



MCDONELL AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Est. 1882

1316 BEL AIR BLVD., CHIPPEWA FALLS, WI 54729 • TEL 715.723.0538 • FAX 715.723.1501 • WWW.MACS.K12.WI.US

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.

JOINT EDUCATION COMMISSION MEETING Summary

Tuesday, November 19, 2024 5:00 p.m.

CFAUSD Hillcrest Elementary

1200 Miles Street, Chippewa Falls

AGENDA	TIME	LEADER	NOTES
Welcome/Gathering Invocation/Prayer Dinner served	5:00	Jeff Holmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sharon McQuilhm led prayer
Presentation: Safety	5:10	Manda Young, Chippewa County	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Proposal for all county schools to join Threat Assessment Coalition
Adjourn & Convene to Individual Meetings	6:00		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Close joint meeting.

RECONVENE Education Commission - summary

November 19, 2024 – 6:15 PM
McDonell Central Catholic Library/Media Center

AGENDA	LEAD	NOTES
Reconvene for Commission Meeting	6:15 Chad	Fr. Kren prayer
Review Mission/Vision Statement (5 mins) Review evidence of the last month	6:20 All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3K-K and first grade had their first Eucharistic Adoration experience at school last week
<p>CONSENT AGENDA (5 Minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> August - October minutes (available on Shared Drive) Finance and Facilities Report (in person) Technology Report Advancement Report (in person) Long-Range Planning Report Enrollment Report Student Services Report Principals' Reports Dean of Academics Report 	6:25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> August - October minutes approved to post to the website
Reports from Parish and Student Representatives (5 mins)	6:30 Parish and Student Reps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holy Ghost construction nearing completion: rededication scheduled for Sunday Dec. 22 at 10:30 a.m. Msgr. Gorman/SC council emphasized having families meet with priest to verify parish membership St. Bridget painting project is completed Support our Troops Drive was largest in a while: truck and van filled with bags Christmas wreaths will be delivered tomorrow; poinsettias are still being sold Veterans Day program successful Winter sports and musical rehearsals have started New finals schedule worked out really nice (half hour of study period leading into 75 minute dedicated final; two days)
Guest Presentation (15 mins)	6:35	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amber Leibrandt - Advancement • Nick Martell (tentative) - Alumni Association 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nick Martell report/questions • Alumni tournament does allow non-alumni in middle tier and rec leagues. Also includes volleyball tournament and Hall of Fame (every other year) • Would MAA consider putting on a golf outing? Discussion with Ojibwa • Idea of mini-reunions on Saturday of Alumni Weekend • Advancement Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Annual fund stats to date ○ 10/23 AB fund tours and reception ○ Newest Mack Messenger out ○ Matching gift for year-end AB vision fund through 12/31/24; 10 days of giving starts Nov. 30th ○ Cultivation/prep for feasibility study ○ Planned giving update on soft launch and hard launch planned this spring ○ Events update: Spaghetti Spectacular and Kids Carnival Jan 26th; spring gala is March 29th (need for more committee members); fund-a-need will be auditorium revamp ○ Witness the Difference: fulfillment nearing completion (about \$33,000 left to collect); pledge reminders went out ○ Fundraising policy update: Phase 1 implementation began June 30th as a joint meeting with representation from various clubs and programs; fundraising calendar is a work in progress; would like to schedule a follow up meeting ○ Booster Clubs have been very receptive and seeing increased involvement in the clubs e.g. Green Bay Packers service project revenue ○ Grants: five grants totalling \$163,000 to date; several grants pending
<p>Committees</p> <p><u>Tuition Committee</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation 	<p>6:50</p> <p>Scott Sokup</p> <p>Tamara Bohaty</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuition proposal: 4% increase for 4K, 9-12; 6% increase for K-8; \$250 increase to family cap; new referral program providing a one time \$250 tuition credit for the referring family per new student referred (conditions apply)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consensus approving above proposal (see attachment) plus freezing 4K at \$5,000 for one year in light of food service fee changes; also charging 60% of full day 4K tuition for half day (\$3000) with ten-child minimum enrollment • Average cost to educate ranges \$10,000 - 14,000 depending on the school • Choice and SNSP are 38% of revenue; both programs have a lot of advantages although there is some political element to participating in these programs • Looking to 26-27, we would like to consider implementing a parish discount, could get some help from parish representatives to facilitate this process • Discussion of athletics and activities fees; no athletic fee increase being recommended, activities fees are still being considered with deadline to recommend by December meeting (possible to have one “athletics and activities fee”?)
Commission Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mass times at MACS • Next Catholicism on Tap 	7:00 Chad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues, Thurs, and Fri at 11:00 am: Commission is invited • Dec 3rd 6:00 pm - Advent and the 2nd Coming
Presidents Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enrollment Events • HR Updates, personal update 	7:15 Molly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soup Supper tomorrow night at St. Charles • New hire in central office started today; Mary Beth is serving as interim enrollment coordinator
NEXT Education Commission Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Calendar 25-26 • Teacher Salary Scale • Music, arts, and athletics updates 	7:25 Chad	Next meeting - December 19, 2024, 5:30 PM
Closing Prayer and Adjournment	Priest	

