

Education Advisory Committee Meeting

February 10, 2021

UNAPPROVED

Father Stevens, Mr. Michel, Mrs. Kallhoff, Adam Heinitz, Danny Geraets, Tami Schwebach, Sandy Bauer and Karey Klein were present.

Adam Heinitz called the meeting to order at 4:04 pm with Father Stevens leading us in prayer.

Previous meetings minutes were reviewed.

Tami motioned and Sandy seconded to approve January meeting minutes. All voting aye, motion passed.

Administrative Report

*It is now looking like Covid-19 vaccines will become available for educational staff in March. Staff will be encouraged but not required to get vaccinated.

*Mr. Michel and Mrs. Kallhoff are beginning to look at the 2021-2022 Master Calendar. The question was raised about a preference for Christmas break length and timing. The EAC supports the full two-week break similar to this current school year. The calendar will be finalized in the near future.

* The Follett Library Management System is now up and running. This cloud based system will greatly improve the ease and security of our library check-out process.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Please visit http://www.drstmary.org/Calendars/calendar/Monthly_Calendars.html

Old Business

- **Return to Learn Plan Update:** The EAC was asked for input regarding a change to the Return to Learn Plan. This change would remove the requirement for students to stay in one classroom throughout the day. This will allow teachers to remain in their room throughout the day and 7-12 students will begin to rotate as they have in the past. Giving teachers consistent access to their materials will support learning. This is especially true for science courses. The EAC fully supports this update.
- **Soccer Co-op Update:** The student body was surveyed regarding interest in girls soccer participation. Two students in grades 7-12 indicated interest. The board discussed the pros and cons of joining the soccer co-op. While interested in supporting students and their passions is a priority, community and excellence are also important values that were considered. The fall season currently offers three (Cross Country, Volleyball, and Cheer)

athletic options for girls at St. Mary. At this time, the EAC does not think a school of our size can support a fourth fall option.

Committee Reports

Marketing & Retention: Karey and Sandy have activated the St. Mary Canva account. Megan Ahlers will begin to utilize this as well. This will allow for high quality graphics and consistency in our marketing materials. School promotion, events, family profiles, and sharing about the St. Mary values are top priorities.

As we embark on a campaign for St. Mary's future, review of the Vision, Values, and Mission Statement should take place. An official style guide will also be helpful as more promotional materials are created.

Finance: We are looking into EANS (Education Assistance for Non-public Schools) funds that may be available. The diocese is investigating this support and whether or not schools could and should pursue funding for Covid-related support. It was decided that the last round of PPP would not be pursued due to the potential regulations tied to receiving those funds.

Policy & Curriculum: No updates at this time.

Facilities: Danny will be forming a small committee to begin the process of fundraising for the building project. This committee will help develop and identify a potential donor list, specifically focused on lead gifts, larger gifts, and potential corporate opportunities.

New Business

- **Athletic Uniform Color Policy:** A question was raised about alternate (non-red or white) color athletic uniforms. It has been noted that football and boys basketball have black uniforms in addition to red and white. These alternate uniforms were fully funded by the teams and/or donors. We will examine an official policy stating that the only alternate color will be black (already part of the St. Mary Color scheme) and will need to be funded through outside sources. Official school colors remain red and white.
- **Reading Curriculum:** The K-5 Reading Curriculum will be updated this summer. After reviewing four options, the teachers have selected McGraw Hill's Wonders (2020) series. The cost is estimated at \$26,688.
- **Kindergarten Round Up:** Father would like to personally reach out to each family with Kindergarten aged children to invite them to join us at St. Mary.
- **New Marching Band Uniforms:** We have received quotes for official St. Mary Marching Band uniforms. The estimated cost per kit is \$508. The Booster Club breakfast funds will be dedicated to this purchase. Additional fundraising opportunities are also being explored.

Closing Prayer

Next meeting will be Wednesday March 10th at 4:00 PM .

Tami motioned and Danny seconded to adjourn meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:34 pm.