

**St. Dominic Education Commission**  
**November 8, 2021**

Attendance: Mike Stenger, Peter Gibbs, Jessica Williams, Patrick Lahni, Mark Goins, Christelle Middendorf, Nikki Servizzi, Jenny O'Brien, Jessica Remmel, Kim Railey (PTO)

Absent: Joe Kruessel, Karen Brandstetter

1) Call to Order (7:03)

2) Opening Prayer

3) Approval of October minutes - approved by unanimous consent

4) Old Business

- Covid issues: What are the expectations of the teachers on how to handle individuals and groups of quarantined students?
  - Still a work in progress. Discussions are still in the works with teachers. Hope to have more details by next month.
  - Some teachers are now putting more on google classroom
- Approx. 30-35% of school is masking currently

5) New Business

- Open House
  - Will be held January 30th 12:30-2. Limited to new families. Existing families can bring prospective new families, however.
  - Marketing Meeting finalized fliers to be held out at Delhi Parade.
  - Will have focussed google ad marketing starting in December from (google ad grant).
  - Marketing committee will convey plans in the near future. Ask for help where needed.

6) Committee Reports

- **Faith Formation** (Brandstetter) - submitted via email (copied at end of this document)
  - Peter mentioned that Altar Servers will resume in January. Fr. Chris will be re-training (7th and 8th graders).
- **PTO** ( Railey)
  - Trunk R Treat, very successful - \$300+ to St Vincent dePaul
  - Ladies Night on 11/5 - good turnout. Would plan on doing it again next year.
  - Holiday split the pot - drawing on 12/10
  - Book Fair - currently going on
  - Hot Lunch this Friday (Papa Johns)
  - Purchasing new cones and cone toppers and signs for morning drop-off (for safety and efficiency)
- **Principal's Report** ( O'Brien)
  - Reviewed STAR test results (grades K-8, Reading and Math) - school's desire to target the "high highs" and "low lows" as opposed to the "middle". Will use results to determine needed actions.
  - RTI, study skills, homework - items being discussed for improvement in school by principal and teachers

- **School Strategic Plan**

- Initial steps in formation of new comprehensive Strategic Plan
  - Strategic Plan Survey (Gibbs) - reviewed results of Ed Commission Survey. Peter will provide to Jenny. She will discuss with Jan McReynolds and get back to us on where to go from here.
- Marketing & Communication (Goins)
  - Website update - Joe sent out an update via email. Still need to work updating website content. Try to get website, or at least Open House landing page, ready by December 1st (prior to Delhi Christmas Parade).  
***Team will discuss with Joe getting together in person one night to accelerate timeline to get website in a state to publish.***
  - Central messaging plan for St. Dominic - ***Jessica to lay out plan***
  - Desire to collect previous school open house material and communication  
**(Peter to look for previous tour talking points and get to Jenny)**

- **Tuition Credit (Lahni)**

- Marco's - awaiting to hear \$ raised
- November 16th 4-9 Frisch's

7) Next Meeting: Monday, December 13 at 7 pmschool library

8) Closing Prayer

9) Adjournment (~9:00)

Faith Formation Report for November 8, 2021 (submitted by Karen Brandstetter):

**Bibles for PSR Classes:**

I have been able to secure a donation of \$200.00 from the Knights of Columbus to help defray the cost of purchasing Bibles for our PSR classes to use during our PSR classes. We will be ordering the Bibles this week.

**Sacraments for Children to Catch Up:**

We are working to assist families who have children that need to receive sacraments, particularly Baptism, to catch up for their preparation to receive either First Communion and/or Confirmation. Depending on the age of the child, they are being offered to be Baptized or they are participating in preparation to receive the sacrament. We have several families we are currently working with so their children will be able to receive their First Communion or be Confirmed with their classmates.

**Confirmation:**

Our students participate in an extensive preparation process for Confirmation. This process includes several movements of preparation beginning with formal registration. Then there are interviews by the student of their parent(s) and their Sponsor about their experience when they were confirmed and their hopes as their student is being confirmed. Once the interviews are completed, the students need to complete a page of reflection questions about doing these

interviews and their reflection upon the answers their adults offered. There is also a required retreat, usually done “in person” but last year and this year, offered through a virtual retreat process facilitated by NETministries. There is also a Service component where each student is expected to provide service in a variety of ways and offer their reflection about doing that service and how they can be of service as a follower of Christ in the future. There is also an interview of the student with the parish staff, Fr. Jim & Fr. Chris, Deacon Mark, Jenny and myself will host the students in an interview once all of these other components of their preparation are completed. All of this is in addition to all of the study and project work done within the actual religion/PSR classes such as studying saints and choosing a Confirmation name and studying the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, etc. There seems to be some confusion about all of the components of the preparation the students are involved in to be confirmed. It has been particularly difficult to have consistency during the pandemic, but these are the many elements of the process for preparation for our students to be confirmed and these elements will be modified as necessary to accommodate the needs of the students and the protocols of the pandemic.

**R.C.I.A.:**

The participants in our R.C.I.A. have been attending the class on Sacraments offered by Fr. Jim & Fr. Chris on Tuesday nights with other parishioners. This has been a really good experience for our folks, having the chance to learn about the sacraments while meeting other parishioners. That is one element of the R.C.I.A. process that is often elusive during their preparation.

**Upcoming Opportunities for school and PSR students:**

Our school classes and our PSR classes will be utilizing some of the same resources to pray and reflect on Thanksgiving and throughout Advent.