



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.

Education Commission - Summary

April 11, 2024

5:30 p.m.

McDonell Library

+1 563 538 1633

Pin: 864 679 281#

meet.google.com/czh-vgxs-sra

AGENDA	LEAD		NOTES
Welcome and Call to Order <ul style="list-style-type: none">Welcome	Andy	5:30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Welcome from Chair Andy ShakalThe following attachments were included in the agenda:<ul style="list-style-type: none">2024-25 BudgetProposed Fundraising PolicyStatute RevisionsSpring Calendar Dates
Prayer <ul style="list-style-type: none">Opening Prayer	Priest	5:30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Prayer led by Fr Burish
Evidence of Mission/Vision <ul style="list-style-type: none">Review Vision	Andy		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Tabled
CONSENT AGENDA <ul style="list-style-type: none">Finance and Facilities ReportTechnology ReportAdvancement ReportLong-Range Planning ReportEnrollment ReportPrincipals' ReportsDean of Academics Report	Andy	5:35 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Are 38 broken screens a standard amount? Answer: Fairly standard, it is a little higher than last year to this date. It could be contributed from the increase of students and the devices are another year older with wear and tear. Overall considered a normal amount.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Services Report 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why are there recycling fees when you can recycle free in Eau Claire? Recommended to review if First Choice in Eau Claire could be an option for MACS for recycling. Answer: We do use First Choice when we can but they will not recycle all items for free. • Consensus for the March summary.
<p>Reports from Parish and Student Representatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	Fred Blair		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tabled
<p>Committees/Department Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance: Budget • Advancement: Fundraising Policy 	Scott Amber	5:45 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scott Sokup presented the budget. Please see the two attachments. • Consensus for the budget from the Education Commission • Budget will go to the Diocese by April 18, 2024 and MACS will wait for final approval. • Amber Leibrandt presented an overview of the updated fundraising Policy. • Question 1: What if the new Fundraising Policy does not meet the goal? Who will cover the cost? • Question 2: Is it true that a big part of costs will now be placed on parents? • Question 3: How will the new policy be marketed to stakeholders? • Question 4:What is the biggest concern with the change? • Question 5:Is there a process in place of how the funds will be distributed? How do you ensure “fairness”? • Question 6: Have service projects already been created that teams can elect to do? If so, How is this communicated? It seems that certain teams have been targeted for certain events in the past. Who will decide which team will get to participate in a service project? • Question 7: Is there a definition of the fundraiser policy and exactly what is not allowed? How is it determined if it is a service project versus a fundraiser? • Question 8: Have you seen the model used in other schools?
<p>Commission Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statute Revisions 	Andy	6:30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 6: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Standing Committees - Minor updates ○ Ad-Hoc Committees - the chair dissolve ad-hoc committees

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 11 - election of officers Four options (included below for reference) were considered and discussed, all with the goal of purposely aligning officer election with leadership succession. No consensus was reached, with support split between options 1, 3 and 4. <p>Option 1: The Education Commission shall every second year elect an officer to fill the position of Vice Chair. After a one year term, the Vice Chair shall, with the consent of the Education Commission, assume the office of Chair, for a term of two years. At the conclusion of serving as Chair, the Chair shall assume the office of Vice Chair, for a term of one year.</p> <p>Option 2: The Education Commission shall annually elect officers to fill the positions of Chair and Vice Chair. Nominees for the office of Chair shall preferably have served as Vice Chair.</p> <p>Option 3: The Education Commission shall annually elect an officer to fill the position of Chair-Elect. After one year in office, the Chair-Elect shall, with the consent of the Education Commission, assume the office of Chair. After one year in office, the Chair shall assume the role of Past-Chair, and serve as an advisor and consultant to the new Chair.</p> <p>Option 4: The Education Commission shall annually elect officers to fill the positions of Chair and Vice Chair. Nominees for the office of Chair shall preferably have served as Vice Chair. Upon leaving office, the Chair shall assume the role of Past-Chair, and serve as an advisor and consultant to the new Chair.</p>
President's Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spring calendar save the dates for concerts, graduation, etc. (see document) 	Molly	6:50 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Commission and representatives are encouraged to attend the attached spring calendar of events.
NEXT Education Commission Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academics/Assessment data presentations Nominations for officers 	ALL	6:55: p.m.	May 16, 2024 5:00 p.m. 5:00 - 5:30 p.m. Parent Listening Session 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. resume regular scheduled meeting
Closing Prayer and Adjournment	Priest	7:00 p.m.	Close by all with a Glory Be

