

**Regis Catholic Schools
Education Commission Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 16, 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	Carisa Smiskey
Rev. Paul Hoffman	Very Rev. Don Meuret	Reid Sollberger
Teresa Johnson	Rev. Dan Oudenhoven	Patty Usher
Meghan Kulig	Paul Pedersen	

Absent:

Renee Cassidy	Rev. Tom Krieg	Rev. George Thayikuzhithottu
Gayle Flaig	Rev. Derek Sakowski	Bill Uelmen
Kelly Hughes		

Minutes: Tanya Schmitz

- I. Opening
 - Call to Order: Patty Usher 5:00 p.m.
 - Opening Prayer: Rev. Alan Guanella
 - Acceptance of February Minutes: Accepted
- II. Standing Committees
 - a. School Life: no report
 - b. Teaching and Learning: no report
 - c. Catholic Identity and Mission Integration presented by Becky Alexander
 - i. Meeting on February 21 discussed speakers and Theology
 - ii. Faith Council Meeting netted the inquiry of what monies are set aside by Regis for speakers to which Rev. Alan Guanella answered that it is part of the Campus Ministry budget
 - iii. Becky Alexander asked when the budget number for this will be known to which Mark Gobler replied June
 - iv. Emily Wilson is next speaker in September, will see boys and girls separate
 - v. Kids for Hunger prepared approximately 30,000 meals, next year's goal is 50,000 meals
 - vi. Diocese rewriting Religion Curriculum, Paul Pedersen involved
 - vii. Holy Thursday has multiple extracurricular activities scheduled and Paul Pedersen is speaking to Athletic Directors about better scheduling
 - viii. Advanced Theology classes at Regis as a possibility
- III. Central Office Reports
 - HANDOUT: Regis Live Stream Views for Winter Events 2017
 - a. Communications Report presented by Meghan Kulig
 - i. Rambler Report
 - ii. Media Contract with iHeart Radio with year-round advertising
 - iii. Eau Claire Express Faith Night on Sunday, June 4
 1. Regis Choir to sing the National Anthem
 2. Rev. Derek Sakowski to throw out first pitch
 - iv. Booth at the Kids Expo
 - v. Regis Auction: months away, working on teacher packages, principal packages, etc
 - vi. Online streaming event statistics by John Cook, see handout

- vii. Rev. Alan Guanella shared news of an adult coloring book including the Fenwick Avenue façade of Regis to which it was recommended that this be used as a Grade 5 coloring contest piece
- b. Enrollment Update presented by Teresa Johnson
HANDOUT: Preliminary 2017-18 Enrollment Data
 - i. Kindergarten is at 48 + 8 pending birth certificates, anticipating 56
 - ii. Mark Gobler added that he anticipates another 14 applications in the summer
- c. Budget presented by Mark Gobler
HANDOUT: Budget – All Locations and Departments
 - i. Expected to be barely in the black by the end of the fiscal year
 - ii. Curriculum books not needed as much so that will be less than represented
 - iii. Rev. Dan Oudenhoven commented that the Finance Council spent much time on this and there was conscientiousness on their approach

IV. Old Business

- a. Our Lady of Guadalupe Elementary School Visit presented by Mark Gobler
 - i. Dubuque, IA Spanish immersion school with 16-year veteran principal, ranked 2nd best Spanish immersion school in the nation
 - ii. Three universities in town, two of which are Catholic
 - iii. Higher proficiency in English and Math and the immersion is tiered with Kindergarten 90/10, 1st Grade 80/20, 2nd Grade 70/30 and so forth
 - iv. A KG and Grade 1 model would work in the start but this is in investigative stage only
 - v. Kelly K. Mechelke asked what the motivation is and Rev. Dan Oudenhoven asked where the interest comes from to which Mark Gobler says from himself and in thinking of avenues to gain students adding that the St. Olaf campus is available and there could be a partnership between McDonell and Regis
- b. Superior/Duluth Hybrid School Update presented by Paul Pedersen
 - i. Superior intrigued by Ashland cooperative with Regis and has potential for 4-5 students in Grade 8
 - ii. No Catholic High School in Duluth and this might attract more students
 - iii. Superior Bishop permitted Superior Principal to contact Regis, Superior/Duluth Bishops have discussed this and are exploring it as a viable option
 - iv. Patty Usher inquired to the minimum number of students needed to move forward with this to which Paul Pedersen answered that Regis has to start somewhere with this Hybrid/Distance Learning/CESA/Online Odysseyware option; added that it will not make money with so few to start, but it will not lose money either
 - v. Mark Gobler, John Cook, and Paul Pedersen are scheduled to attend Superior on April 6 with a Shadow Day of sorts and a redo in the evening for parents up there to get a feel as for what this could be for their children

