



**BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
STELLA MARIS ACADEMY  
February 12, 2019  
St. John's Campus**

**Present:** Bob Lisi (Chair), Bishop Paul Sirba, Karen Newstrom, Fr. Rich Kunst, Sharon Mollerus, Laura Schauer, Fr. Drew Braun, Fr. Jim Bissonette, Cynthia Zook, Director of Schools, *ex officio*, Hilaire Hauer, President, *ex officio*

**Excused:** Steve Olson, Fr. Ryan Moravitz, Barry Bigelow, Fr. Peter Muhich, Paul Fitzgerald

**Guests:** Peggy Frederickson, Jesse Murray, Julianne Blazevic, Mike Mazzio, Eric Lassila, Jennifer Deming

**Opening Prayer:** The meeting convened at 3:05 with a prayer led by Fr. Drew Braun.

**Agenda approved**

**Mission Moments:**

- Words to ponder: Catholic Education helps teach the *art* of living well.
- The SMA community did an outstanding job of adjusting to the necessary changes of the Catholic Schools Week schedule brought about by the three missed days of school.
- SMA students had a visible presence as volunteers at the recent St. Michael's Roast Beef Dinner.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Approval of Minutes from January 3, 2018 Board Meeting moved and seconded. Carried.**

**Development Committee:**

Salesforce continues to be implemented. Stellabration is approaching on March 1 and the Catholic United Financial raffle sales are in progress.

**Facilities Committee:**

A facilities assessment team is completing walk throughs on all three campuses. The assessment is intended to support planning for future capital improvement and maintenance projects. Board members shared ideas to strengthen the lease/shared service agreements between the host parishes and SMA. Changes will be incorporated into the next lease renewal this summer.



**Finance Committee:**

The Finance Committee recommended a slight modification to the Securities Policy to improve the efficiency of liquidating securities donated to Stella Maris Academy. The recommended changes were unanimously approved.

**SMA Strategic Plan Review:**

For the coordinated teacher formation day on January 18, the principals reported that over 40 SMA faculty attended site visits to three schools in the Twin Cities; Providence Academy, St. Agnes School, and St. Jerome Academy. The trip provided direct experience with schools expressing the richness of Catholic Liberal Education, complementing our strategic efforts in this area.

A State of the School Address is being organized to coincide with one of the remaining board meetings during the school year. An announcement will be made as soon as it is scheduled.

**High School Task Force:**

The High School Task Force reported additional staff and volunteer time as well as financial resources are needed to further develop the business plan for high school programming. A group of community members is developing a model for high school programming that is not governed by Stella Maris Academy. Board members thanked the Task Force for their efforts and will evaluate next steps pertaining to high school programming culminating with an update of the SMA School Strategic Plan. The board will also discuss how SMA can complement community advancements in high school programming.

**Executive Session:** Entered at 5:15

**Closing Prayer:** Led by Fr. Bissonette

**Adjourned** with closing prayer at 5:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Newstrom