

**GRACE Board of Trustees**  
**August 11, 2020**  
**Minutes**  
**6:30 p.m. – Google Meet**

**Present:** Sue Amtmann, Jessica Beauchamp, Mary Burich, Ed Kippley, Chet Lamers, Bill Micksch, John Peterson, Chris Steier, Marv Wall, Kelly Williams

**Others Present:** Todd Blahnik, Fr. Michael Ingold, Fr. Robert Kabat, Abbot Gary Neville, Fr. Tom Reynebeau, Fr. Mathew Simonar, Fr. Jose Lopez-Vargas, Kim Desotell, Gerry Faller, Lisa Niemuth, Lori Ashmann-Recorder

**Not present:** Dan Bins, Amy Pautzke

Bill Micksch called the meeting to order with an opening prayer. Welcome was extended to GRACE Board of Directors who were able to join in this meeting for the Fall 2020 Return to Learn presentation.

1. Fall 2020 Return to Learn: Bill Micksch and Kim Desotell introduced the Fall 2020 Return to Learn presentation highlighting the comprehensive components of the plan and the rigorous evaluation and work that has been completed to return to school on August 26. Planning teams have been established and continue to be engaged. All were directed to the to the Reopening GRACE Schools public web pages: [LINK](#). The presentation reviewed the reports and updates from each Board Committee: Catholic Identity, Education, Facilities, Finance and Human Resources.
  - a. Faith and Education: Sue Amtmann provided an overview of the Education Committee led task force on this subject and highlighted the key faith and academic aspects and guidance.
  - b. Facilities: Chris Steier elaborated on information concerning safety and sanitation in addition to involved regulations, rules and standardization of protocols.
  - c. Finance: Gerry Faller expanded on PPP funding, budget realignment, revenue adjustments, and other revenue sources. Support via technology services has been built up and increased. Budget realignment is occurring with increased focus on essential needs and pandemic response. Communications are ongoing with parish partners. Third Source Funding has been impacted due to event limitations but Site Advisory Councils are working hard to enlist alternative activities. Other revenue is being sought such as a grant for food service which has been received.
  - d. Human Resources: Human Resources is working to support employees in respect to health, safety and wellbeing. New Director of Human Resources, Brenda Daming, is on board and fully engaged in personnel activities.
  - e. Academic Learning Modes: Kim Desotell proceeded to review the optional academic learning mode being offered- the Grace Virtual Academy (GVA)- which is an added amenity for families. The Academy will involve dedicated team of GRACE teachers, standardized tools, synchronous and asynchronous expectations and achievement markers along with faith integration. Principal Andrew Mulloy will be assisting with administrative support of GVA. Specific transfer periods are involved including an initial school year grace period to change learning modes.
  - f. Enrollment: The current status and projection of enrollment was recapped.
  - g. Closing: An invitation was extended to all Board members to engage in supportive action steps. A question and answer period commenced and discussion followed.
2. Development Update: Lisa Niemuth reported on the following.
  - a. Anniversary: An update was provided concerning the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary reviewing the key messages and goals, logo and key celebration activities including calendar raffle and now deferred Blessing Mass.

- b. Annual Appeal: A report was given reviewing the 2020-21 Annual Appeal kickoff weekend in September which is involving a new format due to the pandemic. Discussion followed.
  - c. COVID-19 Emergency Funding and Outreach: A review of initiatives that have taken place to secure community support via grants and other programming was completed. This support has been essential to food service, outreach and safety.
3. Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Sue Amtmann and seconded by Kelly Williams to approve the June 9, 2020 Board meeting minutes. Motion carried. Motion made by Marv Wall and seconded by Sue Amtmann to approve the presented Committee meeting minutes. Motion carried.
  4. Catholic Classical High School Update: Bill Micksch informed the group that the June recommendation of the Board of Trustees was sent on to the Board of Directors for vote and at this time we are awaiting action from Bishop Ricken.
  5. President's Report: Appreciation was extended to all for their involvement and ongoing support during the unprecedented and challenging times as we remain committed to being flexible and posed to adapt through a lens of faith.
  6. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: October 13, 2020