

**School Commission (SC) Meeting**  
**February 6, 2020**  
**6:00 PM**

*Present:* Barbara Spiering, Anna Horton, Beth Martin, Ben Gauyan, Molly Ward, Karl Mowat, Sara Volta, Elena Gruner, Jennifer Wong, Tara Martin, Fr. Oakland, Michele Zinski, Martina Phelps, Rebecca Lawrence, Dino Annest, Jason Kadushin, Mary Ann Fessler

*Absent:* Karin Hansen, Alison Morton, Jackie Bryan, Jennifer Kokkonis

**Opening Prayer**

Father Oakland led the School Commission in the opening prayer.

**Approval of Minutes**

The December and January minutes were deemed approved.

**Approval of Bylaws**

Bylaws updates reviewed at the January meeting were approved.

**Pastor's Report**

Last week was Catholic School's Week and the 8<sup>th</sup> graders won the volleyball match. The school endowment hit \$1million in total donations with \$867k in donations over the last 20 years. This endowment is a key part of our long-term financial goals for the school.

February means Lent is coming in three weeks. Let's start talking about what we are going to do to celebrate Lent. We have several families and children in the school that will be receiving Sacrament during this Lent season.

**Principal's Report**

The Archdiocese of Seattle is creating a revised family handbook to be distributed next year. The new handbook will be much more extensive and consistent across all schools in the archdiocese.

Testing is tomorrow for incoming kindergarteners. We expect to have a full Kindergarten next year and most of our current families have reenrolled. We already have over 400 families in Alma, our new system and are in the final stages of tracking down those who have not reregistered to validate intent. This will allow us to come back from mid-winter break and start finalizing next year's budget.

Mrs. Uding is leaving HRS after this school year to be closer to her family in Eastern Washington. A replacement third grade position is currently posted.

Repairs on concrete work are scheduled to begin next week on Thursday (weather dependent). With the long weekend and mid-winter break this will minimize impacts to students. All the

rain has allowed us to validate there is no puddling on the turf, so the drainage is working as expected.

Tuesday night is Facilities Committee (FamCom). A topic for discussion will be which direction to go on the roof replacement for Lanigan gym. FamCom has the numbers on the bids and will also discuss weather to do a whole new roof or just an overlay. We should have decisions and plans in next the 6-8 weeks, especially if we plan to move forward with roof work this summer.

We have two bids for tuck-pointing on the school; they are very different in numbers. The difference is related to the recommendation on how much work to do on the south side of the church. More research is needed to decide how extensive our tuck-pointing work will be.

### **Enrollment/Marketing Report**

Jennifer Kokkonis was absent, details for Enrollment / Marketing were included in the Principal's report.

### **Development Report**

The grandparent's lunch was a success and we had a lot of happy grandparents and special friends. We have netted approximately \$6500 and will be able to fully pay for meals.

The Annual Fund is at \$110,500. We can expect another \$60k to come in from people paying monthly and will come in at \$170k without an extra push. With reenrollment, 168 families have already signed up for next year's Annual Fund.

The Auction is a little over a month away. Tickets go on sale on Monday and the EFC sign-up genius will open next Thursday. Online Auction opens Feb 27 and runs through that Sunday at 10pm.

### **Parents' Club Report**

There was no January meeting due to snow closures. The March meeting will now be Principal Horton and Mrs. Borne to cover the January topics, as well as the scheduled State of the School.

PC is having ongoing discuss about screening the *Screenagers* documentary. This 70-minute film is about teenagers and screen usage, and an open discussion would be held afterwards. The meeting may be opened up to teenagers to attend with their parents. Another possibility is inviting someone from the SPD Online Community to present.

### **Financial Report**

Income is trending upwards, so the forecast to budget has been increased in the recent budget statement. Fundraising has exceeded expectations. We were conservative going into this year assuming fundraising competition from the Call to Serve campaign would impact HRS fundraising. We went in with a conservative forecast for BASE as well and it is earning much higher. Expenses are also down resulting in an expected \$450k to \$500k surplus compared to budget forecast of \$168k surplus. The bottom line is, as we review the 7+5 budget, we are

looking great for surplus and trending towards a great end of year to help with upcoming capital fund major expenditures.

New Smart Boards will be funded from Technology Funds that were earmarked in reserve.

Open discussion on how conservative should we continue to be with planning if we consistently come in over our forecast surplus and how to forecast fundraising which is unpredictable. We need an accurate budget as we assess tuition increases. The SC's goal is to increase transparency and ensure all families throughout the year's bear an equal financial weight for maintaining the school.

### **Open Discussion**

The decision to close for the recent snow days was based on the scheduled late start/early release on top of recesses. It would have been an extremely short day. Part of our consideration towards following the Seattle School Districts' closure recommendation is that we know that the school district is driving around and assessing the roads. It gives us a good guideline, but it is not a hard policy.

Increased safety issues were addressed in the recent EFC, predicated by 6 recent child luring attempts in the last two weeks in the broader Seattle area. Open discussion on safety issues, revisiting the walking school bus and new security cameras.

The SC broke out into committees to work.

### **Closing Prayer**

Karl Mowat led the School Commission in the closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned.