

GRACE Board of Trustees
December 14, 2021
Minutes
6:30 p.m., St. John Pal II Classical School

Present: Sue Amtmann, Nick Anderson, Jessica Beauchamp, Mary Burich, Leah Cohen, Ed Kippley, Bill Micksch, Amy Pautzke, John Peterson, Chris Steier, Marv Wall, Kelly Williams

Others Present: Kim Desotell, Patrick McKeown, Mark Warpinski, Alex Wolf, Edgar Zaragoza, Lori Ashmann-Recorder

Not Present: Dan Bins, Chet Lamers, Gerry Faller

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

1. Wisconsin Parental Choice Forum: Introductions commenced of Mark Warpinski, representative of Notre Dame Academy's Board of Education, and Edgar Zaragoza, GRACE Outreach Administrator. Congruent with Choice parameters, Choice families are invited to dialogue with the Board. Two parents were expected to attend the Forum but were unable to do so. Brief discussion followed regarding the program.
2. St. John Paul II Classical School: Introductions commenced of Headmaster Patrick McKeown and Headmaster Alex Wolf. Headmaster Wolf oversees preschool through eighth grade. Headmaster Wolf proceeded to report on the dynamics and uniqueness of the school in addition to its growth. Headmaster Patrick McKeown oversees the current ninth grade of Chesterton Academy (high school). Headmaster McKeown reviewed the high school is functioning well in its first year and the culture is joyful among students and staff. The dedication of staff is prevalent and integral to student and school success. Elements of enrollment, capacity, growth, facilities, resources, staffing, parish relations and resources were discussed. Appreciation was extended to Headmasters Wolf and McKeown for their leadership.
3. Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Marv Wall and seconded by Mary Burich to approve the October 12, 2021 Board meeting minutes. Motion carried. Motion made by Chris Steier and seconded by Sue Amtmann to approve the presented Committee meeting minutes. Motion carried.
4. President's Report: Kim Desotell presented her report and highlighted the following.
 - a. MAP Scores: The Fall Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment scores were summarized. The complete Fall 2021 MAP report was provided and is available for review. MAP is a strong formidable test. Growth and results above the national norms were cited. Discussion followed.
 - b. Call to Faith: The six-year aggregate data report was reviewed. Each family completes the assessment annually during the online enrollment process.
 - c. Parish Verification Form: The Form was presented and reviewed along with the new process for 2022-23 enrollment. The Board of Directors have agreed and the Principal Leadership Team is supportive of the change. A number of verification forms used by other Catholic schools and systems nationally were reviewed in development of this tool and procedure. Each parish will employ their definition of active as engagement differs among the parish communities. Process is not punitive but seeks to promote connection among families and parishes. It also recognizes the contribution of our parishes in support of our schools and Catholic education. Communication and timeline of rollout addressed. Discussion followed.
 - d. Covid 30-Day Site Plans: The next cycle for January plans was outlined. Update was provided concerning experience involving the Little Saints Childcare Program. Protocols have been intensified and a site plan has been developed.

- e. Milestones: A summary of pivotal milestones was summarized including, in part, call to offer solutions in challenging times, steadfast Catholic values and virtues, to the changing role of the principal. Milestones will be shared with employees at the January in-service. Discussion followed concerning resource needs, strengths and best practices.
5. Board of Trustees Chair Report: Bill Micksch reported on the following.
 - a. Fall Board of Directors Meeting Update: The Board continues to address parish investment and the established taskforce continues its work.
 - b. Strategic Plan: The Planning Team is anticipated to meet in January as work continues to form a new plan.
 - c. School Safety Plans: The School Safety Plans and Drill Evaluations were presented for action. Plans are strong and training occurs. A rigorous walk-through assessment takes place. Safety oversight is in place with local authorities. Discussion followed. Board agreed that a media statement should be developed and be in place. Motion made by Nick Anderson and seconded by Mary Burich to approve the GRACE Schools Safety Plans and Drill Evaluations. Motion carried.
 6. Committee Reports:
 - a. Facilities: Chris Steier reported that the Committee is evaluating how it can assist with school safety. Communication has taken place with Lisa Niemuth, Director of Development, who stewards school safety in relation to regulations and compliance. The Committee will be addressing their role and support.
 - b. Human Resources: Mary Burich reported that the Committee is monitoring ongoing developments in relation to the vaccine mandate. Two new members will be joining the Committee after the first of the year. A SWOT analysis is being conducted. The Committee is looking forward to proactively working on initiatives.
 - c. Education: Sue Amtmann reported that the Voice of the Customer Learning Survey will take place in January. Committee continues to address its goals in relation to the Strategic Plan. Team Curriculum is addressing the curriculum cycle as a whole. The [Catholic Social Teaching presentation](#) was cited and recommendation made for viewing. Discussion followed.
 - d. Finance: Marv Wall reviewed the October financials which reflect normal values at this time of the year being only four months into the fiscal year. Operations are close to budget. Committee will be working on budget for next year and continues to address other revenue sources. The 2022-23 tuition and fees were presented and reviewed. Motion made by Nick Anderson and seconded by Chris Steier to approve the 2022-23 tuition and fees. Motion carried.
 7. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Next Meeting: February 8, 2022