Membership

X	Chad Brady	Construction Consultant Executive Committee LRP Committee Finance/Facilities Committee	Chair Holy Ghost Rep Term 2.1
---	------------	---	-------------------------------------

EX	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
EX	Brian Eslinger	Eslinger Insurance Committee Assignment - Open	All Saints Rep Term 2.1
X	Tamara Bohaty	Bohaty Trucking	Holy Cross Rep Term 2.1
X	Erin Brick	Homemaker (Biology and Theology degrees) 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
X	Tracy Bormann	Director of Human Resources Advancement Advisory Committee	St Bridget's Rep Term 2.2
EX	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
X	Diane Herron	Homemaker Faith Boosters	St Peter's Rep Term 1.3
	OPEN		At-Large Rep Term
	OPEN		At-Large Rep Term

Ex-Officio

EX	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
X	Scott Sokup	McDonell Area Catholic Schools	Controller

Student Representatives

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

Director of Finance and Facilities Scott Sokup

Verbal report - tuition recommendation

Director of IT Josh McCormick

- Troubleshooting A/V issues in the Auditorium.
- Streamed Harvest Concert and Veterans program at St. Charles. Per request, we will be streaming the Christmas concert at St. Charles on December 10th.
- We continue to evaluate our options moving forward for our SIS. I spoke with Infinite Campus to see what a potential migration back to them would look like. Received quotes and timelines. Will be looking into Skyward as well.
- Had a demo with Emergent 3, an emergency communication and digital mapping platform, It received positive feedback.
- With the change of trimesters, there are quite a few updates and syncs that need to happen between Google Classroom, Facts, and Securly.
- Performing software updates to the Library lab computers for Trimester 2 classes.

Director of Advancement Amber Leibrandt

Verbal report

Enrollment Coordinator

Number of students per grade per category	Male						Female						Total By Grade
	Catholic Non-Choice, Non-SNSP	Non-Catholic Non-Choice, Non-SNSP	Catholic Choice	Non-Catholic Choice	Catholic SNSP	Non-Catholic SNSP	Catholic Non-Choice, Non-SNSP	Non-Catholic Non-Choice, Non-SNSP	Catholic Choice	Non-Catholic Choice	Catholic SNSP	Non-Catholic SNSP	
PreK3 (3 years to 4 years old as of 9/1/24)	5						7						12
Private PreK4 (4 years or older as of 9/1/24)	9	1	0	2	1	0	4	1	1	3	1	0	23
5K Kindergarten	10	1	3	0	3	1	12	2	5	1	0	0	38
First Grade	8	0	4	2	3	1	11	4	2	5	1	0	41
Second Grade	9	3	5	1	4	0	13	0	4	2	0	0	41
Third Grade	3	1	3	1	3	1	13	0	4	1	0	0	30
Fourth Grade	7	1	5	1	2	1	11	1	4	0	1	0	34
Fifth Grade	6	2	4	0	1	0	11	1	5	3	1	0	34
Sixth Grade	12	2	5	0	4	1	12	1	2	6	3	0	48
Seventh Grade	10	7	6	6	2	2	12	2	4	1	2	1	55
Eighth Grade	16	1	6	0	3	0	9	1	4	1	1	0	42
Subtotal PreK3-8	95	19	41	13	26	7	115	13	35	23	10	1	398
Ninth Grade	14	7	6	2	2	3	10	4	5	1	1	1	56
Tenth Grade	8	2	2	3	2	0	17	4	3	4	2	0	47
Eleventh Grade	14	2	14	2	0	1	14	6	1	0	3	0	57
Twelfth Grade	15	4	4	0	4	1	10	2	6	1	0	0	47
Subtotal 9-12	51	15	26	7	8	5	51	16	15	6	6	1	207
Grand Total	146	34	67	20	34	12	166	29	50	29	16	2	605

Total enrollment 4K-12 as of Third Friday in September: 593. Third Friday in September Count from 23-24 was 587 so this represents a 1% net increase. Note we have had a few new enrollments after the count.

Long Range Planning - TJ Proue

Principal Reports

St Charles Grades 3K-2 - Principal Mrs Jamie Dodge:

Review:

- We had our first Mission Day and we helped Support our Troops. We had so many non-perishable items donated that it took 2 car loads to get it over to McDonell.
- Ignite the Light has been going so well and the kids are enjoying learning about God through science.
- St. Charles did a Veterans concert on November 11th for Veterans and Parents. It was very beautiful and was a great way to thank all of the veterans and those currently serving.
- A local author came in and read her book, "Ostriches Eat Sausages: An Alphabet Book" at the 4K literacy night. We had pizza and the students created their picture to take home.
- 4K and Kindergarten had their first adoration with Father Kren. It went pretty well and the students are learning about being present with God.

Current

- 1st and 2nd grade students had their first adoration with Monsignor. They were so respectful and participated. The teachers have been talking about adoration in the classroom. Monsignor also met with them early in the month and talked about what adoration is and what it looks like.

Coming soon....

- We are having a Soup Supper event for current and new students going into 3K, 4K, and Kindergarten at SC on November 20th from 5-7 pm.
- 4K will have their 2nd mass at McDonell Chapel on Friday, November 22nd.
- No School from November 25-29.
- We have Holy Spirit, Spirit Week coming up December 2-6th
- Our 2nd Mission Day will be on December 2nd. We are supporting the Spirit of Christmas in Chippewa County. We will be talking to the students about the catholic social teaching of a basic moral test is how our most vulnerable members are faring. In a society marred by deepening divisions between rich and poor, our tradition recalls the story of the Last Judgment (Mt 25:31-46) and instructs us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first.
- We have the Earth Rangers coming to our school on December 4th to give an interactive presentation on how we can protect wild animals and our earth.
- Our Christmas Concert & Nativity is happening on December 10th at 12:30 & 5:30 pm. Both times will be live-streamed.

Holy Ghost Grades 3-5 - Principal Mrs Gwen Doyle

November 2024 Holy Ghost Report

Review:

- Student council gave their prepared and scripted tours to AB Vision Fund donors on October 23rd. These are a highlight for them and for visitors!
- Parent Teacher Conferences were on October 24th. For the first time, we offered them only one day for 3.5 hours in the morning and 3 hours in the evening. The teachers really appreciated this and we only had two students' parents not participate (out of 99!).

Present:

- Our virtue of the month is responsibility. This one is very easy for teachers to reference! A recent highlight is when Michael Van Hemert came to talk to the kids to tie responsibility into justice.
- Ben Siegenthaler came in to give a short presentation on bike safety to 5th graders.
- Zach Hunt's Eagle Scout project was a gaga ball pit in our parking lot. This is a huge hit for all students.
- Our Christmas Program preparations are underway! We hired a 2/3 music teacher who is helping the students prepare.
- Andrew Herron is our new interventionist at Holy Ghost. He is very positive and is learning a lot from the teachers. We are spending some time re-evaluating to improve upon our intervention processes.

Future:

We have many fun activities coming up:

November 25th-29th - Thanksgiving Break

December 2nd - MISSION DAY

December 2nd-6th - Holy Spirit Spirit Week (Different talking points each day about the Holy Spirit and fun clothing week.)

December 4th - Giving Tree Begins (students purchase \$1 ornaments for families in need)

December 12th - School-wide Field Trip! Christmas Play @ ECCT

December 13th - Santa's Workshop put on by the HandS Committee

December 17th - Christmas Program 12:30 PM and 5:30pm

December 18th - Confession

December 19th - Joint Staff Christmas Party with St. Charles

December 20th - Community Day

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

Support our Troops

McDonell high school and Notre Dame middle school concluded their participation in the 17th annual Support our Troops Care Package Drive organized by the YMCA and Leinenkugel's Brewing Company. Items were dropped off and collected by McDonell (table set up in Commons) until Friday, November 8. Items were then gathered and care packages put together and sent to service members stationed all around the world in time for Christmas. We dedicated a non-uniform Mission Day to this cause and it turned out to be one of the best collections we have ever had.

Veteran's Day Program

McDonell High School hosted the Veteran's Day Program on Monday, November 11. The McDonell band and Concert Choir both performed. Scott Sullivan from the City Council made some remarks on behalf of Mayor Hoffman and Lt. Colonel Steve Gilbertson, U.S. Army (Ret.) gave the keynote address. Several community Veterans and Members of the Chippewa Falls Patriotic Council were also in attendance.

Blood Drive

On Tuesday, Nov. 5, McDonell hosted their annual Blood Drive. All open slots for eligible students and staff to donate blood were filled.

Hold/Lockdown drill

On Tuesday, Oct. 29 McDonell and Notre Dame conducted a Lockdown drill. Local law enforcement aided in the drill. In compliance with state requirements both schools will hold another drill in the spring. This was the first time we had conducted this drill going immediately into a Lockdown. Ones prior had us initially starting with a Hold before going into Lockdown a few minutes later.

End of First Trimester

Last week marked the last week of Trimester 1. The high school ran a brand new modified schedule on both Thursday, November 14 and Friday, November 15 to accommodate all classes preparing for their final exams and the exams themselves. The schedule change had an earlier dismissal time and to keep things consistent in the building, Notre Dame Middle School students were released at the same 2:35 time each day.

Dean of Academics Mary Huffcutt

- Strategic planning is underway for nurturing our students' focus. We are looking at developing peer mentors.
- Wrapped up fall regional in-services for the Diocese. Focus was on the Cardinal Newman Catholic Curriculum Standards and how to integrate them into our diocesan standards.

Student Support Services Coordinator Diane Hietpas

- SNSP audit begins next week
- Final staff position filled at Holy Ghost last week

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	Thursday April 10
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	Kathleen Adams and Molly Bushman	Jan	Also in monthly consent agenda
Technology	Josh McCormick	Feb	
Academics/Curriculum	Mary Huffcutt and Diane	Mar	Tie in Nurturing our