



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 Minutes
Thursday, October 17, 2024, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
McDonell Library/Media Center

AGENDA

LEAD

NOTES

Welcome and Call to Order (5 Minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome• Prayer	Andy Priest	5:00	Andy is acting Chair as Chad is absent Fr. Burish: prayer to Our Lady, Help of Christians
Evidence of Mission/Vision (5 Minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review Mission and Vision	Andy	5:05	Astronomy class had stargazing morning (5:45 and breakfast) Middle school student set up with high school mentor (Lilian)
CONSENT AGENDA (5 Minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finance and Facilities Report• Technology Report• Advancement Report• Long-Range Planning Report• Enrollment Report• Student Services Report• Principals' Reports• Dean of Academics Report	Andy	5:10	Note enrollment data, good to see an increase even if modest Note freshman retreat to Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine today Note JA job fair and activities went well
Reports from Parish and Student Representatives (15 Minutes)		5:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kolbe Convo started within the past month at McDonell: large group presentations followed by small group breakouts (replaced "Mack Time")• Rotary Rose, Poinsettia, and Wreath sales have started

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Student Week last week, gave presentations on their countries • Holy Ghost construction is ongoing; plaster is repaired and decorative painting has begun, altar furnishings are in construction; project is on time (actually) - plan is to have a 10:30 a.m. Mass on 12/22 to rededicate church and altar • Notre Dame project update: footings have been poured for chapel annex; new organ is being installed • St. John the Baptist has completed their sanctuary renovation project; St. Paul's will begin a construction • 34 persons are in OCIA in CF; 8 of these are MACS students and we ask for prayers as they approach the Rite of Welcoming
Guest Presentation (15 Minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety and Emergency Procedures Committee • Triennial Review of EMEROPS policy (confidential) 	Justus Busse Molly	5:30	Safety and Emergency Procedures Committee meets approximately every two months; updates/activities include scheduling drills, updating the EMEROPS plan, looking at emergency notification software -looking at a possible drill/developing a plan for reunification -digital mapping grant received; working on plan to create digital maps by finding a vendor -Molly presented Confidential EMEROPS plan with a few updates which were discussed and approved by consensus of the Commission
Commission Chair (5 Minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select Commission member to sit on Tuition Committee 	Andy	5:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tamara Bohaty will represent Commission per Scott • Michele O'Connor will represent the Finance Committee for the tuition ad hoc
President's Updates (5 Minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Plan Progress: Action Plan in progress • 	Molly	5:50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action plans are in progress, two focus areas that do not currently have dedicated continuing committees are Partnering with Families and Growing our Catholic Identity • Follow-up with Bill Eddy re committee assignment • Scott Sokup: update on minibus fund-a-need
Listening Session 6:00 - 7:00 (in person only, move to auditorium) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair, Vice Chair, President, and principals will sit on stage • Commission representatives are asked to sit together near the front of the auditorium and 	All	5:55	Adjourn to auditorium

will be introduced at the beginning of the program			
<p>NEXT Education Commission Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint meeting with CFAUSD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> They host Topic: Safety Advancement/Alumni Update Tentative: Tuition and Salary Scale 	Chad	7:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuesday, November 19, 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hillcrest Elementary 5:00 p.m. Please RSVP and send dietary restrictions
Closing Prayer and Adjourn	Priest	7:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

Membership

EX	Chad Brady	<p>Construction Consultant</p> <p>Executive Committee LRP Committee Finance/Facilities Committee</p>	<p>Chair Holy Ghost Rep Term 2.1</p>
X	Andy Shakal	<p>Staff Engineer</p> <p>Executive Committee Strategic Plan Steering Committee</p>	<p>Vice-Chair St John's Rep Term 2.3</p>
EX	TJ Proue	<p>Attorney von Briesen & Roper S.C.</p> <p>Long Range Planning Committee Co-Chair</p>	<p>St Charles Rep Term 3.2</p>
X	Brian Eslinger	<p>Eslinger Insurance</p> <p>Committee Assignment - Open</p>	<p>All Saints Rep Term 2.1</p>
EX	Tamara Bohaty	<p>Bohaty Trucking</p>	<p>Holy Cross Rep Term 2.1</p>
X	Erin Brick	<p>Homemaker (Biology and Theology degrees)</p> <p>Strategic Plan Steering Committee Ad Hoc Dress Code Committee</p>	<p>Holy Ghost Rep Term 2.3</p>
X	Bill Eddy	<p>HVAC Project Manager</p> <p>Committee Assignment - Finance/Facilities</p>	<p>Notre Dame Rep Term 1.1</p>

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
X	Justus Busse	Deputy Chief Fire/EMS Safety and Emergency Procedures Co-Chair Ad Hoc Pandemic Committee	St Charles Rep Term 3.1
X	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

X	Fr Jesse Burish	Chippewa Falls Deanery	Dean
EX	Fr Alex Kren	McDonell Area Catholic Schools	Chaplain
X	Molly Bushman	McDonell Area Catholic Schools	President
EX	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

- Year End Financial Audit work nearing an end, due to DPI on October 15th. Will have some findings this year we will need to address. Most are attributable to being understaffed and training needed for staff.
- Fall Audit, which is a Financial and Internal controls audit and an Enrollment Audit, is November 20th and 2st. Molly will be the lead on the Enrollment audit, Scott on the FIC audit.
- We need to update our 2024-2025 Budget for DPI because we fell short on our enrollment projections. This work is due October 30th.
- We will begin work on determining tuition for next year 2025-2026 Fiscal year, and the teacher salary scale. These are due to the Diocese on 12/18/24, so the Commission will need to approve Tuition and salary scale at their November meeting.
- DOJ mapping Grant Quarterly report due 10/30/2024
- Should have audited 23/24 Fiscal year financials for the November Meeting.

Director of IT Josh McCormick

- Reviewing Staff feedback for our new SIS Facts, so we can determine what adjustments or improvements can be made, and discuss next steps moving forward.
- Completed network and device readiness for online PSAT testing
- A meeting with Marco is scheduled to review our phone system, and to address some common issues
- I have a demo scheduled with Emergent 3 (E3), which is an emergency communication and notification system.
- There are several upcoming non-sporting events that will be live streamed including: Parent Q&A Listening Session, Fall Concerts, and the Veterans Day program.

Director of Advancement Amber Leibrandt

- Our new Enrollment Coordinator, Kayla Duncan, has started and we continue with her onboarding and training. We are excited to have her on our team!
- All Annual Plans for Advancement have been completed, reviewed and approved. This includes Annual Fund, Events, Major Gifts/Capital Campaigns, Planned Giving, and Operations. The Annual Enrollment Plan and Strategic Marketing Plan are completed.
- A. B. McDonell Vision Fund annual mailing has been sent to all alumni, current parents, staff, and community friends. As commission members, please consider supporting the annual fund, it is valuable to be able to list 100% participation from our commission.
- We presented the annual fund and started the soft launch of the renewed planned giving program to the Chippewa Falls Catholic Women's Club on Wednesday, October 10th with good results. The McDonell Future of Hope Alliance currently has 46 members (and counting) who have committed to an estate gift towards the school and 31 members of McDonell Legacy of Hope, who have fulfilled their planned gifts.
- The A.B. McDonell Vision Impact Tours and Reception will be held on Wednesday, October 23rd starting at Holy Ghost at 12:30, moving to St. Charles at 1:30, 2:30 for Notre Dame and McDonell

at a 3:30-5:45 reception at the History Center. Society Members and special guests of McDonell are invited to attend. We offer the commission members an invitation as well.

