



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 Mission: 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

October 19, 2023

5:00 p.m. Listening Session

McDonell Library

5:30 p.m. October Meeting

McDonell Library

AGENDA

LEAD

NOTES

Listening Session	All	5:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">No Attendees
Welcome and Call to Order <ul style="list-style-type: none">	Andy	5:30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Welcome from Chair
Prayer	Priest		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Prayer led by Fr Burish
Evidence of Mission/Vision <ul style="list-style-type: none">	Andy		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Junior AchievementHalloween at the Y (community involvement) October 20, 3:30-6:00pmEducating in Virtue
CONSENT AGENDA <ul style="list-style-type: none">Finance and Facilities ReportTechnology ReportAdvancement ReportLong-Range Planning ReportEnrollment ReportPrincipals' ReportsDean of Academics ReportStudent Services Report	Andy		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Consent
Reports from Parish and Student Representatives			<ul style="list-style-type: none">Holy Ghost building updateSt John's Pork Steak Dinner

Committees/Department Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive Annual Enrollment Report Monthly Catholic Mission report Strategic Plan Steering Committee 	Kathleen/ Molly Fr. Kren Molly/Erin/ Matt		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See attachment for enrollment report Question posed – what would happen if MACS no longer received Choice money Strategic Planning - started presentation to 4-6 sub-committee groups Educating in monthly virtues EDGE Upcoming Eucharistic Revival Encouraged by amount of overlap in discussions
Commission Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	Andy		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hired City Youth and Campus Ministry Director, Michael VanHemert
President's Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual System Goals Preview Human Resources updates Oct. 23 Fall concert invitation 	Molly		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student Success – Educating in Virtue Operational Vitality – Strategic Plan or Bust HR – new new hires, two openings
NEXT Education Commission Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note date change! Joint meeting Guest presentation from Advancement/PR 	Andy/All		Tuesday, November 28, 2023 5:00 p.m. at St Charles 5-6 p.m. Joint Meeting 6:15-7:15 p.m. MACS Ed Comm Meeting
Closing Prayer and Adjournment	Priest		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Glory Be

Membership

X	Andy Shakal	Staff Engineer Executive Committee Finance & Facilities Committee Strategic Plan Steering Committee Ad Hoc Pandemic Committee	Chair/St John's Rep 1st Term
X	TJ Proue	Von Briesen & Roper Long Range Planning Committee Co-Chair	St Charles Rep 2nd Term
X	Brian Eslinger	Eslinger Insurance Strategic Plan Embracing Our Community Committee	All Saints Rep 1st Term
X	Tamara Bohaty	Bohaty Trucking Long Range Planning Committee	Holy Cross Rep 1st Term
X	Erin Brick	Homemaker (Biology and Theology degrees)	Holy Ghost Rep 1st Term

		Strategic Plan Steering Committee Ad Hoc Dress Code Committee	
X	Chad Brady	Software Consultant Executive Committee LRP and Finance/Facilities	Vice Chail / Holy Ghost Rep
X	Mike Crawford	Access Security Sales and Estimations Finance & Facilities Committee	Notre Dame Rep 2nd Term
X	Matt Elstran	Hideaway Resort & Francesca Resource Center Strategic Plan Steering Committee	Notre Dame Rep 3rd Term
X	Scott Siegenthaler	Assistant Director Financial Aid UWEC Long Range Planning Committee	Notre Dame Rep 2nd Term
	Vacant		Sacred Heart Rep
X	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
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
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	Principal HG 3-5
X	Jamie Dodge	McDonell Area Catholic Schools	Principal SC Pk-2
EX	Scott Sokup	McDonell Area Catholic Schools	Controller
X	Kathleen Adams	McDonell Area Catholic Schools	Exec Admin Asst Admissions Coordinator

Student Representatives

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

Reports

Director of Finance and Facilities Scott Sokup

- No report for October.

Director of IT Josh McCormick

- We have elected FACTS to replace Infinite Campus as our SIS. Working on a migration plan to be up and running for enrollment and fully switch over for the next school year.
- Our Elementary Security Camera server has been replaced. Now that both systems are back up and running, we are revisiting adding additional cameras to our buildings
- Responded to 48 work tickets this past month
- Getting the Library computers prepped for PSAT testing
- Working on possibly getting an intern to fill the empty role of our IT Specialist.

Director of Advancement Libby Leinenkugel

Thank you, members of our Commission, for your service and encouragement while I was in this role for MACS. I am proud of the work that is being done for our students and community and look forward to how I can continue to offer support, albeit in a different role.

Through the support of our consulting partner with Partners in Mission, we have taken steps in the right direction to implement some changes that have strengthened growth of our annual fund, the A.B. McDonell Vision Fund. Moreover, we have improved our knowledge of why the annual fund needs to grow even more. Your own continued understanding of this fund is uniquely imperative as members of the MACS commission, as further growth will support ideas of the strategic planning process. These ideas will feed into changes that will need time to develop, but through perseverance and determination, our goals can be accomplished so that a Catholic-based education can continue to be provided to our community for the next 100+ years.

