



NATIVITY^{of}MARY SCHOOL

Nativity of Mary School Advisory Council
Thursday, March 16 2017
7 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
Conference Room

Nativity of Mary School Mission Statement

“Nativity of Mary School provides a Catholic education that fosters academic excellence and spiritual growth while preparing students to become responsible citizens in a global society.”

PRESENT Father Zehren, Mindy Reeder, John Polvony, Lydia Sokotu, John Aune, Kathy Daggett, Brian Comeau, Holly Long, Susie Valentine, Jeff Giles, Virginia Downey, and Jody Lazo.

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Opening Prayer
- February minutes approved without correction

Principal Report

Informational – Pax Christi is no longer sending information of other schools throughout their parish. Mindy will reach out to CSCOE and the Archdiocese as this is detrimental for Catholic Schools.

Tours/Visits/Phone Calls: 59 new potential families since October, PreK-Grade 7. Two Middle School students started in March – one from out-of-state, one from Olson Dimensions Academy.

Enrollment for 2017-18: *Preschool: 2 Day – 8/20; 3 Day – 12/20; 5 Day – 20/20; K – 16/28; Gr1-16/30; Gr2 – 14/27; Gr3 – 18/38; Gr4 – 15/36; Gr5 – 19/34; Gr6 – 11/32; Gr7 – 10/27 ; Gr8 – 9/31*
(343 potential....Enrollment ended at 339 ended in 2017)

2016-2017 Goal has been exceeded!

Curriculum: Final presentations from vendors for reading curriculum at March staff meetings. Preparation for Standards Based Grading adoption with teachers in Grades 1-4.

Faith: As part of Lent, Nativity of Mary School students help to lead Stations of the Cross each Friday, attend Adoration on Friday, and collect alms through this year’s service projects: “Jump Rope for Heart” to support heart disease education and research, and Pop Tab collection with the Knights of Columbus. Students in 3-8th Grades also attend Reconciliation in March.

Technology/STEM – Maker’s Space:

- We received a grant for the Maker Space/STEM Room for \$1500 from the Minnesota Independent Schools’ Forum to be used toward purchase of new items for this space.

Staff:

- **Attended Workshop – March:** Standards based grading; sample of new School Information System; new Reading Curriculum; MS consideration for varied schedules.
- **Principal Retreat** – Thank you for the kind words from parents and staff. I truly appreciate your love and support.

Licensing & Accreditation:

- **Parent Aware** –Finalizing teacher information for Develop to become Parent Aware.

Fundraising:

- **Annual Appeal/Gap Letter:** December through end of June 2017. Targeted to families who supported the school through the Schulz Foundation grant. (**Goal:** \$100,000 total, with \$50,000 to each fund. **Currently at \$50,806 to date:** \$42,306 Annual Fund; \$8,500 Gap letter)
- **Spirit of Spring:** Las Vegas theme-Winning for Nativity of Mary; Tickets/invites home; Bar service hired; three confirmed restaurant – Outback Steakhouse. El Loro & Fongs; Las Vegas Tonight – provide games (win tickets toward prizes, can't to cash)

Marketing:

- **Advertising:** Online continuing – twitter, Instagram and FB and Google ads; Local paper
- **Direct Mail:** Doing new one with Burnsville and Eagan churches
- **Print:** Bulletins
- **Website:** In development
- **Alumni Mailing:** In development

Teacher Report

- Conferences are finished
- Grades will be final 3/16/17
 - 2017-2018 grading will change to Standard Space for grades 1-4
 - 5-8 grades will remain with traditional grading system
- Reviewing new information system to replace Cornerstone
 - Sycamore is not favored
 - Power Score is favored; more user friendly
 - Training offered
 - Next step – obtain pricing

2016-2017 Strategic Priority Update

- Lunch Program
 - RFP has been sent
 - Kitchen is being priced
 - Kate Barkow will tour Holy Angels
 - BPS will need contract in May
- PTO
 - March 21st is the next meeting
 - Review input for:
 - Plan events
 - Mission statement
 - Teacher participation is requested
- Safety (Safety Grant)
 - Info sent to Dan from other schools for review
 - Badge system will be in place before September

- Expansion
 - Expect pricing for PreK to be received this week to review building where the old playground was
 - Met with Bank for temporary financing
 - Meeting with vendors to consider a capital campaign
 - 3-5 year commitment
- Strategic Focus Team
 - See Principal's Report

Spirit of Spring Update

Focusing/Fund-a-Need on STEM and science. Will send out a theme focused flyer.

Online Payment Options Follow Up

- Met with James Kelzer to understand capabilities
- New system through TADS

Fundraising/Academic Fee Structure

- AIM Higher will make changes for the upcoming school year
- Letter will be sent out notifying families

SAC Recruitment Application/Teacher Reps for Next School Year

- Teachers proposed applying a two year commitment, with each year being staggered
- SAC agreed to this structure

Language Program

General Discussion

Next SAC meeting will take place on Thursday, April 20 at 7:00 am.