Membership

X	Andy Shakal	Staff Engineer Executive Committee Finance & Facilities Committee	Chair/St John's Rep 2nd Term
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		Strategic Plan Steering Committee Ad Hoc Pandemic Committee	
X	TJ Proue	Long Range Planning Committee Co-Chair	St Charles Rep 3rd Term
X	Brian Eslinger	Eslinger Insurance Strategic Plan Embracing Our Community Committee	All Saints Rep 1st Term
X	Tamara Bohaty	Bohatty Trucking Long Range Planning Committee	Holy Cross Rep 1st Term
X	Erin Brick	Homemaker (Biology and Theology degrees) Strategic Plan Steering Committee Ad Hoc Dress Code Committee	Holy Ghost Rep 1st Term
X	Chad Brady	Construction Consultant Executive Committee LRP and Finance/Facilities	Vice Chair / Holy Ghost Rep 1st Term
EX	Mike Crawford	Access Security Sales and Estimations Finance & Facilities Committee	Notre Dame Rep 3rd Term
X	Matt Elstran	Hideaway Resort & Francesca Resource Center Strategic Plan Steering Committee	Notre Dame Rep 3rd Term
EX	Scott Siegenthaler	Assistant Director Financial Aid UWEC Long Range Planning Committee	Notre Dame Rep 3rd Term
	Vacant		Sacred Heart Rep
EX	Tracy Bormann	Director of Human Resources Advancement Advisory Committee	St Bridget's Rep 2nd Term
EX	Justus Busse	Deputy Chief Fire/EMS Safety and Emergency Procedures Ad Hoc Pandemic Committee	St Charles Rep 2nd Term
X	Regi Geissler	Registered Nurse HSHS Safety and Emergency Procedures Chair Ad Hoc Pandemic Committee	St Charles Rep 2nd Term
EX	Victoria Silvas	Ad Hoc Tuition	St Paul's Rep 1st Term
X	Diane Herron	Homemaker Faith Boosters	St Peter's Rep 2nd Term

Ex-Officio

X	Fr Jesse Burish	Chippewa Falls Deanery	Dean
X	Fr Alex Kren	McDonell Area Catholic Schools	Chaplain
EX	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	Principal HG 3-5
X	Jamie Dodge	McDonell Area Catholic Schools	Principal SC Pk-2
X	Scott Sokup	McDonell Area Catholic Schools	Controller
X	Kathleen Adams	McDonell Area Catholic Schools	Exec Admin Asst Admissions Coordinator

Student Representatives

X	Frederick Blair	McDonell Area Catholic Schools	Senior Representative
EX	Ben Siegenthaler	McDonell Area Catholic Schools	Junior Representative

Guests

X	Amber Leibrandt	McDonell Area Catholic Schools	Director of Advancement
NA			

Reports

Director of Finance and Facilities Scott Sokup

- Update on the Budget for 2024-2025 Fiscal Year.
 - Finance Budget meeting was April 4th
 - Education Commission Budget meeting is April 11th
 - Budget is due to the Diocese by April 18th
 - DPI Choice budget is due June 30th
 - Revised DPI Choice budget is due November 1st after Sept count.
- Summer Project Planning is underway
- Year End Audit planning will begin soon.

Director of IT Josh McCormick

Network Updates

- Smart Thermometers were installed for the freezers and coolers in each of the buildings. This will alert us if temperatures are out of range so we can address issues in a timely manner, and avoid food spoiling.
- Migrated our Website hosting service to a different provider.
- Configured VPN access for our Journalism classes
- SIS: We are in the process of Migrating Student Information Systems. We are switching from Infinite Campus to Facts. We utilized Facts for Application and Enrollment this year, and will be fully transitioned to Facts for next school year, as we discontinue use of Infinite Campus. Teacher training for the new system is scheduled for May 28th.
- Implemented an Auto Attendant for the Central Office phone, this gives the caller a menu where they can select which school, or department they need to speak to. This will cut down on interruptions to our Admissions Coordinator/Executive Administrative Assistant.

Classroom Technology

- We purchased 11 used document cameras for classrooms that could utilize them
- We have added a SmartTable to the SNSP room at Holy Ghost.

- 12 laptops were ordered and distributed to new teachers, and to replace some older devices
- 1 Promethean board was replaced due to screen issues, it was covered under warranty

Work Tickets

- 238 Work tickets have been submitted this school year (Not including email and phone requests)
- 64+ Chromebook Repairs
 - 38 Broken Screens - We have been able to utilize screens from retired devices that were due to be recycled, this saves money on recycling fees and from ordering parts.

