

GRACE Board of Trustees
April 11, 2017
Minutes
6:30 p.m. - GRACE Administrative Offices

Members present: Sue Amtmann, Jessica Beauchamp, Mary Burich, Phil Busch, Gerry Faller, John Hanley, Lisa Jackovich, Ed Kippley, Sheila Kujava, Paul Kunesh, Chet Lamers, Bill Micksch, Amy Pautzke, John Peterson, Chris Steier, Marv Wall, Melissa Wolcanski

Others present: Kim Desotell, Lisa Niemuth, Olgamar Amor, Lori Ashmann-Recorder

Members not present: Dan Bins, Holly Prikockis

Opening Prayer: Bill Micksch

1. Motion made by John Peterson and seconded by Marv Wall to approve the February 14, 2017 minutes. Motion carried.
2. Motion made by Mary Burich and seconded by Melissa Wolcanski to accept the meeting minutes of the Committees: ECIS, February and March 2017; Finance and Facilities, January and February 2017; Human Resources, February and March 2017. Motion carried.
3. Guests were welcomed and introduced: Lisa Niemuth, GRACE Director of Development, and Olgamar Amor, St. Thomas More Catholic School Principal.
4. Olgamar Amor, Principal of St. Thomas More Catholic School, provided the Board a presentation sharing experience, accomplishments, and initiatives involving St. Thomas More Catholic School. Aspects shared included the school's mission statement, Hispanic population, CHOICE implications, early childhood to kindergarten immersion program, middle school block schedule, implementation of electives, end of trimester events, study skills support, school-wide data use, technology integration for daily announcements (link viewed - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I2JpCtUaEOY>), new approach and format for parent-teacher conferences, positive and increased parent engagement, overall academic improvement, facility organization and improvements, educator/teacher support, and WRISA accreditation. Recognition and appreciation extended to Olgamar for her contributions and ongoing leadership.
5. Lisa Niemuth, GRACE Director of Development, provided an overview to the Board of her development activities. Lisa has been in her position for five months with initial primary focus on the annual appeal and donor stewardship. Lisa reviewed efforts in setting goals for 2017/2018, the kick-off appeal weekend of September 16-17, 2017, research and procurement of a donor system - DonorPerfect, and facilitation of networking among the Site Advisory Committees (SACs). Lisa was acknowledged for her contributions and enthusiastic and positive impact to development activities in addition to constituent and public relations.
6. Kim Desotell provided her President's Report:
 - a. Marketing and recruitment initiatives continue in earnest. Applications to the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP) have increased.
 - b. Professional staff development activities were reviewed with highlight of the three GRACE educators receiving leadership/teaching awards. Upcoming attendance at the National Catholic Education Association Conference (NCEA) was also reviewed.
 - c. Efforts continue addressing teacher satisfaction, recruitment of talent and retention in addition to curriculum coordination and leadership.
 - d. Open enrollment for 2017-18 was reviewed; some classes are being waitlisted and enrollment continues to be monitored very closely.

- e. Applications for 2017-2018 financial aid continue and remain stable.
7. Committee Reports:
- a. Human Resources - Mary Burich
 - i. Committee has addressed the need for background checks and VIRTUS training for SAC members. The Committee recommends that both be completed for SAC members. It is realized that many SAC members may already have these requirements completed due to overlapping roles in other areas such as coaching, etc. The implementation mechanics were discussed along with acknowledging that the requirements are consistent with the GRACE mission of serving and protecting. Motion made by Sue Amtmann and seconded by Chris Steier that all SAC members undergo a background check and complete VIRTUS training with VIRTUS training ideally completed by the end of October. Motion carried. Mary Burich will work on appropriate communications.
 - ii. Committee is positive on the health insurance/benefits for employees; a robust plan will be available July 1st and is more attractive to employees.
 - b. Education and Catholic Identity Committee - Sue Amtmann
 - i. Evaluation of the Catholic Identity Assessment Tool has found value in its use and process.
 - ii. Committee has received an overview of the Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) data. Board members were encouraged to review the links listed in the ECIS March 2017 meeting minutes.
 - iii. Committee supports the initiative to create a Director of Learning position to meet the teachers' request for development, further incorporate faith, and work across the schools.
 - iv. Committee supports the Meitler Study identification for GRACE to focus on our "product" of "the value of Catholic education as evidenced in our students".
 - c. Finance and Facilities - Marv Wall
 - i. Financial packets provided. It is forecasted that financials will be break-even at the end of the year. Questions welcomed.
 - ii. Committee is addressing building and grounds, specifically at ways to support operations and improvements; Committee is looking at process and formalization.
 - iii. Teacher compensation study continues.
8. Bill Micksch provided a Board of Directors update. The Board of Directors met on March 24, 2017. The Board is very engaged and recap provided of the Bishop's visioning of the future and embrace of the Meitler Study. Efforts continue to evaluate the parish subsidy formula/model.
9. Next Meeting: June 13, 2017. This meeting is anticipated to be held at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College to allow for touring of its new business building and focus on discussion of GRACE facilities. Details will be finalized and announced.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.