



# NATIVITY<sup>of</sup>MARY SCHOOL

**Nativity of Mary School Advisory Council  
Thursday, April 20 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, Lydia Sokotu, John, Aune, Kathy Daggett, Brian Comeau, Holly Long, Susie Valentine, Jeff Giles, Virginia Downey, and Jody Lazo.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE**

- Opening Prayer
- March minutes approved without correction

### **PRINCIPAL REPORT**

**Tours/Visits/Phone Calls:** 60 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. One new preschool student starting Monday. Letters to non-registered preschool families went out over Easter Break and phone calls for exit surveys of any leaving families. (One note, we may need to consider before and after care for preschool not through Creative Club.)

**Enrollment to date for 2017-18:** *Preschool:* **2 Day** – 8/20; **3 Day** – 15/20; **5 Day** – 20/20; **K** – 16/26; **Gr1**-23/30; **Gr2** – 20/26; **Gr3** – 28/38; **Gr4** – 22/32; **Gr5** – 23/34; **Gr6** – 22/28; **Gr7** – 17/29; **Gr8** – 18/32

(Presently we have 232 enrolled with 335 potential....Enrollment ended at 338 as of April 2017)

**Curriculum:** Nativity of Mary is moving forward with a combination of Journeys and Pearson for Language Arts in 3-8th grades and Super Kids for K-2nd grade. We are obtaining pricing for all product purchases. Grades 1-2 will transition to full standards based grading, similar to how they already grade presently, and Grades 3-4 will take the 2017-18 year to plan and implement Standards Based grading with new report cards for 3-4 in 2018-19.

**Faith:** Lent closed with students leading Stations of the Cross each Friday, attending Adoration on Friday, and collecting 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. In April we are focusing on being Kind like Christ – and our week back after Easter Week was Kindness Week and Earth Day clean up projects.

### **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:**

- **Observations and Reviews:** Will occur during April/May.

#### **Licensing & Accreditation:**

- **Parent Aware** – Four start rating, scholarship applications already coming through.
- **Accreditation** – Spring write up due in June for Preschool and K-8.

#### **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:** All invited to join us for April 29th event – Las Vegas style, Winning for Nativity.

#### **Marketing:**

- **Advertising:** Online continuing – twitter, Instagram and FB and Google ads;
- **Direct Mail:** Burnsville and Eagan churches done; sending to local daycares fliers.
- **Print:** Bulletins; Local paper (**Website & Alumni in development**)

#### **TEACHERS REPORT**

- Staff Email
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade learning energy; building circuits in maker's space
  - 5<sup>th</sup> grade finishing research; starting oral presentations
  - Middle school; video presentation on 7 Catholic Social teachings
- Map testing begins grades 3-7
- Kindergarten beginning to incubate chickens
- Kindness week; theme Mission Impossible
  - Included daily missions of kindness
- Retirement celebration after 5/21/17 10:30 mass

#### **2016-2017 STRATEGIC PRIORITY UPDATE**

- Lunch Program
  - 2 responses to RFP are received
  - BPS
  - TAHR
- PTO
  - Mainly organized and functioning
  - Need to evaluate the need next Spring
- Safety (Safety Grant)
  - Waiting for approval
- Expansion
  - Feasibility study underway of potential capital campaign
    - Archdiocese must approve
    - Interviewing select groups
- Marketing
  - Researching vendors for new website launch

#### **SPIRIT OF SPRING UPDATE**

- See principal's report

**FUNDRAISING & ACADEMIC FEE CHANGES**

- Review of referral program to be presented at May meeting

**SAC APPLICANTS/TEACHER REPS FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR**

- No applicants for review at this time

**Next SAC meeting will take place on Thursday, May 18 at 7:00 am.**