

Regis Catholic Schools
Education Commission Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 21, 2017
Regis Room 107, 5:00pm

Present:

Becky Alexander	Rev. Dan Oudenhoven	Carisa Smiskey
Renee Cassidy	Paul Pedersen	Reid Sollberger
Mark Gobler	Rev. Derek Sakowski	Bill Spangler
Brian Hoeschen	Tanya Schmitz	Leslie Steinke
Rev. Paul Hoffman	Linda Schultz	Rev. Dan Thelen
Kelly K. Mechelke		

Absent:

Gayle Flaig	Meghan Kulig	Rev. George Thayikuzhithottu
Kelly Hughes	Linda Marx	Bill Uelmen
Rev. Tom Krieg	Very Rev. Don Meuret	

Minutes: Tanya Schmitz

*****REV. DEREK SAKOWSKI, ACTING DEAN, FOR THIS MEETING IN ITS ENTIRETY*****

- I. Opening
 - Call to Order: Reid Sollberger 5:00 p.m.
 - Opening Prayer: Rev. Dan Thelen
 - Acceptance of August Minutes: Accepted

- II. Introduction of New Members presented by Reid Sollberger
 - a. Introductions all around with a welcome to IC Representative, Bill Spangler
 - b. RCS Teacher Representative position will be rotating to start with Leslie Steinke attending this meeting
 - c. RHS Student Council Representative not yet in place

- III. Standing Committees Reports
 - a. School Life: no report
 - b. Teaching and Learning: no report, next meeting October 3
 - c. Catholic Identity and Mission Integration presented by Becky Alexander
 - i. High School Youth Group no longer holding monthly meetings, although Middle School Youth Group continues, moved to St. Pats for gym and kitchen accessibility
 - ii. Speaker Emily Wilson was very well-received, Becky Alexander shared some of the comments she received from others
 - iii. Senior Exit Polls and Religion Assessment Results were reviewed
 - iv. Becky Alexander passed around sheet on the Basic Principles for Healing the Culture, RCS purchased the curriculum for grades 9-12

- IV. Approval of the Strategic Plan presented by Reid Sollberger
 - HANDOUT: Strategic Plan Framework 2017-2018
 - a. Accepted

- V. Central Office Updates
 - a. No Communication Report as Meghan Kulig is at Chamber of Commerce event
 - b. No Finance Report as Kelly Hughes is working through some personnel changes in the office

- c. Enrollment Report presented by Mark Gobler
HANDOUT: 2017/2018 Enrollment Data
 - i. Increase of 5 students
 - ii. WPCP added 12 students
 - iii. Trend of public school students transferring to private schools, then returning to public schools and the reason is the rigor in the private schools

VI. Old Business

- a. Energy Bus presented by Kelly K. Mechelke
HANDOUT: Energy Bus Principles and Virtues of the Month for Elementary with Weekly Schedule of Energy Bus Principles and Core Values for Middle/High School
 - i. Energy Bus Presentation by Niki Spears for the latter of two parent meetings this year
- b. Track and Field Update by Mark Gobler
 - i. Issue with gas line but it is Xcel Energy line so RCS pays nothing for this issue
 - ii. Next meeting is next week, \$300,000 is needed before the start of stage 2
 - iii. By end of stage 1, turf will be down along with 1 layer of asphalt, turf will be in use by end of October, fencing to come next spring
 - iv. Reid Sollberger inquired as to balancing the need for a field with the need for increased teachers' salaries to which Mark Gobler responded the new field is necessary due to the deterioration of the existing field, adding that Howard Ludwigson and Chuck Larson looked into how to support higher teacher wages some years back but sustaining the level of annual revenue needed was not feasible; furthermore, the seven presidents in the Diocese discussed more flexibility with the salaries and will revisit this again in October
 - v. Reid Sollberger requested that marketing be done on how clubs and community can use the new track and field to which Mark Gobler replied that RCS has opened this up to the community including the City of Eau Claire, YMCA, etc; Mark Gobler went on to state that there are no bells and whistles, this is a small project for Rettler Corporation, it only has the bare necessities, and lastly, "It is a teaching station much like any classroom."
 - 1. Kelly K. Mechelke stated that without proper facilities, RCS does not have students, if RCS does not have students, there will be no teachers to pay, adding the ease of a one-time donation for a field versus the difficulty of fundraising for the ability to keep salaries steady or increasing