Looking Forward

Building Security:

We are currently working on three substantial updates to our building security systems. We are preparing to implement Mitel Revolution, which is a mass notification and PA system for emergencies and announcements. We need to finish some network updates before this can be implemented. We are also looking into upgrading our door and fob system. A recent vulnerability was found where our key fobs could be cloned and replicated using a device which is available to the public. We plan to upgrade our fob system to circumvent this issue. We have received quotes from Access Security to upgrade to a more secure system using “Smart Fobs”. We are still evaluating our security cameras, and plan to upgrade some of our cameras, and add additional cameras to our system.

Web Filtering: We are in our final contract year for our web filter, Securly. Securly overall has worked well but it does have it’s own limitations, we are currently evaluating potential replacements that may fit our needs better.

Director of Advancement

- Attached with the agenda is the proposed Fundraising Policy

Admissions Coordinator Kathleen Adams

Grade	Total Students 2023-24	Current MACS Students Enrolled	New Students Enrolled	Total Students Enrolled 2024-25	Current MACS Students Not Enrolled	Inquiring for 2024-25	Total Potential With Inquiring Students
3K	15	0	10	10	0	6	16
Total 3K	15	0	8	10	0	6	16
4K	23	17	3	20	0	7	27
K	39	22	12	34	1	5	40
1	40	33	1	34	4	3	41
2	28	34	1	35	6	1	42
Total 4K-2	130	106	17	123	11	16	150
3	34	24	2	26	2	4	32
4	34	31	2	33	3	0	36
5	42	30	0	30	3	2	35
Total 3-5	110	85	4	89	8	6	103
6	53	40	12	42	1	4	47
7	42	48	0	48	5	1	54

8	53	41	4	45	0	4	49
Total 6-8	148	129	6	135	6	9	150
9	44	45	7	52	6	2	60
10	55	37	1	38	7	2	47
11	48	46	1	47	6	2	55
12	51	34	0	34	11	1	46
Total 9-12	198	162	9	171	30	7	208
Total 4K-12	586	482	36	518	55	38	611
Total w/3K	586	482	46	528	55	44	627

- Current MACS families can enroll for the 2024-25 school year by going to the [MACS Website/Admissions/How To Apply Re-Enroll](#), scroll down to Current Families #2 Create Family Portal Account. The District Code is MCD-WI. Once created there is an option on the left side of the page to enroll for the 2024-25 school year.
- The Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (aka WPCP or Choice) application is open February 1 - April 18, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. This is a strict deadline with zero flexibility.
- To apply for Choice go to the [MACS Website/Admissions.Tuition & Financial Aid](#), scroll down below tuition rates and see the information for WPCP.
- Last year today, we had 481 enrolled for 4K-12. This year 518.
- If you have any questions on applying please contact Kathleen Adams directly at k.adams@macs.k12.wi.us or 715-723-0538 ext 3301

St Charles Grades Pk-2 Principal Jamie Dodge

- The students participated in the Mite Box program, which is based on the Biblical story of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1-4 and Mark 12:41-43). This program required regular contributions of "mites" - offerings above and beyond the support normally given to the church. All the funds collected through this program go to the Missionary Childhood Association to help the poor worldwide. Our students were able to raise over \$500 to support this association.
- Camp Macks Enrollment is Little Macks has 8/10 students, Camp Macks I has 24/26 students and Camp Macks II has 31/36 students.
- Summer school will be held at St. Charles from June 3rd to June 28th.
- #TheMackWay Day was a great success. Our students made bird feeders to be shared with the community, decorated coffee collars for the local 4:30 am coffee shop, talked about gratitude, and created cards for their teachers. Additionally, all the middle school students joined our SC students in different community-building activities such as playing games and reading books together.
- SC has its spring Hymn Festival on Friday, April 19th at 12:30 p.m.
- Our second-grade students will receive their first communion at their parish in the upcoming weeks.
- SC/HG will hold a Mission Day on Friday, April 5th to support the Single Mom Saturday event in our community. Students can wear non-uniform clothes if they donate, and all donations will be given to this community event.
- On Wednesday, May 1st we will be celebrating the May Crowning at Mass.

Holy Ghost Grades 3-5 Principal Gwen Doyle

Review:

#TheMackWay Day was amazing! Below is a run down of our activities. Please check out [THIS VIDEO](#) for some pictures. I want to especially give a shout out to Mrs. Sykora who helped plan all of these details and to the teachers for their flexibility and positivity throughout the day. The students were wonderful and the activities centered

around the facets of our mission: physical, moral, intellectual, and spiritual.

