



MCDONELL AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Est. 1882

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Our Mission: Centered on Jesus Christ and His Church, we partner with families to nurture young people’s spiritual, intellectual, physical, and moral formation through a PreK-12 Catholic liberal arts education and vibrant student life of discipleship, athletics, and the arts.

Our Vision: MACS will be a beacon of faith, hope, and love by inspiring each student to embrace his or her identity as a beloved son or daughter of God, while discovering and developing their unique gifts. We will immerse students and families in an authentic Catholic culture which fosters love of truth, beauty, and goodness. We will challenge all students to pursue academic excellence, critical thinking, and intellectual inquiry. We will prepare McDonell graduates to be a transforming force within society, sharing the Gospel and working for the common good as productive, virtuous citizens.

Education Commission Agenda
Thursday, May 15, 2025, 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.
McDonell Library/Media Center

AGENDA	LEAD		NOTES
Welcome and Call to Order (2 Minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome Prayer 	Chad Priest	5:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fr Kren led the prayer
Evidence of Mission/Vision (3 Minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Mission and Vision 	Chad	5:02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holy Ghost talent show was today. The kids worked really hard and were very prepared for it. Terrific Tuesday has been a hit. Kids have responded well and was well received. Was a faith filled morning. 6th grade retreat went well and the report back was really good. Fine Arts directors - kudos to them all for the performances. A lot of hard work and preparation went into it.
CONSENT AGENDA (5 Minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> April Minutes Finance and Facilities Report Technology Report Advancement Report Long-Range Planning Report Enrollment Report Student Services Report Principals’ Reports Dean of Academics Report 	Chad	5:05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> McDonell - Diocese is meeting soon to update the Diocese athletic handbook. WIAA has approved additional contact days (unlimited during summer). But, current school policy is based on the prior rules. If coaches want more contact, they are to submit a request to the principal and athletic director. Approved last months minutes.
Reports from Parish and Student Representatives (5 Minutes)		5:10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

Guest Presentations (30 Minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal Reports (10 Minutes Each) St. Charles Presentation Holy Ghost Presentation https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1WbRgFtgA_ZhiWwS1yOKj-Doxrui0P7mhLpaylZXGcbA/edit?usp=d_rivesdk Notre Dame & McDonnel HS Presentation	Jamie, Gwen, Eric	5:15	•
Commission Chair (5 Minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolution for Ben 	Chad	5:45	• Resolution passed
President's Updates (5 Minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listening Session at 6:00PM 	Molly	5:50	• Listening session was held
NEXT Education Commission Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feasibility Study Report June 19 5:30 	Chad	5:55	•
Closing Prayer and Adjourn	Priest	5:56	•

Membership

Attended	Name	Expertise/Committee	Current Role/Parish/Term
X	Chad Brady	Construction Management & Owners Representation Executive Committee LRP Committee Finance/Facilities Committee	Chair Holy Ghost Rep Term 2.1
X	Andy Shakal	Staff Engineer Executive Committee Strategic Plan Steering Committee	Vice-Chair St John's Rep Term 2.3
X	TJ Proue	Attorney von Briesen & Roper S.C. Long Range Planning Committee Co-Chair	St Charles Rep Term 3.2
	Brian Eslinger	Eslinger Insurance	All Saints Rep

		Committee Assignment - Open	Term 2.1
X	Tamara Bohaty	Bohaty Trucking	Holy Cross Rep Term 2.1
	Erin Brick	Biology & Theology Degrees & Homemaker Strategic Plan Steering Committee Ad Hoc Dress Code Committee	Holy Ghost Rep Term 2.3
X	Bill Eddy	HVAC Project Manager Committee Assignment - Finance/Facilities	Notre Dame Rep Term 1.1
X	Scott Siegenthaler	Assistant Director Financial Aid UWEC Long Range Planning Committee	Notre Dame Rep Term 3.2
	OPEN		Sacred Heart Rep Term
	Tracy Bormann	Director of Human Resources Advancement Advisory Committee	St Bridget's Rep Term 2.2
	Justus Busse	Deputy Chief Fire/EMS Safety and Emergency Procedures Co-Chair Ad Hoc Pandemic Committee	St Charles Rep Term 3.1
	OPEN		St Paul's Rep Term 1.3
	Diane Herron	Medical Degree & Homemaker Faith Boosters	St Peter's Rep Term 1.3
X	Tony Willkom	Committee Assignment TBD	At-Large Rep St. Charles Term 1.1
	OPEN		At-Large Rep TBD Term (start fall 25-26)