Thank you for entrusting me to serve in the role of the Advancement Director. Most importantly, thanks be to God for the gifts He has given to you as you use them in service for our MACS community!

Admissions Coordinator Kathleen Adams

Grade	Total Students 2022-23	Total Students Enrolled 2023- 24	New Students 2023-24 (included in total students enrolled)
4K		24	24
K	39	39	39
1-2	57	68	10
3-5	120	110	6
6-8	124	148	25
9-12	205	198	24
Total	545	587	128

St Charles Grades Pk-2 Principal Jamie Dodge

Holy Ghost Grades 3-5 Principal Gwen Doyle

NEW/UPCOMING:

- Our virtue of the month is gratitude. We spend time each Terrific Tuesday talking about what this looks like and sounds like (for example: smiling and thanking your father after he makes supper). Beginning in November, we will be creating a path around the school with "PAWS" for virtues. Teachers will recognize students' virtuous behavior and we will place paws on the path each week with the goal of reaching around the school.
- We are also celebrating "Respect Life Month". Each Sunday, I will give a suggestion to parents in my Holy Ghost Happenings email of how they can celebrate "Respect Life Month" with their families. The first suggestion was to spiritually adopt a baby. 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 month. At Terrific Tuesdays, I am talking about how to respect life at each stage. The next three weeks will be teenagers, adults and then our elderly. All have dignity in the eyes of God!
- Did you know that October is the month of the rosary? We invite you to a "Living Rosary" after Mass on Wednesday, October 18th. All over the world, children will be praying the rosary on the 18th of October. This prayer initiative aims to rekindle faith in the power of prayer. The worldwide campaign is an invitation to remember the words of Our Lady of Fatima that the childlike and trusting prayer of the rosary can truly change the world, defeat evil and bring peace. Praying the rosary together with children will strengthen unity in the Church and among peoples. We are all called to form one family, united in prayer. Out of prayer grows love for God and neighbor. The rosary opens our hearts to concrete help for the persecuted, the needy and the poor in whom Christ himself suffers.
- AB McDonell Vision Annual Fund: The student council members came up with some ideas for what to say during our building tours on October 18th with AB McDonell Vision Annual fund donors. A few highlights were: singing three songs at Mass, so many instruments in music class, 31 out of 42 students are in band in the 5th grade, the beautiful painting on the entrance stairs, and learning new styles of calligraphy in art.
- The students are learning (and hopefully memorizing) the new Mission statement, one section at a time. So far we have learned: Centered on Jesus Christ and His Church, we partner with families to nurture young people's...
- Parent Teacher Conferences are on October 24th and 26th. We will be communicating our new feedback plan, which is for every teacher to email every students' family every six weeks. We will be working on improving the quality and consistency of our communication and feedback to parents considering the key components of student wellbeing outlined in our mission: intellectual, spiritual, physical and moral.

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Teachers are starting to need substitute teachers more frequently. I would like to figure out a way to hire more substitute teachers to cover.

Notre Dame/McDonell Grades 6-12 Principal Eric Wedemeyer

International Student Presentations

On Tuesday, Oct. 10 our high school listened to our 8 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, Italy, France, Thailand, Vietnam and the Czech Republic.

PSAT

On Wednesday, Oct. 18, fourteen 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. 19 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 Craig Toyce ('99) and classroom lessons on Application & Resume writing and Workplace Writing. Our 8th graders will also take part in the Job Fair at this event this year.

Freshman Retreat to Shrine of our Lady of Quadalupe

On Thursday, Oct. 19 our Freshman took the trip to LaCrosse for a day of prayer and reflection. Our school chaplain Fr. Kren led the group.

McDonell Fall Concert

On Monday Oct. 23, the McDonell Fall concert is scheduled starting at 6:30. Choir will perform first with the Concert choir doing a few numbers and will also feature the return of the Show choir doing one piece. After a short intermission, the night will conclude with the McDonell band performing several numbers.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Just past the midday point of the first trimester, our teachers will be scheduling appointments with parents on Tuesday, Oct. 24 and Thursday, Oct. 26 for face to face conferences for check-ins on student's progress.

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 15th 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 10. 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

- Virtue Initiative
 - This month is the month of gratitude
 - Continue to check in with principals on how schools/classes are educating on the virtue as well as using it in cultivating habits around the virtue
- Math transformation
 - Met with teachers on October 6th to go over possible materials for math starting next year
- History
 - Middle and high school teachers for social studies attended a webinar on teaching classically. Good discussion around this topic.
- Accreditation
 - Another round of surveys will be going out before the end of October.

Student Support Services Coordinator Diane Hietpas

- Title 1 services have begun at St. Charles for students in grades K, 1 and 2.
- Fall benchmark data (grades K-8) has been reviewed in data talks and intervention services for the fall have been finalized.