
  - Update on how to approve capital campaigns to be shared with the Diocese
- Kathleen McCurdy really working out well

## COMMITTEE REPORT

- Sent out charters
- Need to review and approve
- Need to finish the Catholic Community Committee charter
  - Not in the packet
  - On google drive
  - Need to get approved
- Meghan Healy motioned to approve the Executive Committee, Governance Committee, Finance Committee and Athletic Committee charters as distributed by Bryan Rosiejka
- Leila Mousai second
- Call to vote – unanimous

Motion carried

## DAN'S REVIEW PROCESS

- Meghan to review Dan
- Needs some information from Phil
- Form we use is difficult to use
- Meghan does not have all the data
  - Working to get from Phil
  - Need summer staff feedback
  - Kristen to talk to Meghan
- Working to improve review process so Dan is not getting reviewed in November or December
- Patti may have some suggestions on improving review process
- Bryan starting to look for replacements for when his term is over

## Catholic identity

- Meghan
  - Mary Kreuger was on committee
  - Meeting with Father Mark for replacement process
  - Bill suggested looking thru strategic plan
  - Meghan will report back

## Old business

- No old business

## New Business

- Palestine questions? (Patti)
  - No system wide discussion
  - Needs to be talked about, so the correct message is getting out (if it does come out)
  - Diocesan representative should be the POC for any messages/information
    - Same for Ukraine
  - May come up in a current events class
  - Sounds like it may be coming up, no issues being generated yet
  - Our Chaplin should reach out to Dioceses and determine how Catholics should respond to this
  - Dan McKenna will have Mike reach out to Dioceses
- Lunch meeting on December 20<sup>th</sup>
  - May be at one of the Parishes
  - Location TBD

## Closing Prayer – Kristen Bergstrom

## MOTION

- Ron Schreier moved to end the BOT meeting
- Second by Dave Dewitt
- Call to vote – unanimous

Motion carried

Meeting ended at 8:48 PM