

**Annual Meeting  
Of the  
Board of Directors**

**April 8, 2016  
Minutes  
St. Francis Xavier Conference Room**



Members Present: Bishop Ricken, Joe Bound, Bishop Morneau, Fr. Dan Felton, Fr. Cribben, O. Praem, Fr. Shilcox, O. Praem, Fr. Weber, O. Praem, Fr. Jack Harper, Fr. Bob Kabat, Fr. Demuth, Fr. Dorner, Fr. Mark Vandersteeg, Fr. Bergstadt

Others Present: Kim Desotell GRACE President; Bill Micksch, BOT Chair; Heidi Janowski, GRACE Business Services Director; Accountant; Marv Wall, GRACE BOT Finance Chair; Donna Meulemans, GRACE Executive Assistant., Bridget O'Connor, Kevin Shaw; NDA, Tom Kunkel; CL

Not Present: Fr. Getchel, Fr. Cirignani, Fr. Viertel, Sr. Jane Riha, Fr. Beno, Fr. Neilson, Fr. Everts

- I. Catholic Link presentation: Bridget O'Connor, Kevin Shaw, Tom Kunkel, Kim Desotell, Bill Micksch
- II. Motion made by Fr. Kabat to approve the November 11, 2015 minutes; seconded by Fr. Weber; motion carried.
- III. Serving Catholic Families Together - Bill Micksch
  - A. Summary of Call to Faith Questions
  - B. Parish/Family Registered Data
    1. Proposal to send out a joint letter between parish and GRACE to all the unknown, not registered and NIGS families in the hopes of evangelizing to these families and encourage them to join a GRACE parish
    2. Proposed to include in the tuition billing to families the total cost of tuition and the amount the parishes pay to show the breakdown of tuition
      - a. This will be brought back to the Consultor group to draft a letter
- IV. GRACE Financial Reports
  - A. Going on year six of GRACE and we are showing more consistencies going forward
  - B. To date we are tracking very close to our budget for the year
  - C. Suggestion to contact Joe Bound in October with the number of students currently enrolled for budgetary purposes
- V. President's Report - Kim Desotell
  - A. Review of the enrollment report and what the numbers mean
  - B. This year starting to do exit surveys for families who chose not to return to GRACE
  - C. SJP II Classical School - enrollment is lower than anticipated at this time with 24 students, but we are entirely committed to this school
    1. Headmaster Brad Norton has stepped down but we have hired Carol Ricken as Interim Administrator as well as two teachers

2. SJP II will be positioned within Holy Family School as a school within a school.
- D. Study on Teacher Compensation
- E. Principal vacancy at SJB school; we have two strong candidates, hoping to name new leader by May 1st
- F. Working on building the GRACE infrastructure, starting a new payroll administration system
  1. Catholic schools are an outreach of the parish
  2. Catholic schools equip our children to live out the mission of our church
- G. Recruitment of BOT members - Bill Micksch
  1. Seven parish vacancies on the board; we would like to fill at least four with very strong core leaders

VI. Other Business:

- A. Report from Fr. Kabat on merger of SM/RES.
  1. Waiting on the busing issue
  2. Staffing is going well
  3. Linking many of the ministries, masses and sacraments
  4. Name reveal will be announced April 21<sup>st</sup>
- B. Fr. Harper suggesting talking with Bob Lemieux from St. Joseph school about recruiting students into the GRACE system

VII. Bishop Ricken's Comments

- A. 57 catholic schools in the diocese, our rural schools are struggling; eight are considering closure
- B. A task force named "School Vitality" has been formed to help. The Miger Group from Milwaukee has been hired to come visit the schools to study where the schools are at and how to help them succeed
- C. We are also looking at the ways the schools are working well and how that can help to assist the struggling schools
- D. After 18 months will do a presentation of his results

Adjournment and Closing Prayer/Blessing

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm