

Regis Catholic Schools
Education Commission Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 18, 2018
Regis Room 107, 5:00pm

Present:

Becky Alexander	Rev. Tom Krieg	Carisa Smiskey
Rachel Brogelman	Linda Marx	Reid Sollberger
Renee Cassidy	Paul Pedersen	Bill Spangler
Mark Gobler	Very Rev. Derek Sakowski	Rev. George Thayikuzhithottu
Brian Hoeschen	Tanya Schmitz	Rev. Dan Thelen
Rev. Paul Hoffman		

Absent:

Gayle Flaig	Kelly K. Mechelke	Linda Schultz
Kelly Hughes	Rev. Don Meuret	Rebekah Thurner
Griffin Johnson	Rev. Dan Oudenhoven	Bill Uelmen
Meghan Kulig		

Minutes: Tanya Schmitz

I. Opening

Call to Order: Reid Sollberger 5:00 p.m.

Opening Prayer: Rev. Dan Thelen

Acceptance of November Minutes: Accepted

Introduction of Rachel Brogelman as Enrollment and Tuition Coordinator

II. Standing Committees

a. Catholic Identity and Mission Integration presented by Becky Alexander

i. Speaker next fall will be Paul J. Kim

ii. RMS Retreats

iii. CSW Kids Against Hunger

iv. Faithfulness in College: resources and materials to distribute

v. Parent concern regarding leggings at all levels, work more on enforcement of the dress code, elementary version online needs to be updated

vi. Mass participation aides to be replaced at the High School

vii. First semester review as to what has been done to increase the Catholic Identity on campus, an impressive presence

1. Visits to classroom roughly one time per month

2. Bible study on Tuesdays at lunch

3. Study hall Masses

4. Retreats for all the classes

5. Class Masses

6. Three people seeking Baptism or Full Communion with the Catholic Church

7. Theology of the Body via Kristin Betlej

8. Visit by Fr. Billy Dodge and Emily Wilson

9. Visit by Fr. Pablo Escriva de Romani and Valentyna Pavsukova

10. Monthly Adoration and Confession

11. Book of the Dead for the month of November

12. Commissioning of Extraordinary Ministers

13. Seminarian visit (3 seminarians from SJV)

14. Penance Services

- 15. Net Ministry Presentation and Classroom Visits
 - 16. Fr. Thelen
 - viii. Next meeting is in March
 - b. School Life: no report
 - c. Teaching and Learning: no report, next meeting is February 6
 - d. Enrollment/Commitment Signature to Catholic Mission presented by Very Rev. Derek Sakowski
 - i. Parent agreement form designed as a commitment to supporting the mission of Catholic Schools at enrollment
 - 1. Renee Cassidy suggested this be added to the handbook to which Bill Spangler recommended this be added to both the enrollment process and to the handbook
 - 2. Patty Usher is working on the verbiage of the statement utilizing her legal expertise
- III. Accreditation Update presented by Renee Cassidy
 HANDOUTS: WRISA Notes (attached)
 RCS Accreditation Committees (attached)
- IV. Communications Report presented by Meghan Kulig via Handout
 HANDOUTS: Communications Report (attached)
 Family Script for Catholic Schools Week
 Google Review Card
 RCS Flyer for Catholic Schools Week

*****REV. GEORGE THAYIKUZHITHOTTU ACTING DEAN FROM THIS POINT FORWARD DUE TO THE DEPARTURE OF VERY REV. DEREK SAKOWSKI, 5:26 P.M.*****

- V. Old Business
- a. Crisis Go App Update presented by Paul Pedersen
 - i. Sample scenarios shown to the Commission
 - ii. Hopeful for a tie-in between ECASD and Altoona in the future
 - iii. Brian Hoeschen inquired as to substitute teacher access, staff without smart devices, etc. to which Paul Pedersen responded that Leadership is working through how to best handle substitute staff and that tablets can be designated to those without a smart device
 - iv. Becky Alexander asked that thought be given to the Child Development Centers
 - b. Fine Arts Director Position presented by Mark Gobler
 - i. Finance Council unanimously supported
 - ii. Meeting with Judine Brey next week
 - iii. Statement to go out during Catholic Schools Week introducing this program
 - 1. Reid Sollberger asked if there will be any productions in the summer to which Mark Gobler responded that the program is intended to start in the summer, more details will be finalized in February
 - c. Regis Fund Update presented by Mark Gobler
 HANDOUT: Advancement Report via Bill Uelmen
 - i. Mark Gobler stated that the year is ending well with a remarkable December recovery
 - ii. Non-Sibi Awards Dinner and RCS Night of Recognition is January 27
 - d. Rural/Urban Plan from WIAA presented by Mark Gobler
 - i. January 31 is the date in which the Board of Control will vote on a plan for divisions in state tournament, only basketball, much opposition
 - e. Budget Update presented by Mark Gobler (not ready, tabled)

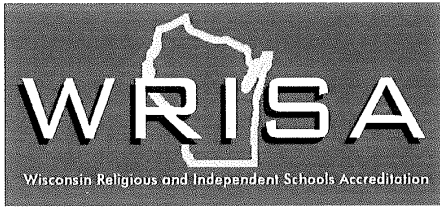
VI. New Business

- a. 2018-2019 Tuition Rates presented by Mark Gobler
HANDOUT: 2018-2019 Tuition Rates
 - i. Finance Council approved a 5% increase which the Bishop said was too much
 - ii. Bishop approved a 4% increase in tuition, which equates to approximately 1.5%-1.75% raise per teacher
 1. Linda Marx inquired as to the success of the kindergarten pricing and how the enrollment was affected in the transition to first grade to which Mark Gobler commented that he wants a three-year trial for the half-price Kindergarten tuition and because this was the first year, it is unknown how this will affect enrollment in the transition from kindergarten to first grade full price tuition
- b. Potential Tuition Discount to Public School Parishioners presented by Mark Gobler
 - i. Possible 50% tuition discount to try RCS for one year being presented to the Pastors at the Deanery Meeting on January 19
 - ii. Bill Spangler commented that current parents might be upset
- c. STEAM Summer School Potential presented by Principals
 - i. Elementary and Middle School opportunity, not High School
 - ii. Idea put out to current teachers to see if there was interest in teaching some of the sections
 - iii. This enrichment opportunity would be during a two or three-week period during the summer
 - iv. Offerings would be in line with teacher availability and subject area of STEAM
 - v. Curriculum currently being developed
 1. Reid Sollberger inquired as to the cost of this to which Mark Gobler responded there would be a fee albeit minimal
 - vi. Finance Council approval needed and then a rollout to parents
 1. Becky Alexander asked if the summer opportunities offered by individual teachers in the past were well-received to which Mark Gobler remarked yes, for example, Math Camp
 - vii. The plan is to give this a dry run but then apply for state-funding after the first year
 1. Brian Hoeschen commented that companies provide curriculum to be purchased and that Brian Hoeschen would like to work with Curriculum Coordinator, Kelly K. Mechelke to aid in developing curriculum
 2. Bill Spangler commented that this summer opportunity sounds like a great idea
- d. Standardized Testing Options presented by Principals
 - i. Mark Gobler shared that Renee Cassidy sits on the Diocesan committee to review standardized testing options
 - ii. Renee Cassidy shared that the meeting discussed ITBS, MAPS, or STARS
 - iii. Wisconsin Forward is used by the public schools, but this assessment has a higher cost for private schools
 - iv. Individual systems will use what they choose at this time and will not be streamlined to one assessment throughout the Diocese at this time
- e. Hispanic Outreach Plans/Our Own Director presented by Mark Gobler
 - i. Mark Gobler shared that he is in communication with a Director in Milwaukee
 - ii. Mark Gobler commented that this demographic may be underserved
 - iii. Perhaps our own director is needed in a part-time role to share with another district
 - iv. St. Mary's Parish in Altoona is playing a large role in outreach via faith formation, materials, and resources in Spanish for the Choice program

VII. School Reports via Handout (attached)

- a. Paul Pedersen distributed an additional handout for review, a draft of an athletic policy regarding Sunday and Wednesday athletic activities, seemingly yet to be made official
 - i. Policy is being used presently in winter sports
 - ii. Policy will be added to the handbook at some point

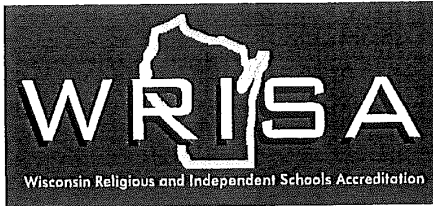
Closing Prayer by Rev. George Thayikuzhithottu
Adjournment by Reid Sollberger at 6:32 p.m.



