

**Regis Catholic Schools  
Education Commission Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, January 19, 2017  
Regis Room 107, 5:00pm**

Present:

Becky Alexander	Pat Lange	Tanya Schmitz
Mark Gobler	Linda Marx	Linda Schultz
Rev. Alan Guanella	Kelly K. Mechelke	Reid Sollberger
Rev. Paul Hoffman	Very Rev. Don Meuret	Rev. George Thayikuzhithottu
Rev. Tom Krieg	Paul Pedersen	Patty Usher
Meghan Kulig	Rev. Derek Sakowski	

Absent:

Renee Cassidy	Rev. Dan Oudenhoven	Bill Uelmen
Gayle Flaig	Carisa Smiskey	

Minutes: Tanya Schmitz

I. Opening

Call to Order: Patty Usher 5:00 p.m.

Opening Prayer: Rev. Alan Guanella

Acceptance of December Minutes: Accepted upon change in section IV, part a: wording to be changed from Regis Charity Auction to Regis Catholic Schools Auction

II. Standing Committees

- a. School Life: nothing to report, meeting next week
- b. Catholic Identity presented by Becky Alexander
  - i. Faith Council Fundraiser: met the \$1500 match
  - ii. Speaker Nick Davidson
- c. Teaching and Learning: nothing to report, meeting February 9

III. Kelly Hughes, Controller

- a. Handout: Financial Statement: it has been an adjustment to school setting especially in the timing of when expenses are accrued due to a school year cycle; statement includes operations with a general overview of food service and child development centers, but does not account for outstanding expenditures; food service is segregated; revenue is down to which Kelly Hughes attributes partially to staff tuition discounts
  - i. Patty Usher requests that Kelly Hughes attend the Education Commission meetings more frequently, every month if possible with the same type of information to help create a flow of communication as staff members and commission members flow in and out of positions
  - ii. Rev. Alan Guanella would like to see monthly enrollment reports from Teresa Johnson via Mark Gobler
  - iii. Rev. Derek Sakowski recommended an abridged version of the annual report/budget be presented to the Education Commission to which Patty Usher asked about the deadline to which Mark Gobler said it is difficult to prepare without enrollment numbers which projects tuition revenue and teaching staff needed to then set expenses of teacher salaries, but aiming for March or April; Mark Gobler adds that budget should be able to be presented at April meeting
  - iv. Rev. Derek Sakowski added that Education Commission should be able to give feedback on it prior to final submission to oversee that priorities are straight

- IV. Communication Report presented by Meghan Kulig
  - a. Open Houses
  - b. Admissions Guide
  - c. Postcards Promotion: purchased mailing lists for approximately \$500
  - d. CSW: Insert in church bulletins; Mass readers for CSW to use script prepared by Meghan Kulig or on their own, each priest finding readers; Very Rev. Don Meuret advised to let the children talk instead of just reading the script
    - i. Becky Alexander recommended the High School Choir travel to different Masses to which Meghan Kulig will pursue Becky Santine to lead this in the future; Mark Gobler said he would approach Paul Pedersen on it
  - e. Non-Sibi upcoming to which Meghan Kulig helps out with this is a Foundation event
  
- V. Old Business
  - a. Kindergarten Tuition Discount, Enrollment Dates presented by Mark Gobler
    - i. Outcome from this will not be known until enrollment
    - ii. Baptismal vouchers cannot be used in conjunction with the Kindergarten discount but can be saved for use entering First Grade
  - b. Parent Night, Paul Miller presented by Mark Gobler
    - i. Speaker is approved by the Diocese and presents to staff during the day
    - ii. Start time is 6:00 p.m. instead of 7:00 p.m. for the evening session
  - c. ECASD Late Start presented by Mark Gobler
    - i. ECASD is not moving forward on this
  - d. Outdoor Wellness/Recreation Facility presented by Mark Gobler
    - i. Changes made that dropped cost by 50%
      - 1. If Altoona uses the same company for their plans, RCS may benefit in cost due to the utilization of the same resources for both projects
    - ii. Includes field, track, and tennis court
    - iii. Kudos to Ryan Kostka for helping Mark Gobler and Bill Uelmen
    - iv. Starting soft advertisement campaign for name and symbols on field with an eventual mass appeal for the project
    - v. Looking to start in 2018
  
