

**Grand Traverse Area Catholic
School Advisory Board
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
St. Francis High School Library
Wednesday, February 18, 2015
7:00 P.M.**

Present: Peter Schmitz (SF, Chairperson/Treasurer) Darryl Nelson (CK, Vice-Chairperson), Brian Klump (SJ), Paul Callaghan (IC), Joe Montroy (SP), Greg Donahue (SF), Michael Carroll (IC), Kevin Carney (SJ) Michael Buell, Aaron Biggar, Erick Chittle, Tim Shrift, Janet Troppman,

Absent: Teresa Andrews (SP), Julie Ellalasingham (CK), Rev. Gregory McCallum

I. Opening Prayer

Opening prayer was led by Mr. Peter Schmitz

II. Correspondence received or distributed

None.

III. Something Great

St Francis High School March for Life Trip – Karissa Buell (Senior)

St. Francis student Karissa Buell (Sr) discussed the March for Life trip in Washington DC/ January 2015. Highlights included a Mass celebrated with Fr. Cotter, Praise and Worship music, Rosary, Prayer, Great Speakers and walking with others who share the a common goal of respect for Human Life. The event coincides with the junior class religion curriculum.

IV. Public Input

None

V. Advisory Board Action Items

A. Consent Calendar

1. Approval of Minutes (The Board was asked to approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 15, 2014
Motion to approve was made by Aaron Biggar, seconded by Kevin Carney.
Approved as submitted.
2. Approval of High School Mission Trips (Haiti, Guatemala and New Orleans)
Motion to approve was made by Darryl Nelson, seconded by Aaron Biggar.
Approved as submitted.
3. Approval of 8th grade Washington DC Trip (April 25-May 1)

Motion to approve was made by Darryl Nelson, seconded by Kevin Carney. Approved as submitted.

B. Old Business

None

C. Committee Reports (See attachments)

1. **Safety Advisory Committee – Eric Mulvany** reported on the recently submitted Michigan State Police Safety grant application and status. We expect a determination by March 20, 2015
2. **Capital Campaign Committee – Darryl Nelson** reported on the continued hard work of the committee leadership group and internal GTACS/IC staff toward the goal of a new school facility at the Immaculate Conception Campus and significant refurbishing efforts at St. Francis High School/SEAS
3. **After Hours Activity Committee – Peter Schmitz** reported on an upcoming survey that will be distributed to St Francis high school leadership groups to help examine after school activity possibilities. The committee will later involve SEAS for similar input.
4. **Finance Committee – Mike Buell** reported on an annual meeting held between the GTACS finance committee and our Parish Priests to discuss the prior year GTACS budget and the next year financial outlook. The prior year budget was balanced with a small addition of net income. We expect a similar budget for the coming year.
5. **Enrollment Report – Mike Buell** (report distributed)
6. **Student Report – none present** (report distributed)
7. **PTC Report – none**

D. New Business

Preschool Changes – Janet Troppman (report distributed) GTACS Preschool offerings have been modified and approved for next year. The most significant changes include a dedicated room for age 3 children and greater flexibility in the number of days within the week and/or morning afternoon offerings. The preschool will also be open to unique scheduling options presented by parents.

Hats Off to:

- +Eric Mulvany-Don Thornton for work on Immaculate Conception school ventilation plumbing issues
- +Mike Bobrowski for Kohler ventilation work
- +Christina Seymour and Musical Staff
- +High School English Department Faculty for High ACT average scores
- +Erick Chittle for presentation on contemplative leadership at Diocese of Gaylord
- +Wayne Mueller for work on Capital Campaign
- +Bishop Raica for All System Mass and student engagement on visits

F. Administrative Reports (see attachments)

1. **Priest Report – None**
2. **Holy Angels – Janet Troppman**
3. **Immaculate Conception – Aaron Biggar**
4. **St Elizabeth Ann Seton – Tim Shrift**
5. **St Francis – Erick Chittle**
6. **GTACS – Mike Buell/Wayne Mueller**

Mike provided new SAB members with a brief description of what our GTACS executive staff refer to as “Rocks”, or quarterly goals toward achievement of various milestones.

Mike discussed the value of Bishop Raica’s recent school visit, specifically his high school Religion and Military Science classroom observations. All of his classroom visits involved engaging conversations, debates on sensitive issues and discussion of common ground stances when our students are confronted with these issues from those holding opposing viewpoints. Bishop Raica has asked our staff to read *The Risk of Education*, which has a theme explaining how children of early age have their backpacks (minds) filled and later unpack them as they grow older.

Mike discussed the recent State of Michigan change of college readiness exam from ACT to SAT. This change has significant impact to our school curriculum. We will continue to examine our courses in order to help with our student’s success on the SAT exam.

Wayne announced the upcoming annual fundraising breakfast (May 14, 2015), Grandparent’s Day (May 15, 2015) and next year’s Gladhander Auction (October 24, 2016)

VI. Public Input - None

Public Input as related to specific items presented at this evening's Advisory Board Meeting. Please see the note under Item IV for guidelines

VII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn from Joe Montroy and seconded by Paul Callaghan.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

VIII. Closing Prayer

Respectfully submitted, Eric Mulvany, Executive Assistant

