

GRACE Board of Trustees
Tuesday, August 11, 2015
Minutes
6:30 pm - GRACE Administrative Offices

Members present: Bill Micksch, John Hanley, John Peterson, Marv Wall, George Georgia, Dan Bins, Sue Amtmann, Alan James, Phil Busch, Lisa Jackovich, Chris Steier, Chuck Gustafson, Sheila Kujava, Susan Wirtala, Mary Ann Brunette, Mary Burich

Others Present: Kim Desotell, Kay Franz, Principal of St. Matt/Resurrection, Callie Lacy- St. Matt SAC, Donna Meulemans

Members not present: Amy Pautzke, Matt Bumgardner, Mark Kralovec

1. Opening prayer: Kim Desotell
2. Motion made by John Peterson to approve the June 9, 2015 Board of Trustee minutes; seconded by Mary Burich; motion carried. Motion made by John Peterson to approve Education and Catholic Identity and Finance Committee minutes; seconded by Mary Burich; motion carried.
3. St. Matthew/Resurrection Reorg update – PPT presentation by Mary Burich
Kay Franz, Callie Lacy
4. Open Forum – Kim Desotell
5. Introductions and welcome by Kim
 - Kim Desotell - Excited about the position and health of GRACE right now.
 - Mary Burich – Resurrection: excited about the collaboration between GRACE, NDA, SNC. Challenge/opportunity to impact how catholic education looks and feels.
 - Mary Ann Brunette – St. Francis Xavier Cathedral: Proud of where we are now as compared to where we were when we started. Challenges: Less children out there who are interested in catholic education.
 - Susan Wirtala - St. Patrick: Proud of the collaboration between GRACE, NDA, SNC as an avenue to get parents excited about catholic education. There have been many changes, but there still needs to be more changes.
 - Sheila Kujava – St. Jude: collaboration is the best thing GRACE has done.
 - Chuck Gustafson – SSPP: pleased with the innovation of St. Matt & Resurrection, people working together and communicating is so very important. Challenge: We need to be aware of what the Pope is coming out with and understand how our church is changing.
 - Chris Steier - OLOL: There are a lot of passionate people in GRACE and we are on the upswing. Challenge: at OLOL, GRACE is still talked about negatively by

some, the parishes and schools still are not collaborating well together at some sites and parishes.

- Lisa Jackovich - Prince of Peace: I have seen the strategic and coming together of the schools with the common message of GRACE.
- Phil Busch - St. Bernard: proud of the parents and the passion they have. Opportunities: Take credit for our successes and communicate that to the parishes.
- Alan James - St. Agnes: I have seen where it was and where it is going and I see it accelerating. Challenge: The decline in catholic families not sending their children to a catholic school.
- Sue Amtmann - Nativity of our Lord: The energy in the last 2 years has been amazing and I am very encouraged by all the efforts going on.
- Dan Bins - St. Mary of the Angels: Excited about the high energy, challenge is keeping the seats filled and finding a good principal for STM.
- George Georgia – SEAS: Concerns about the survival of STM. As a system we might want to explore the idea of a catholic middle school. Concerned about how the vouchers may impact us in the future.
- Marv Wall - St. Francis De Pere: On the finance committee, proud of the collaboration that has happened over the years. The positive changes that have occurred over all the years and how much more positive we are and how much more stronger we are financially. Biggest challenge is to educate the students and increase our enrollment annually instead of declining.
- John Peterson - Holy Cross: Most proud of the quality of the education GRACE provides. Proud of the fact that GRACE turns out very well rounded individuals. Challenge is the decline of enrollment.
- John Hanley – SJB: Most impressed that I found a catholic school here. Challenge is the welcoming and inclusion of working parents.

We will use these comments to promote GRACE when we are out talking with parents to encourage enrollment.

We are working on teacher salaries and will continue to work on that and we need to still address athletics down the road.

6. Treasurer Approval – Open Position. Marv has recommended that Christ Steier take over as the new treasurer. Board approved.
7. President’s Report – Kim Desotell
Update on where we are with the STM principal search. We had 12 applicants. Phone interviews take place, then face to face interviews. We hope to move this hire along quickly.
8. Committee Reports
 - a. Education and Catholic Identity – Sue Amtmann
 - i. Ongoing agenda of items such as, curriculum, Catholic Identity Assessment Tool (getting the pilot program started in a gentle way), also working on trying to listen to needs of the principals, which would involve

having one principal attend our meetings to get a better handle on needs, policies, etc.

- b. Human Resources Committee: Mary Burich
 - i. Need approval of the Conference and Training policy. Motion made by Sue Amtmann to approve the Conference and Training policy; seconded by Mary Ann Brunette; motion carried.
 - ii. Need approval of the Dress Code policy. Motion made by Chuck Gustafson to approve the Dress Code policy; seconded by Chris Steier; motion carried.
 - iii. Working on an onboarding policy and exiting interview process
 - iv. Changing the HR meetings to Tuesday nights right before the BOT meetings
- c. Strategic Planning – No Meeting
- d. Finance & Facilities – Marv Wall
 - i. Audit will be complete for the next meeting
 - ii. We are in the process of contracting with an auditing firm for the next 3 – 5 years. We should have that completed for the Sept. meeting

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.