Ex-Officio

X	Fr Jesse Burish	Chippewa Falls Deanery	Dean
X	Fr Alex Kren	McDonell Area Catholic Schools	Chaplain
X	Molly Bushman	McDonell Area Catholic Schools	President
X	Mary Huffcutt	McDonell Area Catholic Schools	Dean of Academics
X	Eric Wedemeyer	McDonell Area Catholic Schools	Principal ND/McD 6-12
X	Gwen Doyle	McDonell Area Catholic Schools	Holy Ghost 3-5
X	Jamie Dodge	McDonell Area Catholic Schools	St Charles 3K-2
	Scott Sokup	McDonell Area Catholic Schools	Controller

Student Representatives

X	Ben Siegenthaler	McDonell Area Catholic Schools	Senior Representative
	Lilian McDonald	McDonell Area Catholic Schools	Junior Representative

Director of Finance and Facilities Scott Sokup

- See attached Financials

Director of IT - Val Knobloch

- Just hired new director Kailee Berry, currently in onboarding/training with Val

Director of Advancement Amber Leibrandt:

- **A.B. McDonell Vision Fund:**
 - Annual Fund Goal of \$300,000 update: We are at 151% of the goal at \$454,192 with 406 gifts from 277 donors. 28 new donors to the organization.
 - The MACS Alumni Giving Competition Update: March 1-June 15th. A generous alumnus has offered a Challenge Match during the Alumni Competition and for anyone who chooses to donate to the Fund-a-Need through June 15th! It is a 1 for 2 match. For every \$2 we raise he will donate an additional dollar. We have raised \$22,341.25 towards the Match with 5 weeks left to hit the \$80,000 Goal. We have engagement from the 23 Classes so far, ranging from 1952-2011. This is year two of a grassroots effort to primarily engage the 2022-1980 alumni in annual giving. The effort encourages school engagement and class comradery through peer reach out.
- **Major Gifts/Capital Campaign Prep:**

- The Case Study for the feasibility interviews is complete. We are in the midst of inviting our feasibility study members to claim interview times with Katie Thieman and Adam Ehrmantraut, PIM Consultants. They will spend 2 days on-site doing interviews and have an additional 4 days with online meeting options.
- **Planned Giving:**
 - We are receiving Declaration of Intent forms from the initial mailing to the planned giving donors on our list. If you would like more information about our Planned Giving Program, McDonell Future of Hope Alliance, please reach out. Look for the launch of the new planned giving program in the Spring in the Mack Messenger. The Advancement article for the Spring Mack Messenger will include an article about the impact of an estate gift, the Dupey Estate which enabled us to make the recent land purchase. We will also publish a list of Future of Hope Alliance and Legacy of Hope members.
- **Events:**
 - Our alumni relations efforts will focus on strengthening engagement through personal outreach and event invitations. Scholarship donors will be invited to attend the upcoming awards ceremonies for both middle and high school students. Additionally, the Senior Class of 2025 will host members of the Classes of 1970 and 1975 on May 15, providing a meaningful opportunity for intergenerational connection and alumni engagement. Further outreach, including calls and emails to feasibility study participants, many of whom are alumni, will also support our broader engagement strategy.
- **Grants:**
 - The BEET grants and Davis Foundation Grant were approved totaling \$18,182. The Mayo Foundation Grant and the 2Q AnnMarie Foundation Grants are pending. The US Bank Community Play Grant, Milk Grant, Integrated Life Foundation Grant, WCRIS School Safety Grants, and Nordson will be applied for.
- **Operations & Administration:** We continue to work with Jillian to finalize process documents and workflow. Data management and updating continues to be both a key component to success and a definite area of opportunity. The area of volunteerism is an additional area of opportunity as well as the continuation of collaboration between all MACS Boosters, committees, and organizations.