VII. New Business

- a. Staffing Updates presented by Principals
 - i. Regis Campus presented by Paul Pedersen
 - 1. Many changes including RMS Art, Science, Social Studies, Administrative Assistant, Dean of Students and RHS Spanish, with Tracy Yengo adding Health to her previous classes, Karla Petersilka adding more Math classes, Rebecca Bunkelman now full-time, Andy Niese taking RHS Physical Education in addition to RMS Physical Education and RMS Athletic Director
 - 2. Becky Alexander inquired as to Anatomy and Physiology to which Paul Pedersen responded that Dr. Dan from CVTC is leading this, eligible for dual credit, likely transfer as General Education credits
 - 3. Reid Sollberger inquired as to reasoning for late summer change from trimesters to quarters to which Paul Pedersen responded DPI regulations require a Health so Health was added and classes were shifted to accommodate this
 - ii. Immaculate Conception presented by Renee Cassidy
 - 1. Additions include new third grade teacher, Art, Music, and Administrative Assistant

- iii. St. James presented by Kelly K. Mechelke
 - 1. Additions include third grade teacher moving to second grade, adding new first and third grade teachers, Art, and Mera Hoeschen taking on St. James Physical Education in addition to St. Mary's
 - iv. St. Mary's presented by Carisa Smiskey
 - 1. New Art teacher
 - v. Central Office presented by Mark Gobler
 - 1. Karen Forden, Scrip Coordinator and Wendy Cronin, Accounts Payable
 - b. Choice/State Budget Updated presented by Mark Gobler
 - i. Income limits from 185% to 220%, increase of \$207/student, entry points unknown but hopeful for 5th and 6th, currently only KG, 1st and 9th, RCS teacher licensing possible lifetime, no PDP
 - c. Rural/Urban Basketball Proposal from WIAA presented by Mark Gobler
 - i. Proposal being fast-tracked, private schools typically in D5 will likely move to D3
 - ii. If it goes through, Milwaukee schools would likely file a lawsuit because of an element of racism
- VIII. School Reports will be e-mailed the rest of the year, but given verbally this meeting
- a. Regis Middle and High School presented by Paul Pedersen

HANDOUT: From the School Counseling Department

 - i. Continued water main issues
 - ii. Emily Wilson, Speaker
 - iii. Tom Reichenbacher awarding three Regis students for Right to Life Essays upcoming, Regis had 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in the Diocese, and 1st place will be published in Catholic Life
 - iv. Catholic Charities Speaker, inviting McDonnell over for this
 - v. Prescription Drug Use, CVS Speaker for the earlier of the two parent meetings
 - vi. Upcoming Retreats
 - vii. Hurricane Relief approximately \$1300
 - viii. School Counseling Handout, doing away with Orientations
 - ix. Assistant Superintendent, Jessica Williams, visited
 - x. Homecoming for RHS, trying something different for RMS
 - b. Immaculate Conception presented by Renee Cassidy
 - i. All day drop in on September 5, only one student did not attend
 - ii. Farm City Day on September 8
 - iii. Hurricane Relief: NCEA Student to Student, three elementary schools \$2800
 - iv. Accreditation: WRISA self-study session, 15 principals coming to work on this, Jessica Williams, Assistant Superintendent, took Tom Reichenbacher's position on the board
 - c. St. James presented by Kelly K. Mechelke
 - i. Preschool enrollment at 38, up 1 from last year, Elementary enrollment at 111
 - ii. All day drop in on September 5, only one student did not attend
 - iii. ECFD Fire Safety Presentations
 - iv. Kindness in Chalk/Spirit Shirt Day October 2
 - iv. Hurricane Relief: NCEA Student to Student, three elementary schools \$2800
 - v. Aimsweb/PALS/F & P Assessments
 - vi. Regis Pride Day October 10
 - d. St. Mary's presented by Carisa Smiskey
 - i. All day drop in on September 5, all students in attendance
 - ii. Preschool officially full
 - iii. Erika Galewski designed the Golden Bus Award for the Energy Bus similar to Mera Hoeschen's Golden Sneaker Award for gym

- iv. Leslie Steinke had a vision for a blessing box for food pantry and toiletry items, each class taking a turn, advertising for this ministry is on WQOW 18 and the Religion section of the Leader-Telegram so kudos to her
 - 1. Reid Sollberger asked Leslie Steinke about the receiving of Energy Bus by staff to which Leslie Steinke responded that the teachers are enjoying it and utilizing the reframing technique
- v. Hurricane Relief: NCEA Student to Student, three elementary schools \$2800

IX. Other Business

- a. Renee Cassidy mentioned Staff Development Day with 200 teachers and principals in attendance, Very Rev. Don Meuret provided lunch and Rev. Dan Thelen held Mass
- b. A request to remember Rev. George Thayikuzhithottu in our thoughts and prayers

Closing Prayer by Rev. Paul Hoffman

Adjournment by Reid Sollberger at 6:14 p.m.