

**Regis Catholic Schools  
Education Commission Meeting  
Thursday, September 17, 2020  
5:00 p.m.  
Optional Virtual WebEx Meeting or In Person Regis 107**

**Present:** Kelly Mechelke, Bill Spangler, Fr. Kieffer, Fr. Sakowski, Linda Schultz, Ashley Wolterstorff, Mark Golden, Eric Nelson, Jen Eager, Paul Pedersen, Kayla Bahnub, Carisa Smiskey, Jackie Lutz, Meghan Kulig, Linda Marx, Brian Hoeschen

**Absent:** Fr. Thadathil, Fr. Jazdzewski, Fr. Krieg, Fr. Kurzynski, Angel Olson, Gayle Flaig, Fr. Oudenhoven

**Minutes:** Lindsey Engel

- I. **5:00 p.m. Call Meeting to Order**  
**5:00 p.m. Opening Prayer – Fr. Sakowski**
- II. **Approval of August minutes: Linda Schultz**
  - a. Paul Pederson motions to approve, Linda Marx seconds the motion, all in favor to pass.
- III. **Central Office Reports**
  - a. **Communications – Meghan Kulig**
    1. The announcement has been sent out that the auction is online only this year, opening November 5 at 7pm and closing on November 8 at 10pm. We are currently working on gathering donations. Money raised will go towards tuition assistance.
    2. We will also be having dress down days at the schools to support the auction.
    3. Meghan will be taking a modified maternity leave but will still be helping out with the auction and working assorted hours from home for the rest of the year.
    4. The Rambler Report annual report issue will be going out in November.
  - b. **Enrollment – Kelly Mechelke**
    1. As of September 17, enrollment is at 772. There is a 4<sup>th</sup> grader interested in enrolling, so we may soon be back up to 773 which is considered close to full during Covid.
  - c. **HR – Jen Eager**
    1. Handout: New Staff List. The handout shows all of the current openings.
    2. Open positions include elementary technology, guidance assistant, and float cook.
    3. The new payroll schedule started for teachers with the September 11 paycheck.
    4. Eau Claire County Courthouse has opened the fingerprinting room again. Recent hires have until October 31 to complete this.
    5. Fr. Kieffer asks what percentage of our staff is Catholic. Jen will pull this report information and present this at the next meeting or have Kelly present this if she is not in attendance.

**d. Advancement Report – Mark Golden**

1. The 2020 Tuition Partnership Program and Regis Fund have both been kicked off.
2. The auction is an ongoing project in the upcoming weeks. There will be a meeting on Tuesday, September 22 to discuss where we are at with donations.
3. Mark Golden has been in communication with Mark Beckfield to discuss Non-Sibi dinner. The event would take place in January but a decision has not been made yet as to whether it will take place this year.
4. The trophy case is also an ongoing project. The labor is being provided gratis and expenses are being handled by memorial fund donations.
5. Auditorium seating project – 40 seats have been sold within a two week period. Nine seats are left but these are being held for the time being to make sure we can accommodate everyone who has already made a donation.
6. A Regis Legacy Society Member sign is in the works. This will honor donors who have contributed \$10,000 or more.

**e. Finance – Eric Nelson**

1. The annual audit took place on September 9 and 10. This is ongoing as they are tying up loose ends.
2. Eric and Jen Eager are looking at expenses related to outsourcing snow removal this year. This will be presented to the Finance Committee in October.
3. The bus that was previously thought to be dead has miraculously passed inspection and will be used throughout the year for shorter trips. Currently looking for funding sources to purchase a new bus in July.

**IV. School Reports – Received in writing**

- a. Brian Hoeschen inquired about Adoration at St. Mary's. Father Sakowski explained that they are going to be taking the monstrance to each classroom. He mentioned that we are working on safe ways to do Adoration at St. Mary's this year. He is excited that we will be able to take the time to educate children as young as kindergarteners about this. If other schools are interested, each principal can discuss with their school's pastor.

**V. Committee Reports**

- a. Catholic Identity will meet at Regis on September 29 at 3pm.
- b. Teaching and Learning will meet on October 13.

**VI. Old Business**

- a. An announcement will be sent out on Tuesday regarding some details of the ongoing investigation per Kelly Mechelke.
- b. Field of Dreams – update on outstanding amounts. Mark Golden has looked at all pledges with Eric Nelson. A total of \$45,500 has been pledged. Of that \$22,500 is due this year, about \$6,000 has already been received. Companies and individuals have been invoiced.
- c. Track and Field donor wall showing the different levels of donors will be placed on the shed facing the field. There are around 500 donors so far.
- d. There is a tentative plan to have a home game in October against Stanley/Boyd.

- e. LED lights are being provided with contributions from the high school and middle school Booster clubs and the football club.

**VII. COVID update – Kelly Mechelke**

- a. The start of the school year is going well. The majority of staff seem happy with the safety precautions being taken. Children and families are handling mask compliance very well.
- b. Kelly has been visiting each building to check in once per week or more.
- c. There have been two cases of COVID that have been quarantined.
  - 1. Father Sakowski noticed that this has already been reported in the news and brought up for discussion how we can help with making sure misinformation and panic are not being spread.
    - 1. The consensus was that we should remind everyone of the safety procedures in place and reassure them that there are COVID cases in the other school districts as well.
- d. Kelly recently met with the other six presidents in the Diocese to discuss the mask mandate. On September 28, the Governor's order will expire.
  - 1. Father Sakowski was pleased to hear about the level of compliance from students and families and believes it is more beneficial for students to attend classes with masks in person as they are doing now.

**VIII. Extracurriculars**

- a. Low contact sports started earlier and have had successful competitions.
- b. High contact sports are currently in motion with practices have started and schedules have been created. Soccer has already played one game. Volleyball is playing as this meeting is taking place. Football's first competition is Saturday.
- c. Father Kieffer asked about the level of compliance with COVID procedures in extracurricular activities. Kelly replied that some seem to be adjusting better than others, but overall compliance has been good.

**IX. Teacher Representative for Commission Meetings**

- a. Principals have proposed this to the teachers but have not had anyone interested so far.
- b. This will be discussed further at the upcoming Leadership meeting.

**X. Commission members being recognized in the schools**

- a. Kelly mentioned the commission members need to be more well known even at the building level.
- b. Meghan Kulig mentioned we could possibly add something to the Rambler report or social media about our commission and its members if the content was provided to her in advance from someone from the commission.

**XI. New Business**

- a. Handout – Organizational Chart
  - 1. The structure of the proposed chart is currently still being discussed per Father Sakowski.
  - 2. Bill Spangler wondered if the board of limited jurisdiction could be a smaller group from the commission and finance council.

**XII. 6:30 p.m. Closing Prayer by Father Kieffer**

**Meeting Adjourned 6:30 p.m.**