- VI. New Business
  - a. Catholic Schools Week presented by Administrators
    - i. Elementary Schools presented by Kelly K. Mechelke
      - 1. CSW Schedules for each school were distributed
    - ii. RMS/RHS presented by Rev. Alan Guanella on behalf of Paul Pedersen
      - 1. Pro-life Speaker approved by the Diocese
      - 2. Service project with Rotary Club packaging meals for families in the Chippewa Valley
      - 3. All System Mass with the Bishop
      - 4. RMS Ski-Trip, Pep Rally, Winter Carnival
  - b. Mass with Bishop presented by Rev. Alan Guanella
    - i. Seating chart is prepared
    - ii. The Bishop will lunch with the students and wander the Regis Campus to meet and greet
  - c. Hispanic Mass, January 29 presented by Mark Gobler
    - i. Rev. Derek Sakowski hosting this Mass
    - ii. Dean Kayla Bahnhub and RMS Teacher Jessica Johnson who are bilingual will be present
    - iii. Hispanics for School Choice did not respond to invitation
    - iv. DPI to provide information in Spanish
      - 1. Patty Usher inquired if the DPI information Spanish version is current to which Mark Gobler responded that Rev. Derek Sakowski read it and it is current

VII. RCS Administration Reports

- a. Elementary Schools presented by Kelly K. Mechelke
  - i. Immaculate Conception
    1. Jump Rope Contest on January 20, winners to Bloomer on January 28
    2. Scripture at Regis for religious certification training on January 23
    3. Report cards and IOWA results distribution on January 27
    4. Mary Mattick, Administrative Assistant, will retire at the end of this year after 18 years with Immaculate Conception
    5. RCDC 4-year olds will visit Kindergarten classes on January 27
    6. CSW agenda distributed earlier in the meeting
  - ii. St. James and St. Mary's
    1. Happy Birthday Jesus birthday parties at both St. James and St. Mary's in which the gifts for baby Jesus were given to local charities
    2. GCDC 4-year old will visit Kindergarten at St. James
    3. Literacy Night is being held at St. Mary's on January 19
    4. Block Party Make and Take and 5 Open Houses for Preschool at St. James
    5. Weather Academy at St. James on December 1 with WQOW 18's Nick Grunseth
    6. Santa's Workshop at St. James on December 8
    7. Report cards and IOWA results distribution on January 26
    8. CSW agendas distributed earlier in the meeting
- b. RMS/RHS presented by Paul Pedersen
  - i. Retreat last week
  - ii. Open House on January 16 canceled due to weather, another scheduled for January 29
  - iii. Tours and Shadow Days scheduled for the mid-point; families like the smaller environment and family feel
    1. Patty Usher asked if there is a gain at semester to which Paul Pedersen responded that RCS does gain students at the semester
  - iv. Concussion protocol has been used a number of times already and has been well-received by parents; this was a successful implementation
  - v. Winter Carnival reduced from weeklong celebration to a Friday/Saturday
  - vi. RHS School Counselor, Kristi Herbenson, is working towards a booklet somewhat similar to Admissions Guide that lays out courses, cores, electives, youth options, distance learning, dual credit options, etc.
    1. Rev. Derek Sakowski commented a policy is needed to eliminate multiple study halls
    2. Kelly K. Mechelke added that typically it is seen that the student and school pick the student schedules; a booklet would help get parents involved in the choice and inspire students to obtain more rigor
    3. Evening meetings for parents are being considered to educate parents on some of the options RCS has to offer students
    4. Rev. Derek Sakowski recommended a signature being needed for a student to obtain a second study hall
    5. Mark Gobler added field experience internships have come up so that if students front load, they can use some of their days for this experience
    6. Patty Usher commented that parent network chatter shows interest in these options but not an understanding of how to go about it so a booklet and evening parent meeting should provide the clarity needed

Misc:

Mark Gobler was contacted by ECASD Superintendent regarding a Spanish immersion program of which there are none in Eau Claire; added that RCS has a couple of empty buildings; perhaps a partnership is in order; is worth investigating  
Closing Prayer by Rev. Derek Sakowski  
Adjournment by Patty Usher at 6:09 p.m.