

**Regis Catholic Schools  
Education Commission Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, August 20, 2015  
Regis Room 107, 5:00pm**

**Present:**

Becky Alexander	Rev. Tom Krieg	Rev. Dan Oudenhoven
Renee Cassidy	Meghan Kulig	Rev. Derek Sakowski
Mark Gobler	Linda Marx	Tanya Schmitz
Rev. Alan Guanella	Kelly K. Mechelke	Reid Sollberger
Rev. Paul Hoffman	Very Rev. Don Meuret	

**Absent:**

Gayle Flaig	Todd Littfin	Rev. George Thayikuzhithottu
Teresa Johnson	Paul Pedersen	Bill Uelmen
Val Knobloch	Carisa Smiskey	Patty Usher
Pat Lange		

Minutes: Tanya Schmitz

**I. Opening**

Call to Order: Mark Gobler

Opening Prayer: Rev. Alan Guanella

June Minutes: Accepted with confirmation that Todd Littfin is spelled as such, confirmed

**II. Welcome New Members and Introductions**

- a. Rev. Paul Hoffman, St. Olaf Parish
- b. Rev. Dan Oudenhoven, Newman Parish
- c. Linda Marx, Sacred Heart/St. Patrick's Representative

**III. Communications Report presented by Meghan Kulig**

- a. JB Systems who designed main RCS website to have seminar during Staff Development week to work with teachers on their websites presenting consistency throughout and with same navigation as main RCS website
- b. Back To School folders being created and distributed by Communications Director to provide general overview of RCS information such as Scrip, Education Commission, etc.; Linda Marx questioned delivery of these to which Meghan Kulig responded that these will go home the first week of school with the youngest child in the family
- c. E-mail survey being sent to provide feedback regarding marketing; how you heard about RCS, feedback on publications, etc.
- d. RCS app will be utilized additionally for athletics

**IV. Reports**

- a. Standing Committees
  - i. Governance: nothing new to report
  - ii. School Life: nothing new to report
  - iii. Teaching and Learning: nothing new to report
  - iv. Catholic Identity: nothing new to report

**V. New Business presented by Mark Gobler**

- a. Voucher Update
  - i. 65 vouchers for 14/15 school year, 134 vouchers for 15/16 school year, 16/17 school year expands to 2%

- ii. Testing: Smarter Balance testing eliminated; DPI working to determine an acceptable test; RCS lobbying for ITBS to be the acceptable test; opt-out option still available as in the past
  - iii. General enrollment comment: down 25 students overall from last year, but mostly due to decrease of 28 kindergarteners this year; RCS can celebrate that 9<sup>th</sup> grade enrollment for 15/16 was higher than the 8<sup>th</sup> grade exit of 14/15
- b. Controller Update
  - i. Current Controller leaving mid-September
  - ii. Finance Council Rick Lambrecht will help with transition
    - 1. Interviewed finance office to analyze what CO needs for staff
    - 2. Perhaps keep current personnel and outsource other aspects
    - 3. School finances very different from typical small business finances
    - 4. Typically find lower cost associated with outsourcing
    - 5. Payroll specialist brought in for aid
- c. Auditorium Seats Update
  - i. \$42000 Auditorium seating campaign
  - ii. Many first-time donors are giving to this campaign
  - iii. Old seats available to those who want them, lasted 53 ½ years
  - iv. 536 total seats, a few less than currently due to 2" more leg room and 2" wider seats
  - v. Campaign will be marketed at Non-Sibi event, Charity Auction, and in church bulletins
- d. Non-Sibi Update
  - i. Ed and Cindy Hofacker to receive Non-Sibi award
  - ii. Sister Judy Kramer and Sister Margaret Michaud will receive the Distinguished Alumni awards
  - iii. Three Hall of Fame inductees announced
  - iv. 14/15 Teacher of the Year awards
  - v. Catered by Connell's and held at Regis Catholic Schools

## VI. Old Business: none to report

## VII. RCS Administration Reports

- a. IC: Presented by Renee Cassidy
  - i. Parking lot sealing in progress
  - ii. Carpeting for the Oak Room with Open House held there for 40 new parents on August 19th
  - iii. Cafeteria painting
  - iv. New chairs and desks in Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade
  - v. Laptops for Teachers
  - vi. Two new teachers, both veteran teachers
  - vii. In-Service next week will include:
    - 1. New Teacher Formation: RCS History, Mentor/Mentee meeting, Skyward training, and Benefits review
    - 2. Speaker regarding Compassion in the classroom
    - 3. PALS, Aimsweb, Chromebooks, Google Classroom training
    - 4. Religious training
    - 5. Teacher websites
    - 6. Rocket math
    - 7. Staff meetings
- b. St. James/St. Mary's/Curriculum presented by Kelly K. Mechelke
  - i. St. Mary's:
    - 1. Denise Lemke, PT 5<sup>th</sup> Grade split with Dean of Students, Carisa Smiskey
    - 2. Playground completed, other playground fencing almost done
    - 3. Almost all rooms have been painted in last three new years
    - 4. Art/Music room smartboard has been installed
    - 5. New custodian, Michael Marcon
    - 6. 4K Finances review

- ii. St. James:
  - 1. A/C in computer lab almost done
  - 2. Parking lot sealing and painting
  - 3. Smartboard in the fifth grade classroom which will now house a fifth grade
- iii. Curriculum:
  - 1. Implementing PALS in KG and 1<sup>st</sup> throughout the elementary level
  - 2. Aimsweb at the Middle School level started with writing and is continuing to math
- c. RMS/RHS: Presented by Mark Gobler
  - i. Paul Pedersen attending a Junior Achievement function
  - ii. A few late resignations in which Paul Pedersen is working to fill
    - 1. High School Spanish filled by Pam Arranz
    - 2. Bev Olson retiring, Jaci Pursel with Math Minor will fill
    - 3. James Knutson resigned and will be replaced for Social Studies with Perry Myren and Marc Lundquist
    - 4. Lynne Larabee will take on Middle School Spanish in addition to her Elementary Spanish making her a full-time employee
    - 5. German and Spanish numbers are up
    - 6. Rev. Derek Sakowski inquired as to the Campus Ministry position to which Rev. Alan Guanella confirmed that interviewing will take place August 21<sup>st</sup> for the position
- d. Child Development Center: no report as Gayle Flaig not in attendance

Misc:

\*ECASD and RCS calendars do not coincide this year, buses will still run for RCS

\*Becky Alexander inquired about the lunch issue at St. Mary's to which Kelly K. Mechelke responded that portion control issues should be resolved with better monitoring, the new cook, and with Dean of Students, Carisa Smiskey's daily supervision; additional volunteer help will be sought out for the lunch time at St. Mary's also to provide extra assistance

\*Mark Gobler opened the floor to additional questions to which none were asked

\*Education Commission Members were invited to Regis office after adjournment by Mark Gobler to look at sample auditorium seat and color swatch

Closing Prayer and Adjournment at 5:47pm by Rev. Tom Krieg