V. New Business

- a. Accreditation presented by Kelly K. Mechelke on behalf of Renee Cassidy
 - i. On April 5, Renee Cassidy will attend a workshop in Roseville, MN
 - ii. New standards to follow so instruction will be provided at the workshop
 - iii. Committees have been chosen to start the planning next year
 - iv. Renee Cassidy will meet with the team members in August to discuss the work to be done over the next two years
- b. The Energy Bus presented by Kelly K. Mechelke
HANDOUTS: What is Leadership? and Ten Rules for the Ride of Your Life
 - i. Nicki Spears to present to Leadership, then Staff during Staff Development days prior to the start of the 2017/2018 school year, with a student introduction a few weeks into school

- c. Presidents' Meeting with Bishop Callahan presented by Mark Gobler
 - i. The Bishop is grateful for the working relationship between Regis Catholic Schools, the Education Commission, Finance Council, and applauds Central Office for specifying positions within to include Human Resources, Communications Director, and Controller

VI. Staff Reports

- a. Immaculate Conception presented by Kelly K. Mechelke on behalf of Renee Cassidy
 - i. Science Expo on April 6 with a kick-off by Dr. Erik Hendrikson, UWEC Science Professor
 - ii. First Reconciliation was February 28 with 26 students receiving the Sacrament
 - iii. Dr. Seuss Day was March 2 and a flip-reading took place with students going up to the next grade to be read to by that classroom teacher
 - iv. Battle of the Books was March 14 with Grades 4 and 5 reading 12 books to compete
 - v. Mrs. Dominique Carlson, Elementary Art Teacher, completed an extracurricular on a Saturday to make ceramic bowls for the Feed My People Empty Bowl fundraiser; Grades 4 and 5 and their parents were invited to make bowls; they made 25 bowls and 12 staff attended the meal
 - vi. Ongoing Lenten collection is for Heifer Collection: the students are bringing in quarters to purchase livestock for poverty-stricken countries during Lent
- b. St. Mary's presented by Carisa Smiskey
 - i. Grades 4 and 5 attended The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe
 - ii. Dr. Seuss Day was March 2 and Paul Pedersen came to read, had some themed events
 - iii. Stations during Lent on Tuesdays
 - iv. Lent fundraiser is Father Wilger Scholarship
 - v. Battle of the Books between St. Mary's and St. James
 - vi. First Reconciliation is after Spring Break
- c. St. James presented by Kelly K. Mechelke
 - i. Stations during Lent on Fridays
 - ii. First Reconciliation and First Eucharist season for students of the various parishes
 - iii. Lenten Mite Boxes and Jeans for Jesus are for Holy Cross Mission Parish
 - iv. Dr. Seuss Day was March 2 and Royal Reader Day occurred with Eau Claire Celebrities
- d. RMS/RHS presented by Paul Pedersen
 - i. Shadow Days with Grade 5 students showed a heavy year of oldest siblings, great turnout and interest
 - ii. ACT and ACT Work Keys at St. Pat's
 - iii. Regis Night of the Arts: Pops, Choral, Popcorn/Soda, Book Fair, Art Fair with thoughts of adding Forensics and asking what more can we do to make this bigger and better in a year or two
 - iv. Sports seasons ended shorter with no teams going to State
 - v. Paul Pedersen headed to Chippewa Falls to CESA 10 to look at options for dual options, online classes, distance learning, perhaps utilizing smaller UW systems such as Oshkosh and Barron County, CVTC instructors, etc to gain credits that are specific as opposed to general education credits, utilizing UW Transfer Wizard system, etc

****REV. DAN OUDENHOVEN, ACTING DEAN, IN THE ABSENCE OF VERY REV. DON MEURET FROM THIS POINT FORWARD DURING THIS MEETING****

- vi. Spain trip leaving tomorrow, Friday
- vii. Stations tomorrow, penance on April 4 for RMS, April 7 for RHS
- viii. ACE Collaborative at Notre Dame and Dinner with the Bishop on Monday

Miscellaneous:

Linda Schultz asked why the Education Commission meets every month to which Patty Usher responded that its part of the bylaws

Mark Gobler added that we are the only system with a Faith Council

Closing Prayer by Rev. Dan Oudenhoven
Adjournment by Patty Usher at 6:30 p.m.