- We have 24 Corporate Sponsors. Please look for the signs and consider thanking them for supporting our schools.
- The planning for the Alumni Visit for November is moving forward. We will be traveling to the Milwaukee/Madison area to meet with donors one on one and host a gathering with a hosting alum. The focus remains on developing relationships with key alumni and engaging and re-engaging alumni.
- We are currently at 20% of our goal for the annual fund, 108 gifts & 48 donors.
- The Annual Report for the Mack Messenger has been completed. Highlights include: 752 donors raising \$966,271 this includes the sum of all gifts received through donations; annual fund, tuition assistance, memorials, matching employer gifts, in-kind, and restricted gifts. We also recognize our supporting parishes who contributed \$945,737 towards keeping our tuition affordable for parish families.
- We increased our engagement by 55% with the class years between 1980-2020 from the previous year's report, from 35 donors to 54 (60 counting our honorary alumni). This is in part credited to the Alumni Giving Competition. We will be honoring ABMVF donors more specifically in this issue with special icons denoting how many consecutive years a donor has supported the annual fund. 311 Donors contributed 433 Gifts to the A.B. McDonell Vision Fund raising \$512,500. Witness the Difference Pledge payments are also recognized and will help us finish this campaign.
- Major Gifts cultivation continues through our Moves Management tracking and cultivation plan.
- The planning for the MACS Spaghetti Spectacular and Kids Carnival (January 26th) continues and the new Spring Gala Committee (March 29th) has met as well. Both committees are looking for additional volunteers to help with the planning of these important system wide events. Please spread the word!

Enrollment Coordinator

Please welcome our new Enrollment Coordinator, Kayla Duncan, who will present at a future meeting and is currently undergoing orientation and training.

<i>Number of students per grade per category</i>	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 PreK-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:

Holy Ghost Grades 3-5 - Principal Mrs Gwen Doyle

October 2024

- Our virtue of the month is fortitude ("Stay Strong!"). We spend time each Terrific Tuesday talking about what this looks like and sounds like. It is represented by a shield.
- We are celebrating "Respect Life Month". This week, I asked for pictures of families that we will keep posted on a bulletin board near the front entrance throughout the rest of the year. At Terrific Tuesday assemblies, I am talking about how to respect life. This week, the student council will present on bullying awareness (respecting each other) and then next week, we will talk about how to respect the elderly. All have dignity in the eyes of God!
- We had our first "Living Rosary" after Mass on October 9th and will have our first monthly Adoration on October 16th.
- AB McDonell Vision Annual Fund: The student council members came up with some ideas for what to say during our building tours on October 23rd with AB McDonell Vision Annual fund donors. They are all very excited to give tours!
- The students have learned the Alma Mater song and we sing it during every Terrific Tuesday assembly. Next, I'd like to learn the school song that is played at games. Anyone know the words?
- Parent Teacher Conferences are on October 24th. In our feedback to parents, we will continue to focus on the key components of student wellbeing outlined in our mission: intellectual, spiritual, physical and moral.
- The 5th graders have had a field trip to the Conservation Site at Wissota State Park. The 4th graders have had a field trip to the Ice Age Trail. All teachers report wonderful experiences and behavior. We are extremely grateful that Brad is willing to drive the MACS bus to and from these events. We are also doing our permission slips online. We've worked out a few kinks and think it will work very well in the future!
- Please continue to pray for a music teacher.

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

International Student Presentations

On Tuesday, Oct. 8 our high school listened to our 9 International students deliver short presentations on their home countries. The visual slides and talks consisted of information that included: customs, climate, popular culture and food cuisine of these countries. This year's students provided information pertaining to the countries: Japan, Thailand, Belarus, Spain, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Hungary, China.

PSAT

On Tuesday, Oct. 15, 19 of our 10th graders and 26 of our Juniors took the PSAT standardized assessment. The exam was proctored by our new school counselor, Mr. Alex Baierl.

Junior Achievement Day

McDonell High School once again hosted Junior Achievement Day. On Thursday, Oct. 17 over 20 businesses, entrepreneurs and service workers visited our high school and provided motivational talks and table information to our 10, 11 & 12th graders. Students also attended a keynote address by Tracey Smiskey and classroom lessons on Application & Resume writing and Workplace Writing. Our 8th graders took part in the Job Fair at this event this year and also traveled to two local businesses in the afternoon.