- Visiting with residents at the Chippewa Manor and singing for them
- Painting rocks (Thank you, Ryan Stelter!-->These will be delivered to houses in our neighborhood in the next couple of weeks
- Creating virtue cards to go underneath the rocks
- Decorating sleeves that go around coffee cups for our coffee shops in town
- 1/2 School-wide Kahoot in the music room (questions courtesy of Student Council)
- Living Rosary
- Washing of the Feet service (prepared by Student Council)

Present:

We are hoping to move forward with a new Math Curriculum called [Math in Focus](#). With Mary, the elementary principals will come up with next steps that include training teachers and communication with parents.

The teachers are piloting a new grammar program [Well-Ordered Language](#) in April and May that focuses on diagramming sentences.

Student Council has given several tours to potential new students and has another scheduled on Friday.

Future:

April 10 - 8:30 am Mass (Dahl's Class Leads)

April 10 - HandS Meeting 6pm

April 12 - Teacher Inservice (No School)

April 16 - 4th Grade Field Trip (Madison)

May 1 - 5th Grade Field trip to the [Shrine of Guadalupe](#) (more information coming soon!)

May 13 - 5th Grade Band Concert @ McDonell Auditorium

May 16 - Holy Ghost Talent Show @ 12:30pm (more information coming home this week!)

May 20 - MACS in Motion

May 21 - 4th/5th Field Trip to CAHC

May 24 - Final Mass/Awards 8:30 am

The Holy Ghost teachers will be reflecting on our current grading and assessment practices as well as taking a closer look at how we are utilizing our academic standards in teaching, learning, assessing and grading.

Notre Dame/McDonell Grades 6-12 Principal Eric Wedemeyer

High School Students honored

Each spring we have students honored for high academic achievements. The Cloverbelt conference honors two scholars from each school as well as two scholar-athletes from each school in the conference. Each student honored selects their most influential educator. Below are the McDonell students honored at these banquets this spring and their most influential teacher:

Cloverbelt Scholar

- Abby Bresina - Mrs. Carrie Rosowski
- Fred Blair - Mr. Christian Ruf

Cloverbelt Scholar-Athlete

- Aubrey Dorn - Coach Kat Hanson
- Andrew Bormann - Coach Mary Bushland

In addition to the Conference scholar banquets the Chippewa Chamber of Commerce recognizes the top 5% of the graduating seniors from both Chippewa Falls public High School and McDonell High School. These students also get to choose and honor an influential person that has inspired them. Below are the McDonell students and their selected educator:

Excellence in Education

- Fred Blair - Mr. Matthew Rider
- Abby Bresina - Mrs. Carrie Rozowski
- Maria Herron - Mr. Sean Hanson

#MackWay Day Highlights

On Holy Thursday both McDonell and Notre Dame students participated in our annual MackWay Day. The day is set aside for community service and other community building activities for our students and staff. The day started with a pancake breakfast being served to all students, staff and community members. Our Notre Dame students participated in the Stations of the Cross and engaged in a presentation from Nordson's TechTime team. Afternoon found them walking to St. Charles school to read to our primary students and help in the building in any other capacities. The morning for our High School students had them split into several groups and travel to places for some community volunteer work. Teacher chaperones led groups to: Holy Ghost school, Christ Lutheran School, Irvine and Casper Park, Milestone Early Education Center, Dove Healthcare Center, Economy Furniture, Feed My People foodbank, Notre Dame church and the Chippewa Manor. The afternoon allowed our students to display their theater, musical and athletic abilities with a talent show and a volleyball tournament. It was a wonderful day of bonding and growing within the mission of our school.

Dean of Academics Mary Huffcutt

- Virtue Initiative
 - This month is the month of Trustworthiness - [Openlight media](#)
- Professional development
 - Looking at math development for our math renewal
 - Will be offering this opportunity for teachers: [Beautiful Teaching online conference](#) June 27-29
- Academics
 - Our new math materials/teaching will be K-5 [Math in Focus](#) (Singapore Math) and [The Number Lab](#) for grades 6-8. High school will be updating some of their texts and ensuring alignment.
 - History department has begun the discussion for their refresh that will take place in the 2025-26 school year.
- Accreditation
 - Next steps include each school writing goals to submit to WRISA by June 1st.

Student Support Services Coordinator Diane Hietpas

- Tabled until May