



2016-2017: "Family In Faith Through Prayer"

I. Opening Prayer (Fr. Slowiak)

II. Announcements

Tonight's meeting started early to allow President Martin, Fr. Slowiak and Terry Vechinski to get to a community meeting at St. Anne's.

III. Commission Attendance and Minutes Review

X = present; Abs = absent; Exc = Excused

Parishes	Pastor		Parish Rep	
Holy Name	Fr. Thorn	X	Bernie Ford	X
Resurrection	Fr. Schaller	X	Steve Opatik	X
St. Anne	Fr. Burkhardt	Abs	Jeni Seidel	X
St. Mark	Fr. Slowiak	X	Rick Svennes	Dupl
St. Matthew	Fr. Thorn	Dupl	Vacant	
St. Michael	Fr. Schaller	Dupl	Margee McCarty	X
St. Therese	Fr. Britto	Abs	Lori Manteufel	X
NCMS Chaplain/Assoc Pastor	Fr. Thelen	X		
NCHS Chaplain/Assoc Pastor	Fr. Kuhn	Exc		
Committees		Ex-officio		
Commission Chair	Rick Svennes	X	Mike Martin, President	X
Finance Chair	Mike Vesel	X	Sarah Keene, Dir. Of Adv.	X
Advancement Chair	Paul David	X	T. Reichenbacher, Diocese	Abs
Athletics Chair	Mike Nowinsky	X	Support	
Guests			J. St. Clair, Controller	X
Tina Meyer		X	S. Evers, Admin Asst	X
Terry Vechinski		X	P. Thomson, HR Director	Exc
Dan Sullivan		X		
Ann McManus		X		

Nov. 29, 2016 minutes were approved with the following corrections:

p. 3, #4 Change Presidents to President's (Mike Vesel 1st, Paul David 2nd)

IV. Subcommittee reports

a. Finance

- i. There has not been an in-person meeting since Nov. 15, 2016 due to scheduling and attendance conflicts.
- ii. NCS continues to have a few parishes that are behind on their subsidies.
- iii. YTD loss is approximately \$464K, and is projected to be larger due to building improvement expenses.
- iv. NCS has 4 months of coverage with about 5 months to go.
- v. This is a common expectation for this time of year.
- vi. A more formal report will follow after the next finance meeting.

b. Advancement

- i. Reviewed Advancement Report handout
- ii. WPCP and enrollment marketing is in process
- iii. Scholarship window is currently open
- iv. Winter Wonderland Auction

- 2017-2018 Winter Wonderland auction is set for Nov. 4, 2017 @ Stoney Creek Inn.
- 2016-2017 Auction results surpassed the goal of \$200K by generating \$220K. Overall net income was \$130K.
- Advancement will continue to look for ways to streamline their processes and generate greater returns.

c. Athletics

- Meetings were held to talk to parents and students who were involved in the girls soccer program. Meetings were posted via Constant Contact.
- After many discussions with parents and other interested parties, the decision was made to keep girls soccer as a varsity sport.
- Due to misunderstandings, parents were upset because they thought the decision was final. As a result, there were four fail-safes that were decided on to enhance communication in the future:
 - Shared calendar
 - Constant contact
 - All coaches will attend all of the athletics meetings
 - Email (to be verified by athletics upon registration for sport)
- Football went to 8 man football. This was approved at the Feb. Education Commission meeting.
- Cabin fever is April 8th; planning is in process; and the event is open to the general public.

d. Facilities

- Kwik Trip has put an offer in to buy the lot by Bridge St. and 17th from the diocese. The offer also includes the Annabelle apartment complex. The apartments will be torn down and a gas station will be built with a possible car wash or parking lot where the apartments are currently located. The lot will be landscaped.
- We have an agreement to take care of the property on behalf of the diocese. Kwik Trip tried to buy the property before but did not meet the requirements on a technicality. It appears this time Kwik Trip is prepared, and success will be based on community interest and concerns. President Martin and Fr. Slowiak are in support of this venture.
- Please offer support and stand with us as a Catholic family. The Bishop has decided to sell either way, so if Kwik Trip doesn't go in something else will.

V. President's Report

a. Survey results have been reviewed:

- Uniforms were supported by a margin of 59% in favor and 41% not in favor.
- Question: Were the students surveyed? No. President Martin would be willing to listen to their responses, but ultimately doesn't believe their desires would be weighted equally with parents.
- No other diocesan schools have uniforms, only strict dress codes.
- Comments and Concerns:
 - Uniforms should be easy and dual purpose, not a specialty uniform.
 - The money outlay should be about the same as normal student clothing purchases each year.
 - Sometimes uniforms have a negative connotation in the community, for example NCS may be perceived as a "rich, snooty school" if we implement uniforms.

- From a cultural standpoint this area has not seen uniforms before. However, it would set NCS apart.
 - Suggestion to phase it in at the elementary level first, so the students are used to wearing uniforms as they progress.
- v. Proposed next steps:
- The suggestion was made to take some time to determine what NCS really wants from uniforms. More time is needed to study the costs, styles, availability, etc. before moving ahead with a uniform decision.
 - The next step is to discuss the issue with the pastors at the March 17 (Feast of St. Patrick's Day) Pastor meeting.
 - Fr. Slowiak – this needs to be discussed over another year, then gradually implement uniforms. NCS should address bullying and communication concerns first.
 - NCS needs to communicate with parents so that those that participated in the survey will know what the outcome was so they can properly plan for next year.
- b. New Date for Winter Wonderland auction has been set: 4 Nov. 2017
- i. The Bishop may be able to attend.
- c. Teacher Retention:
- i. All teachers at St. Mark and St. Anne are returning for the 2017-18 school year.
- ii. HS/MS teachers are all returning except those that had already messaged last year at contract time that it would be their last year.
- d. Classical Education Initiative research visits will be restarted soon. Visits had been put on hold during the winter months.
- i. Mary Pat Donoghue presented to our teachers on what a Classical Education curriculum might look like. She was positively received.
- ii. Comments and Concerns:
- Fr. Slowiak reminded the Commission to keep in mind that these ideas are being studied. It will not be approved this year, or the next and potentially not within the next 4-5 years. Nothing will be approved regarding the classical education initiative until we study it and it has the approval of pastors, our Bishop and the Superintendent of Schools.
- e. Curriculum Director Position
- i. Dr. Jan Klosinski is potentially going to come back as a consultant to analyze the curriculum we currently have and help recruit a curriculum director.
- ii. It may be that the Curriculum Director is a diocesan position in the future. It is unclear as NCS is the only school system doing this. Currently the diocese gets its feedback from teachers at conferences, etc.
- f. Strategic planning
- i. Initial committee recommendations:
- Based on a model by Aquinas
 - Working on 18 month time line
 - Engage a strategic planning partner
 - a. NCS has not engaged the ACE team at Notre Dame. It may use them in the future.
 - b. Partners in Mission is a company that will come and provide training and support. This company has domains that may be useful for our model and planning purposes.
 - c. The cost is \$24K to do the entire planning process.

VI. Fr. Thelen closed in prayer and concluded the meeting at 7:05 PM

2016-2017 Education Commission Meeting Schedule
Meetings begin at 6:00 pm at St. Michael's Gathering Space

Tuesday, September 27, 2016

Tuesday, November 29, 2016

Tuesday, February 28, 2017

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Tuesday, June 6, 2017