

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
STELLA MARIS ACADEMY
Stella Maris Academy High School Campus
March 2, 2023

Present: John Kenney (Chair), Fr. Rich Kunst, Joe Gerard, Fr. Tony Wroblewski, Paul Fitzgerald, Andy Busam, Bob Lisi, Karen Newstrom, Fr. Seth Gogolin, Robb Enslin, Sr. Kathleen Del Monte, Andrew Hilliker (President, *ex officio*), Margaret Romano (teleconference)

Absent: Wade Mathers (Director of Schools, *ex officio*)

Guests: None

Opened at 3:00 PM with prayer.

Introduction of New Member:

Robb Enslin was introduced to the board, and members introduced themselves to him.

Mission Moments:

- It was invigorating to see new families at Countdown to Kindergarten events at both campuses, especially those drawn because of a desire for a Catholic education for their children.

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Fr. Tony Wroblewski, seconded and carried.

Approval of Minutes for both January 5, 2023 and February 2, 2023: Moved by Fr. Seth Gogolin, seconded and carried.

President's Report:

High School: A staircase needs to be rebuilt to meet code, with a projected cost of \$12,000-15,000. Two Marian murals have been approved for the commons area. Schedules for next year are being drafted, with a fostering of career and college preparation. Hiring for next year's openings has started.

Calendar Update: Next year's calendar has been drafted and will be solidified after confirming catechetical days with the diocese.

CSS Partnership: A steering committee will be formed to help nurture the collaboration of the college and SMA. Areas to be addressed include facilities, pathway from SMA to CSS, and college in the classroom.

Enrollment Events: The high school Open House welcomed 55-60 families, ten of which were not current families. Countdown to Kindergarten saw 15 families at the St. James campus and

about 35 families at the Holy Rosary campus. The Early Childhood Open House was scheduled for today but due to the snow day will be rescheduled.

Activities: The activities website has been launched. Updated information includes Hockey Prospect Parent Player Night on March 30, and registration for track (Gr. 6 and up), boys tennis (Gr. 6 and up), and softball (Gr. 4-6 and Gr. 7-9).

CUF Raffle: With sales still coming in, it is expected to hit or come very close to the budgeted goal of \$60,500.

Real Presence Radio Banquet: SMA is hosting a table, with three seats still available for the March 14 dinner.

Enrollment: Current enrollment is 578 students. Projected enrollment for next year is 657 students.

Policy and Planning Committee:

Data is being gathered from the 170 surveys turned in from school families. President Hilliker has contacted the Catholic representative from NWEA in regards to their mission to add inclusion language to testing materials. A choice to opt out of such language is allowed.

Development and Marketing:

One million dollars has been raised through donors. The board will be asked to buy in on the capital campaign. The consulting firm of Partners With a Mission has been considered but has a hefty price tag. The annual fund is going strong with a number of new stakeholders.

The St. James Task Force will provide an update at the next board meeting.

Finance:

Loan payments of \$1.8 million have been made to North Shore Bank. Budget concerns include the lunch program's failure to be self-supporting and the start-up costs of funding various activities. The first draft of the budget will be finished this month, with a second draft done in May.

Moved to Executive Session at 4:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Newstrom
Secretary

