

GRACE Board of Trustees

August 10, 2021

Minutes

6:30 p.m. – Virtual (Google Meet) and In Person at GRACE Riverside Office

Present: Sue Amtmann, Nick Anderson, Jessica Beauchamp, Dan Bins, Mary Burich, Leah Cohen, Ed Kippley, Chet Lamers, Bill Micksch, Chris Steier, Kelly Williams

Others Present: Kim Desotell, Gerry Faller, Brenda Daming, Lisa Niemuth, Lori Ashmann-Recorder

Not Present: Amy Pautzke, John Peterson, Marv Wall

Bill Micksch called the meeting to order with an opening prayer.

1. Welcome and Introductions: New member, Nicholas (Nick) Anderson and guests were welcomed to the meeting and introductions occurred.
2. Development Update: Lisa Niemuth, GRACE Director of Development, provided a summary of activities including the 2020-21 Annual Appeal, 2021 Inaugural Day of GRACE, Spring 2021 Anonymous Donor Recognition of Contracted Teachers and planning for the 2021-22 Annual Appeal. The 2021-22 Annual Appeal will kick-off the weekend of September 18th and 19th with Mass presentations resuming after last year's hiatus due to Covid. Efforts continue to secure presenters at Masses throughout the 23 GRACE affiliated parishes. Presentations by families are very impactful. The Board will be provided with the Mass sign up document and scripts. Appreciated was extended to Lisa for her work on these activities and many more above and beyond the Annual Appeal.
3. Appreciation: Bill Micksch shared a thank you communication from Very Rev. Dan Felton for the acknowledgement extended by GRACE to him on his appointment as Bishop of the Diocese of Duluth.
4. Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Chris Steier and seconded by Mary Burich to approve the June 8, 2021 Board meeting minutes. Motion carried. Motion made by Sue Amtmann and seconded by Mary Burich to approve the presented Committee meeting minutes. Motion carried.
5. President's Report: Kim Desotell presented her report and highlighted the following.
 - a. Spring 2021 MAP Results: The GRACE Spring 2021 MAP Results Report dated June 14, 2021 was reviewed identifying that despite Covid learning growth occurred. Specific Power Statements documented within the report were highlighted. Discussion followed.
 - b. Enrollment: 2021-22 enrollment statistics including growth areas were provided. At this time, GRACE enrollment is up +170 students overall.
 - c. Marketing: The new GRACE websites have launched. Sites provided fresh imagery and better organization. Sites are being fine-tuned. The Director of Marketing and Communications position is vacant and a coverage plan is in place for responsibilities while hiring efforts take place.
 - d. Education Event: GRACE has been asked to host a summit on education which will entail discussions involving Congressman Mike Gallagher, Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty and American Enterprise Institute. The summit will take place on August 18th at Notre Dame School of De Pere.
 - e. Family Communication: The President letter to families dated July 29, 2021 was shared. Going forward each school site will be issuing their weekly Family Newsletter on Wednesdays. These Newsletters will include a periodic President's article to further promote system-wide communication.

- f. Covid Safety Plans Fall 2021: The school site safety plans were presented for action. Kim Desotell provided an introduction and overview of which the primary goals are safety and to maintain in-person teaching and learning. The nine plans encompass site safety protocols in relation not only to masking and quarantining but also scheduling, staffing, etc. Discussion ensued and feedback was shared. Motion made by Kelly Williams and seconded by Chris Steier to approve the school site safety plans.
6. Board of Trustees Chair Report: Bill Micksch reported on the following.
 - a. Board of Trustees and Committees Membership: Bill Micksch presented the 2021-22 roster of Trustees and Committees. Motion made by Chet Lamers and seconded by Ed Kippley to approve the rosters as presented. Motion carried.
 - b. Strategic Plan: Continued strategic planning is under development. Gerry Faller reported that today he met with consultant, Dean Stewart, regarding next steps and potential timeline. Further details will be provided as they become available.
 - c. Unrestricted Reserve Balance: Bill Micksch introduced the topic for preliminary consideration providing reserve background and possible future actions. The topic will be a future meeting agenda item for discussion.
7. Committee Reports:
 - a. Human Resources Committee: Mary Burich reported that the Committee is resetting for its work in the coming year. The Committee is pleased to have Nick Anderson join.
 - b. Facilities Committee: No report.
 - c. Catholic Identity and Education Committees: Sue Amtmann states the Committees will launch work in September.
 - d. Finance Committee: Gerry Faller reported that the team is addressing the Reserve, Choice and annual audit.
8. Other: Bill Micksch announced that new member onboarding will be held prior the next meeting on October 12th. This session will be for those new to the full Board and/or to a Board committee. Details will be provided as they become available.
9. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Next Meeting: October 12, 2021