

Diocesan Catholic School Board (DCSB)  
Cathedral Square Center - Room D/E  
Minutes  
Monday, March 19, 2018

Meeting called to order by Rosa Fraga at 6:34pm.

I. **Prayer** offered by Sue Haas-Williams.

II. **Roll Call:**

**Present:** Jill Annable, Andrew Blum, Dave Faber, Rosa Fraga, Sue Haas-Williams, Jo Jones, Dick Schneider, Dave Sipka (via conference call), John Vande Guchte, Leah Wareck

**Absent:** Rev. Tom Cavera, Deacon Bill Charron, Phil May, Rev. Mark Peacock, Roberto Torres

**Others Present:** Shelley Hofmann, Luzia Tartari

III. **Communications:** none

IV. **Approval of February Minutes:** approved as written

V. **Discussion Topics:**

**A. BCSI Update – Admissions Enrollment Field Consultant (Luzia Tartari)**

**Enrollment update for 2018-19:** Schools are busy with enrollment activities. The first enrollment report is scheduled for April 13.

**Mid-year enrollment** is about 100 additional students since the beginning of the year.

**K-12 Diocesan enrollment projections** have been prepared for 2018-19 based on retention rates over the last five years. Over the last few years, schools have been performing above projections. For 2017-18, there are several schools who exceeded top range projections, but there are also several schools who were below bottom range projections. Other schools grew but did not reach projection, while others were within the range of projections.

**Bishop's and Welcome Scholarships:** We are currently at 65% of our budget for Bishop's Scholarships, compared to 69% at this time last year. We have received 71 Welcome Scholarship applications to date, compared to 66 applications at this time last year.

**No Show Reports:** The Admissions staff has been working on surveying families who did not return to our schools. Among the families who responded to the survey, students in 5<sup>th</sup> grade were the highest number of no shows. Quality of academic programs and classroom/school atmosphere were the highest reasons given for change of schools. A board member suggested we look at opportunities to retain fifth grade students.

**Admissions Advocacy and Enrollment Activities:** The Admissions and Enrollment staff has been busy supporting our schools with various admissions and enrollment activities including: TIP outreach (34 parishes responded with over 50 lists and 18 parishes with no school responded), referral and prospect tracker families, events (fish fries, fairs, open houses, mass announcements, school tours, parent-teacher conference support), Exito Educativo (program for high school students who are first generation Latino students and their families to introduce them to the college process), and meetings with school staffs.

**School Vitality Index:** There were a few changes made to market potential factors and school health factors based on feedback from last month's DCSB meeting.

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**B. Board Committee Summit Finalization**

Sue reviewed the suggested agenda for the Spring Committee Summit. Each committee gave an overview of what they hope to cover during breakout sessions at Spring Summit.

**C. Bridging Faith and Future Progress Update (Strategy 3.D.)**

“Welcome families of diverse cultural heritage and raise cultural awareness to support an increasingly universal population.”

We started the process of raising cultural awareness in January 2016 with a dialogue about Intercultural Competence with a group of community leaders lead by Father Steve Dudek and Dave. In summer of 2017 the diocesan staff went through Intercultural Competence training lead by Father Steve Dudek. In January of 2018, principals went through training by Father Steve Dudek. Dave has been working with cultural mentor and former DCSB member, Roz Sullivan, to develop best practices of how to raise cultural awareness and how to be more welcoming of families of diverse backgrounds. Dave and Roz met with a group of urban pastors, GR Urban League, NAACP, and other community leaders who are concerned about our African American students in our schools and who want to help us address these concerns at a faster pace because the needs are real and they exist today. We are scheduling monthly meetings to share our progress and determine next steps to keep moving forward.

**VI. Committee Reports**

- A. **Admissions Committee:** report included with agenda was reviewed. The Admissions Committee is working on transportation opportunities for families.
- B. **Finance Committee:** no report. Next meeting March 20.
- C. **Strategic Planning Committee:** working on Spring Committee Summit planning.
- D. **Executive Committee:** no report.
- E. **Mission Effectiveness Committee:** no report.
- F. **Marketing Committee:** Leah shared a marketing report. Webinar on social media was done a few weeks ago. Additional webinars will be conducted.
- G. **Development Committee:** Andrew gave an overview of the Development Tuition Financing Workshop and some new tax laws for 529 plans.

**VII. Superintendent/Asst. Superintendent Reports (questions addressed):**

Ada Township Commission approved the land use for K-5 for St. Robert Catholic School. Construction documents are out for bid.

A question was asked about Bishop’s reaction to the board’s recommendation for succession planning and training for priests. While the Bishop was grateful for the board’s recommendation, there has not been any further communication on this topic.

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Classroom learning labs went very well. 190 teachers took the evaluation survey, and the comments were all positive. There is additional energy and enthusiasm for this type of valuable PD. Jill is going to debrief with facilitators to obtain more feedback and to develop next steps.

VIII. **Action Items:** none.

IX. **New Business:** none.

X. **Closing Prayer:** Prayer for Enrollment Growth was prayed by all.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.

**DCSB Spring Summit is Thursday, April 26, 2018.**

**Next meeting is Tuesday, May 8, 2018.**