Commission Meeting: January 18, 2018

- Committees meet with Renee Cassidy on Monday, January 22, 2018 to receive the work to be completed
- Each School must complete their own accreditation work
- Surveys completed in the next two months (students, staff, parents, pastors) John Cook & Jeremy Hardy are completing that task
- Goals are needed for the four Domains: Action Plan for goals will be determined in Fall 2018
- Self Study Plans (work of evidence) must be completed by January 2019 to send to Jessica Williams, Diocesan Assistant Superintendent
- Visiting Teams will be in Eau Claire the end of February and/or March 2019 to review and assess our evidence
- Accreditation is for seven years after Visiting Team confirms RCS

Reported by Renée Cassidy
Chair person of WRISA Accreditation
Principal of Immaculate Conception Elementary



Regis Catholic Schools Committees
Renee Cassidy, RCS Administrator for Accreditation
Chairperson*

Domain A: Mission and Catholic Identity Benchmarks 1-4
IC Jackie Lutz*
SJ Jamie Rosene
SM Nan Falbo
RMS Mary Allen
RHS Ellen Killian

Domain B: Governance & Leadership Benchmarks 5 & 6
IC Renee Cassidy*
SJ Kelly Mechelke
SM Carisa Smiskey
RMS Paul Pedersen
RHS Paul Pedersen

Domain C: Academic Excellence & Crisis Plans Benchmarks 7-9
IC Dori Fadness* & Malia Clements
SJ Stephanie Oats & Deanne Eslinger
SM Erika Galewski & Deanne Eslinger
RMS Suzie Sturz & Jill Urdahl
RHS Eric Nelson & Kristi Herbenson
RCS Pam Fougen

Domain D: Operational Vitality Benchmarks 10-13
IC Christi Machler*
SJ Tanya Schmitz
SM Sally Bartig
RMS Becky Santine
RHS Andy Niece
RCS Meghan Kulig

2017-18 Self Study (committees & principals)

 Benchmark Worksheets

 Compliance Checklists

 Surveys: Meghan Kulig & John Cook

 Benchmark Scoring Summary

 WRISA General Information (enrollment, staff counts, teacher licensing)

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Meghan Kulig

January 18, 2018

CGI Communications Partnership (Google Reviews)

- Same company that produced video ad featured on city and county websites for people thinking of moving to Eau Claire/new to the area
- Helping clean up our information on Google/gather reviews for Regis Catholic Schools
- Many people find us by doing an internet search and positive reviews may help them more strongly consider our schools
- **HANDOUT** | Small card w/phone number; please text G to this number to get a link to give a star rating + write a Google review for Regis Catholic Schools

The Rambler Report – Spring 2018

- Content work is underway
- Senior Lorren Postl will be featured on cover for your dedication to faith during time at Regis

Advertising

- Ad running on WQOW TV 18 January 29 – end of February
- Regis Middle & High School Shadow Days, Kindergarten Preview, Preschool Open House postcards mailed
- 2018-19 Admissions Guide finished
- Booth at Family Fest January 20 at Eau Claire Indoor Sports Center; Promoting upcoming events

Catholic Schools Week

- **HANDOUT** | Insert going into all supporting parish bulletins the weekend of January 27 & 28
- Encourage parish representatives on the Education Commission/other families to speak during Mass on Sunday, January 28
- **HANDOUT** | Pre-prepared script; please let Meghan know if a specific family would like an electronic copy
- Inviting media to attend various events throughout the week
- Regis Catholic Schools Foundation participating in one-day online giving campaign (Many Gifts, One Nation) hosted by the National Catholic Education Association (NCEA); Scheduled for 24 hours starting January 30, 2018, 9:00 a.m. EST to January 31, 2018, 9:00 a.m. EST; We have customized giving page that we will share with potential donors

Miscellaneous

- Letter going out to all current families soon reminding them of \$1,000 Tuition Referral Bonus

Advancement Report January, 2018:

- RCS Foundation gave a Christmas "Bonus" to RCS staff members – very much appreciated by the staff
- Annual Regis Fund Update

<u>Regis Fund 2017-18 (As of 1-15-18)</u>		<u>Regis Fund 2016-17 (Same time last year)</u>	
Regis Fund	\$198,210	Regis Fund	\$206,000
Tuition Partnership	\$48,000	Tuition Partnership	\$57,000 (Total)
Total	\$246,210		

- Non Sibi Awards Dinner and RCS Recognition Night – Saturday, January 27 at Regis High School (Tickets are still available)

Non Sibi Award Recipients: Tom '80 & Judi Anibas

Distinguished Alumni Award: Drew Ryberg '67

Regis H. S. Hall of Fame:

Mackenzie Hunter Stutzman '85

Jessica Huettl Head '03

Brian Walter '94

Jim Gagnon '72

JANUARY 2018 SCHOOL REPORTS – RCS EDUCATION COMMISSION MEETING

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Submitted by Renee Cassidy

1. During December, our Advent collection of \$2000 went toward St. Jude's Children's Hospital in Memphis, TN since one of our 3rd graders is currently a patient at that facility for the next six months.
2. We took five large boxes of winter hats, mittens, and scarfs to Sojourner House during December.
3. Our Christmas Program, "Carols Around the World" was standing room only in the gym on December 12.
4. Jump Rope Competition is Friday, January 19 at 2:00pm. Winning competitors go on to the Bloomer Jump Rope Contest.
5. Report Cards will be distributed on Friday, January 26th.
6. We are getting ready for the Winter Olympics in February. We sent postcards to all the 189 athletes to wish them well. Each IC student was given one athlete to write to and will follow them during the Olympics and report on them. On the postcards we wrote we would pray for their success and safety.
7. Kdg. Preview is February 8th at 6:30pm.
8. Energy Bus Principal is "Fuel Your Ride with Positive Energy" and Mrs. Clements, school counselor, is concentrating on that value in her classes.
9. Virtue of the Month is "Peace" and we have a display of an igloo where students built blocks of peace messages.
10. "Spirt Day" was Wednesday, January 17 and we honored the author A.A. Milne who was the author of Winnie the Pooh books. Students brought in teddy bears and/or wore Disney apparel.
11. Catholic Schools week highlights: Distribution of Hershey kisses and holy cards after weekend Masses, Clean church and school, thank you bags to volunteers, Dads serve ice cream, Bingo with Mrs. Cassidy, DJ dance with Mr. Hardy, Open House and Variety Show with parents and grandparents, BluGold game vs. 5th graders.

ST. JAMES

Submitted by Kelly Mechelke

1. B.E.S.T. Screening happened in all elementary buildings for student mental health at the end of November provided from a grant that Pam wrote.
2. Santa's Workshop, Saint Nick Day and Santa Clause visit and caroling all happened in December.
3. Eau Claire Police came for all our students for ECPD safety presentation.
4. Christmas program was a hit Dec. 14.
5. Grades 3-5 viewed The Star in December which was an NCEA endorsed movie.
6. Jeans for Jesus in December was for Lighthouse Youth Center. And Catholic Charities received the prek-k donations.
7. January Jeans for Jesus goes to Scholastic books.
8. First time SJ has had the jump off for Bloomer during the school day. It was fantastic.
9. Looking forward to a fabulous CSW!

ST. MARY'S

Submitted by Carisa Smiskey

1. During Advent our preschool, 4K, and kindergarten classes hosted a birthday party for Jesus and collected baby items for the Blessings Box.
2. First, second, and third grade students collected toys to donate for Toys for Tots.
3. Fourth grade students collected socks to donate to Sojourner House.
4. Fifth grade students delivered caddies stuffed with essentials to the residents of Oakwood Villa. Upon delivery, the students walked the halls caroling.
5. Altoona PD came for a safety presentation.
6. The Christmas program was a success during the Liturgical season of Christmas.
7. First Reconciliation for second grade students on Wednesday, January 17th.
8. Jump Rope Competition Jump-Off taking place on Wednesday, January 17th.
9. Casual for Christ for January is for Joshua's Camp.

Regis Middle and High School

Commission Report

January, 2018

- 1) HS Finals take place on January 18th and 19th. High school students attend half days of school and middle school students will attend full days of school.
- 2) Adoration - January 19th
- 3) Regis Catholic Schools In-service day will include a Crisis Go App presentation for the entire teaching staff. There will also be concussion training for select teachers from each building over the lunch hour.
- 4) Second semester begins on Tuesday, January 23rd.
- 5) QPR training for all seniors in the afternoon of January 24
- 6) Middle School Brains and Brawn will take place down in La Crosse as usual to start Catholic Schools Week.
- 7) Catholic Schools Week
 - a. Monday: MS Catholic Trivia. HS Speaker Vicki Thom
 - b. Tuesday: Kids against Hunger Event
 - c. Wednesday: Mass with presentation from Catholic Foresters to Faith Counsel
 - d. Thursday: HS Catholic Trivia. MS Down Hill Ski Trip
 - e. Friday: Rosary all day in Religion Classes. Pie in the Face Fundraiser.
- 8) 5th Grade Shadow Days on February 8th, 9th, 12th and 13th.
- 9) Working on Updating / Reprinting Song Booklets for Mass
- 10) Pupil Services / Resource room has a para-professional working to meeting the needs of students with Individual Learning Plans and work with Students to ensure their success.