

GRACE Board of Trustees
October 13, 2020
Minutes
6:30 p.m. – Google Meet

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

Others Present: Kim Desotell, Gerry Faller, Molly Mares, Jeff Young, Lori Ashmann-Recorder

Not present: Chet Lamers, Amy Pautzke

Bill Micksch called the meeting to order with an opening prayer. The agenda was reviewed and two guests were welcomed: Principal Molly Mares and Principal Jeff Young.

1. Notre Dame School of De Pere Update: Principal Molly Mares provided a review of the new school building level by level highlighting facility aspects such as flexible spaces and faith integration. Principal Mares proceeded to present on a successful start to the school year, pandemic response and the new facility's beneficial impact to teaching and learning such as resources being in one place, increased collaboration opportunities and larger spaces prompting less distraction to students. Discussion ensued. Principal Mares was commended for her leadership and contributions.
2. Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School Re-entry Plan: Principal Jeff Young presented on the school's plan to return to face-to-face / in-person teaching and learning. Modifications to the school's schedule, safety and hygiene protocols along with staffing were highlighted. Parent feedback cited including their commitment to ensuring health assessment of their children and adherence to protocols. Principal Young reviewed advocacy for children including in person instruction essential for academics, social skills, socio-emotionality and spirituality. The learning mode status of neighboring schools was reviewed. Two school parents who are physicians have reviewed and approved the re-entry plan. Discussion ensued. Appreciation was extended to Principal Young for his presentation.
3. Re-Entry Fall 2020: Bill Micksch and Kim Desotell provided an overview of the decision to pivot to virtual learning for schools. Work is already underway on re-entry planning for all sites. Parent feedback was cited. Re-entry plans may require differences school to school. Re-entry timing may also differ school to school. Discussion followed. Continued planning will take place involving each school. A representative advisory team of GRACE parents who are physicians will be sought to provide input and review the re-entry plans of the remaining eight schools. Jessica Beauchamp and Kelly Williams will work with Kim Desotell on this initiative. Mary Burich will assist with input on development of a return to school health survey.
4. Committee Reports: Due to the extent of the meeting, Committee Reports were kept to essential notables with reference to meeting minutes.
 - a. Education: Sue Amtmann reported that the group looks forward to identification of new members per the ongoing Strategic Plan work.
 - b. Facilities: Chris Steier reported that good collaboration is occurring with the parishes in respect to cleaning protocols at the school sites.
 - c. Human Resources: No report.
 - d. Finance: No report.
5. Financial Report: Gerry Faller presented the Financial Audit Report 2019-20 and Wipfli Auditor's Report 2019-20. An audit summary was provided and discussion followed. The Finance Committee met with the Wipfli representative at its last meeting which was very beneficial. Discussion followed. Motion made by Chris Steier and seconded by John Peterson to approve the 2019-20 Audit as presented. Motion carried.

6. Board of Trustees Chair Report: Bill Micksch reported on the following.
 - a. Board Recruitment: Work continues to secure new members to Committees and the Board. Bill Micksch, Kim Desotell and Gerry Faller are moving forward and Trustees were reminded and encouraged to submit recommendations via the established Google Form. Discussion followed. It was suggested that possibly a health committee may be optimal to provide ongoing and regular oversight of both student and staff health related matters going forward even beyond the pandemic.
 - b. Schedule of Agenda Topics: The 2020-21 schedule of regular agenda topics for the full Board, Finance Committee and Education Committee was presented for information.
7. President's Report: Kim Desotell presented her report and highlighted the following.
 - a. GRACE: Gold Summer Camp 2020: Summer Camp was another success and the full report was provided for information.
 - b. Enrollment: Enrollment remains fluid given the pandemic and is being monitored closely. Overall enrollment increased for K-8 and decreased for preschool.
8. Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Sue Amtmann and seconded by Chris Steier to approve the August 11, 2020 Board meeting minutes in addition to the presented Committee meeting minutes. Motion carried.
9. Re-Entry Fall 2020: Re-entry discussion resumed. It will be important to provide talking points and communications effectively and timely. Families are struggling with uncertainty. Consensus to proceed with re-entry of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School on October 19, 2020 followed by re-entry of remaining schools as their re-entry plans are solidified and the school is fully prepared which may occur on a staggered basis.
10. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Next Meeting: December 8, 2020