

# School Commission Minutes

## February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Attendance: Father Oakland, Sarah Katsandres, Brett Conway, Mark Golubiec, Brendan Kolding, Pat Galvin, Mike Curran, Kevin McMahan, Maritherese Thomas, Mary Jo McFaul, Terry Burns, Christy Tobin-Presser, Mary Moan, Joellyn DeRonghe

Missing: Jodi Underwood, Ken Tews

Opening Prayer: Father

January Minutes approved

Appreciation Cards for next meeting: Grandparents hosts, Catholic School week effort

### Pastor Report:

- Principal search
  - Few solid candidates (3-4), working to schedule initial interviews
  - 150 parents responded to principal survey

### 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Iowa Testing Report

Mrs. Helling/Meland & Ms. Simpson/Walder

- 2<sup>nd</sup> year for HR 3<sup>rd</sup> graders taking this test
- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade rating 75%+
- 4<sup>th</sup> grade rating 75%+
- Visible growth rate from last years 3<sup>rd</sup> graders, now in 4<sup>th</sup> on the Iowa tests
- CogAT Tests – measures reasoning skills, and child's ability to do well in school
  - Helps teachers evaluate learning styles, needs of kids in specific areas, etc.
- Mathletics Program – web-based math program, allows teachers to assign additional work
  - Has shown significant improvement in raising Iowa Test scores

### Principal Report:

- Chairs of the accreditation team should come and present to the SC prior to EOY
  - When this happens, important to have full house/attendance by SC
- Open House seemed to be the most well attended in George's 3yrs
- George beginning Faculty reviews for 2016/17
  - Hopes not to reduce and maintain all he can. Keep the consistency for the incoming Principal
- Met with 1 individual of the Development Committee
  - Feels this committee should be EOL
  - A few members would like to present to the SC and Pastor on the way out
- Grant Committee
  - Expressed desire not to close out the campaigns that haven't been fully funded
- Centennial Campaign
  - \$689,114
    - Had George been more familiar with the environment here, may have reassessed his goal from 1MM to \$500k
  - Should this be closed/ended
- Annual fund
  - Pledged \$155,719
  - Paid \$107,140
  - 247 givers
    - 23 Staff
    - 201 families / 299 total families
    - 23 Alumni
      - In general the Fund is behind pace

- Magazine and Tree Lot appear to have surpassed budget, final numbers forthcoming
- Kamila suggesting SC members become Table Captains for the Auction
  - Brett reinforcing the SC members do what they can to support the Auction, generating attendance, buzz, etc.
- Enrollment
  - 451 First Day of School, 454 as of Feb 1 2016
  - Early projections for 2016/17 enrollment estimated @ 435 (19 less than where we're at today Feb 4<sup>th</sup> 2016)
    - We were 20 down from 14/15 starting this school year
    - Potential additional gap of \$200k+
    - Looming hard decisions; potential program cuts, staff cuts, loan from the Archdiocese
  - Big issue private schools are facing is the national shrinking of the Middle Class.
  - Kevin M suggested hosting another Open House and promoting a hot-topic such as earthquake preparedness

### **Parents Club**

- Requesting/pressing SC attend meetings
- Opening for VP next year as Jo will take over Pres duties

### **Communications / Marketing**

- FB has increased by 24%
- Averaging 12 posts per month
  - Was a 6mo period prior that had zero
- In general the social media effort has been very positive, and should continue to prosper – but takes effort

### **Alumni Outreach**

- 139 FB members
- Working on outreach/database to generate contact information of past HR student body

### **School Commission: Open enrollment effort begins, looking for 2-3**

- Marithere, Hennigler, and Ken Tews terms are ending
  - Hennigler has stepped down early effective immediately
- Time of year when we need to generate new members for school year beginning September 2017
- Kevin McMahan and Mike Curran to take lead on initial interviews, etc.
- Every SC Member should actively recruit a candidate or two for consideration

### **SC / Faculty interviews**

- Mike to send comments out to all SC Members
- Suggestions for next year
  - Change up the questions, try and get the guard down so answers are more free
  - Questions that drive expanded answers vs Y/N