



St. Matthew Parish
School Commission Minutes
February 8, 2022

In attendance: David Smock, Adam Barth, Amy Bridenstine, Mary Ford, Tim Shackelford, Lara O'Dell (Consulting)

- Staff updates - Sister Heidi continues to recover from her announced COVID case. The hope is she may be able to return by March 1. David continues to be in touch with her prioress. In her absence, David, Mary Beth, and Anna Jennings have each been teaching two classes, in addition to parent Jenny Hanrahan having subbed all through January. David wanted to be sure to thank all of these people for stepping up and going above and beyond to help and provide a solid continuing curriculum in Sr. Heidi's absence.
- Tech/Ongoing support - new cases are working out well - we charge a very low technology fee - changes to this will be pushed to Future Business since we are unsure of our budget for the 2022/2023 school year
- We had a great Open House - 17 families, which was twice as many as last year - we started in the church, which all agreed was a great change - 32 KG'ers are already registered - only 4 PreK'ers are not registered for KG - 297 current students are registered for next year - only 15 current students left to register - looking for 320 students (or more) for next school year
- CIJ report - focused recommendations include 1) determining a faith-based mission that incorporates the Warrior Way - teachers input and participation to form new committees. New chairs have volunteered to take over each:

Sam Padgett - Catholic Identity

Lizzie Muller and Colleen Middleton - Governance and Leadership

Alex Nahmias - Academic Excellence

Megan Rathz and Dolly Naddy - Operational Vitality

*** A discussion was held about teachers' discussion of preparing for changing demographics. This will be an ongoing discussion beyond this year.

*** The School Commission discussed and recommended a regularly scheduled late arrival (last Friday of the month?) where the students come in at 9 a.m. to allow teachers and staff more time to collaborate, which they indicated in their review of the CIJ report they wanted.

- 4th and 5th grades to go to one to one devices - KG through 3rd grade will have accessible devices in the classroom - IXL to replace NWEA - more individualized assessment to monitor progress
- New School Commission member recommendations were made, with some added afterwards. David will make sure all suggestions meet the by-law requirements (which we discussed later) and then make the initial overture and report at the next meeting. At first we thought 8 would be a good number, but Lara O'Dell in consulting on by-laws mentioned it is wise to have an odd number, so we are comfortable with 7.
- We finished a thorough review of our by-laws in Sections 3.8. Some decisions (regarding monetary issues) were left undone until David has the opportunity to discuss with Fr. Bill and Judy Good
 - It was advised and agreed upon that a School Commission member (other than David) attend Parish Council meeting for transparency (by-law 3.7)
 - A final revision will be provided by Lara for our review and eventual vote to approve.

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 8th