Freshman Retreat to Shrine of our Lady of Guadalupe

On Thursday, Oct. 17 our Freshman took the trip to LaCrosse for a day of prayer and reflection. Our school chaplain Fr. Kren led the group. Also chaperoning this year are our high school Theology teachers: Mr. Ruf and Mr. Gilbertson.

McDonell Fall Concert

On Monday Oct. 21, the McDonell Fall concert is scheduled starting at 6:30. The McDonell Jazz Ensemble will perform six songs, the concert choir doing four numbers. After a short intermission, the night will conclude with the McDonell concert band performing six numbers. Thank you to Deacon Hanson and Mrs. Hunt for assembling and leading the evening.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Just past the midday point of the first trimester, our teachers will be scheduling appointments with parents on Thursday, Oct. 24 for face to face conferences for check-ins on student's progress. Parents were asked to select a time slot between 9-12:30 or 3-6:00.

Safety Drills

During the last full week of October, the McDonell and Notre Dame building will be conducting one of two scheduled Hold/Lockdown drills this school year. The first drill of the year is always important since there are always many new people to our building each year.

Support our Troops

Throughout the next month McDonell high school will be participating in the 16th annual Support our Troops Care Package Drive organized by the YMCA and Leinenkugel's Brewing Company. Items can be dropped off at McDonell (table set up in Commons) until Friday, November 8. Items will then be gathered and care packages will be put together and sent to service members stationed all around the world in time for Christmas.

Dean of Academics Mary Huffcutt

- Helping the Diocese with their regional professional development. Objective is to help teachers design their standards with the infusing of Catholic values. Teachers are looking at the Cardinal Newman Society Catholic Curriculum standards
- Working with principals and key stakeholders in mapping out the strategic plan objectives associated with the focus area "Nurturing our students"
- Continue support with virtue of the month and with monthly awareness of Corporal Works of Mercy
- Continued support for the rejuvenation of our after school program (Super) spaces

Student Support Services Coordinator Diane Hietpas

No new updates this month.

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 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	

Action Plan

Overall Goal(s) - Underlying objectives/goals may be chunked up over the next years to meet these overall goals.

1. Become more active as a commission.

Goal <i>What is "Point B" that I want to reach by the end of this school year? (Cross reference Strategic Plan if applicable.)</i>	Current Status <i>What is "Point A" i.e. what is the status of this goal</i>	Objective <i>Break down "Point B" into smaller bites, i.e. incremental goals to bridge the gap between Point A and Point B.</i>	Strategies and Action Steps <i>For each objective, list action steps with an estimated timeline.</i>	Evidence of Success <i>Please document your success! You can add links to other documents or reference meeting minutes.</i>
Commissioners participate in faith formation activities.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pursue regular attendance/participation in faith formation events. Eg: Catholicism on Tap. - Commission participation in one faith based event this year would be wonderful. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chair to connect with each commissioner regularly. - Commissioners should share upcoming activities over the course of the annual term. - Participation in evangelization opportunities. - Commission attend Catholicism on Tap or 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Commissioners provide updates on activities participated in.

			<p>other faith based event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Commissioners participate with the school prayer team. 	
<p>MACS Education Commissioners to strengthen the tie with their respective parish via regular communication with their pastor and parish council.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish regular communication with pastor and parish council, regarding items covered at Education Commission meetings and events , activities, etc. at MACS. - Become engaged with those parents and students represented. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Commissioners establish meeting schedule with their respective pastor and parish council. - Chair to provide one pager after each meeting that can be distributed by each commissioner to their respective counterparts. - Chair can be available for participation in a discussion as required. - Commissioners invite parents and parishioners to the listening sessions and our commission meetings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Copying the Chair and Vice Chair on your communications will help maintain continuity.
<p>MACS Education Commission will ensure ongoing continuity in governance and update the bylaws.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vote for Chair & Vice Chair for next term. - Update bylaws for succession plan. - Update bylaws with updated committees and other info as necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chair to work on a succession plan to present to the commission for comment. - Chair to provide redlined bylaws for commission approval. - Chair to hold vote in May. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Approved revisions - Modified and approved bylaws - Voting held