Enrollment Coordinator - Mary Beth Pfeiffer

- 467 students currently enrolled for 25-26; 80 in process less 7 known not to be returning
- 49 newly accepted students
- 10-12 international students expected (WE NEED HOST FAMILIES!)
- While we are on track to reach our total enrollment goal, our enrollment priority right now remains **3K-K; we can accommodate 24 more children**
 - 3K: 10 currently enrolled, budget 14, capacity 16
 - 4K: 20 currently enrolled, budget/capacity 24 (or more if we are able to offer half day)
 - K: 34 currently enrolled, budget 39, capacity 48
- Please remember and remind current families they can receive \$250 off their tuition for every 3K, 4K, K, grade 6, or grade 9 student they refer.
- We are also accepting registrations for summer day Camp Macks which still has spots open

Long Range Planning - TJ Proue



PRINCIPAL REPORTS

St Charles Grades 3K-2 - Principal Mrs Jamie Dodge: Assessment Presentation in lieu of report

Holy Ghost 3-5 - Principal Mrs Gwen Doyle: Assessment Presentation in lieu of report

Notre Dame and McDonell Grades 6-12 - Principal Mr Eric Wedemeyer:

High School Senior Honors

This year's graduating class valedictorian is David Andersen. We will have co-salutatorians: Sarah Buchmann and Olivia Hiedtke. Ben Siegenthaler was selected to receive this year's Bishop's medal for excellence in the Catholic faith.

WIAA Changes

Today at the annual meeting 4 out of 5 amendments passed.

1. Spectators ejected from a competition will be required to complete training and serve a one game suspension. Passed
2. Unlimited summer contact days with a dead week around 4th of July. Passed
3. Eliminating 9th grade max games so it matches jv and varsity. Passed
4. Name, image, and likeness (NIL) Passed
5. Cross country petition out of competitive balance. Failed

Dean of Academics Mary Huffcutt

- Yearly Goals completed: Map/Plan for how MACS will work toward being a Cardinal Newman Society recognized school; Flush out the nurturing students strategic plan focus area (will wrap up last objective in June); will have a portrait of a graduate by the end of June
- Looking at the St. Patrick's History curriculum as a possible K-8 guide
- Working with [Eric Wedemeyer](#) on the process of how we assess potential new courses to ensure alignment to mission.
- May's Virtue is [Kindness](#)

Meeting Dates for 2024-25 Education Commission Meetings

August	Thursday, August 15
September	Thursday, September 19
October	Thursday, October 17 (Listening Session)
November	Tuesday, November 19 Joint CFAUSD (CFAUSD hosts this year)
December	Thursday, December 19
January	Thursday, January 16
February	Thursday, February 20
March	Thursday, March 20
April	Tuesday April 15
May	Thursday, May 15 (Listening Session)
June	Schedule Only If Needed
July	Generally, No Meeting

Commission Presentations - Topic/Presenter/Meeting

Club/Committee/Department	Chairperson or Dept. Head	Month	Topic of Presentation/Notes
Mental Health	School Counselors	Sept	
Dress Code Update/Dialogue	Ad hoc committee chair/principals	Sept	
Listening Session	All	Oct.	Try to do fall survey in conjunction with the fall feedback survey
Safety Committee/EMEROPS	Safety Comm Chair	Oct.	
Advancement/Alumni	Amber Leibrandt and AA President	Nov	
Tuition and Salary Scale approval	Scott Sokup	Nov	
Music/Arts	Sean Hanson/Annette Hunt	Dec	
Athletics	Bryce Mederven and Greg Misfeldt	Dec	
Faith/Campus Ministry	Michael Van Hemert and Fr. Kren/CMC	Jan	
Enrollment/Admissions	?? and Molly Bushman	Feb	Also in monthly consent agenda
Technology	Josh McCormick	Feb	
Academics/Curriculum	Mary Huffcutt and Diane Hietpas	Mar	Tie in Nurturing our Students reports
Budget	Scott Sokup and Molly Bushman	April	New timeline with Diocese
Principal Reports - Assessments	Eric W, Gwen D, Jamie D	April	
Strat Plan Annual Update/Listening Session	Molly Bushman	May	
Long Range Planning	T.J. Proue and Fr Jesse Burish	As needed	