

**Regis Catholic Schools  
Education Commission Meeting  
Thursday, January 16, 2014  
Regis High School, Room #107 5pm**

Present: Mark Gobler, Kelly Bowe, Renee Cassidy, Jenny Dykes, Very Rev. Brian Konopa, Chuck Larson, Rev. John Schultz, Mark Seyer, Denise Boos, Rev. Alan Guanella, Barb Haag, Val Knobloch, Paul Pedersen, Rev. Don Meuret, Rev. Derek Sakowski, Anna Sizer, Patty Usher, Gayle Flaig

Absent: Becky Alexander, Howard Ludwigson, Rev. David Olson, Rev. George Thayikuzhithottu

Minutes: Teresa Johnson

**I. Opening**

**Call to order:** Chuck Larson

**Opening Prayer:** Rev. Guanella

**November Minutes:** Approved, no corrections or additions

**II. Reports**

**a. Standing Committees**

- i. Governance – Chuck Larson (no report)
- ii. Teaching & Learning – Val Knobloch
  1. A few meetings have taken place regarding the curriculum development
- iii. School Life – Barb Haag
  1. Meeting with middle and high school administration. Have met with groups regarding new development of our website.

**b. RCS Administration**

- i. Mark Gobler
  1. Presentation of the MACS - St. Mary's University Masters collaboration program for their teachers. MACS pays for program in return for a commitment from the teacher after the completion of the Masters.
    - a. Approximate cost per teacher is \$13,000. We have an approximate cost of \$8,700 when a teacher leaves RCS.
    - b. Mark recommends a 3 year commitment from the teacher upon completion of the Masters.
    - c. At the January 27<sup>th</sup> staff development day Mark will present to get an indication of how many would be interested.
    - d. Commission supports this program and RCS would need funds and Diocesan approval to move forward with the program.
- ii. Renee Cassidy
  1. Accreditation report handed out. Final Accreditation report is due February 24<sup>th</sup>.

2. External Accreditation team will visit April 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>. They will visit all our schools during the week.

iii. Kelly Bowe

1. St. James will not have a 5<sup>th</sup> grade class next year. We will not be combining classes again next year. There are currently 7 students in the class and not enough for a stand-alone class. A letter was sent home to parents today. Kelly assured parents in other grades that enrollment is strong and there isn't a concern in future years. St. James will continue to be a K-5 school.

**c. RCS Foundation – Mark Seyer**

- i. Annual fund has raised \$179,000 and COEP \$60,000.
- ii. Bill Uelmen attending training for grant writing at the Eau Claire Community Foundation.
- iii. \$37,000 was given towards tuition assistance from Regis alum.
- iv. December 7<sup>th</sup> Hall of Fame banquet went well.
- v. Scholarship balances have been updated for 2014.
- vi. Eau Claire Marathon will be giving out (5) \$10,000 grants to non-profits. We need to apply by January 31.
- vii. The Foundation met on December 12<sup>th</sup>. By-laws were reviewed and will be approved at next meeting.
- viii. Non-Sibi will be April 5<sup>th</sup> at Florian Gardens. Non-Sibi honoree will be Howard Campbell (teacher at RHS).

**d. Finances – Denise Boos**

- i. At the last Finance meeting on December 10<sup>th</sup> the preliminary budget was approved. It has been submitted to the Diocese.
- ii. Book fee will be included in tuition (no longer a separate fee). Tuition is increasing 2.5% for the 2014-15 school year.
- iii. Non-parish fee is changing to \$1,200 per family (or first student) and \$300 per additional student. Letter going out to all families that do not belong to a supporting parish.

**III. Discussion Items**

a. Strategic Plan – Fr. Konopa

- i. Reviewed handout and discussed proposed responsibilities for Standing Committees of the Ed. Com. Discussion to continue at the next meeting.
  1. Executive – add: handles urgent issues between Commission meetings.
  2. Governance – discussed the appropriate level of involvement for recruitment, development, and retention of staff. What committee do these responsibilities belong in?
  3. Teaching & Learning – Change “Guarantee accreditation through AdvancEd” to “Maintain system accreditation.”

Announcements: Open Forum Parent Meeting on Tuesday, January 21, 5:30-6:30 in Regis Auditorium  
Regis Night Out Saturday, January 25 at Regis High School

**Closing Prayer – Rev. Don Meuret**  
**Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm**