

Mater Dei Catholic High School

School Board Meeting Minutes

Date: April 7, 2025

Attendees: Dennis Litteken, Brent Goebel, Marty Diekemper, Nancy Rakers, Laurie Klostermann, Jill Sinnock, Jeana Thole, Carol Wiegmann, Jody Grawe, Kurt Schmitz, Fr. Chuck Tuttle, Brenda VonHatten, Trevor Durham, Paula Kampwerth, Justin Benhoff, Gregg Cox, Amy Wobbe, Maria Zurliene, Deacon John Fridley

Absent: Lindsay Tripp, Erin Etheridge, Justin Benhoff, Tina Kohrmann

Laurie Klostermann called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M.

Marty Diekemper led the opening prayer.

Recommended Action

The March 3, 2025 board meeting minutes are approved as submitted.

Brent Goebel made the motion, Marty Diekemper seconded.

The agenda for April 7, 2025 meeting stands approved and submitted.

Deacon John Fridley made the motion, Nancy Rakers seconded.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee

- Met and set the agenda

Finance Committee

- Cash on Hand CDs at Germantown Bank were due March 20. They have been reinvested for 5 months
- Ali Kampwerth will go on Maternity leave 4/9/2025. Plans in place for her absence.

Planning and Enrollment Committee

- Website updates- work w/Aaron Eversgerd
- 91 freshmen registered as of today

Mission Effectiveness

- **Daily Masses for Lent continue**
- **Retreats went very well. The students had many positive comments about the new retreat team.**

- Students had the opportunity to go receive the sacrament of Reconciliation last week: five priests provided the sacrament.
- Committee members reviewed the nominations for the Christian Discipleship Award. One student was chosen from each grade level.

Building and Grounds

- New windows have been installed in gym lobby
- HVAC unit to be installed April 17 by Kohnen

Advancement

- Did not meet

OLD BUSINESS

Capital Campaign Update

- Kickoff was well attended (80) on Thurs., Apr. 3. Positive feedback from those who attended.
- Initial brochures are ready.
- We ended our contract with Advancement Partners.
- Meeting with benefactors will begin soon.
- Solicitors will be assigned names for who they will visit. Discussion followed.

Budget 2025-2026

- The Finance Committee made a recommendation to raise tuition to \$6500. This will allow about 3.3% new money to be added to the budget.
- An explanation was given in regard to the budget line that includes administration and instructional salaries. The assistant principal and the bursar salaries have been moved to the administrative side of the budget report.
- Health insurance will be less than a 3% increase.
- Brent Goebel made the motion to approve the recommendation of the Finance Committee, Marty Diekemper seconded the motion. It was approved.

Salary Schedule 2025-2026

- Teachers will receive a 3%-3.5% salary increase.
- The teachers had requested a few items when considering salaries this budget year. These included:
 - \$1,000 added to the base
 - Extra to the Master's degree
 - \$200 added at Step 5
- The approval of the Finance Committee recommendation allows these items to be fulfilled.

School Calendar 2025-2026

- 8/12: Staff meeting
- 8/13: Book PickUp
- 8/14: First Day for Freshmen
- 8/15: First Day for all students, All School Mass
- 10/31: Diocesan Inservice at MD
- 1/6: Return from Christmas break
- 5/15: Graduation
- 5/19: Last Day

Staffing 2025-2026

- Katie Robben Hankins has been hired as the Dept. Chair for the Theology Dept.
- Doug Schaffer has been hired as the Band Director. He is from St. Pius X HS, Festus, MO.
- Kathy Huelsmann's position in Advancement is still open.
- Positions that are still needed to be filled include:
Athletic Director
Wood Shop Teacher
Sewing/Cooking Classes
Electronics/Robotics/Engineering

Mater Dei Auction

- Havana Knights: April 12
- 700 reservations have been made

Honor Flight

- Mr. Litteken was approached by Carl Huels to get students involved in the return of Honor Flight veterans. (Veterans from Clinton County)
- Students would take a bus to Springfield to meet the veterans on their return @ 10:00pm on Tuesday, April 15. Students would not be required to be at school on Wednesday, April 16 if they participated.
- Students will make thank you notes/cards for the Veterans' Mailbags.

New Business

Scholarship Committee

- Scheduled to meet May 7
- Laurie, Nancy, Dennis, and Paula will serve on the committee.

2025 MD Golf Scramble

- Scheduled for May 30-31 at Governors Run
- 3 flights (1 Friday, 2 Saturday) first come, first serve

- **Mega Raffle tickets will be drawn that night**

2025-2026 Board Officers

- **Consider nominations for May meeting**

Board Policy Review

5141.4MD: no proposed changes- approved

Motion: Gregg Cox Second: Paula Kampwerth

6145.7MD: no proposed changes- approved

Motion: Jody Grawe Second: Brenda VonHatten

INFORMATION AND COMMENTS

Mr. Litteken:

- 4/11: Calendar Day- Students who have sold 8 or more calendars will have the day off school
- 4/12: Auction – reservations are going well. Fund-a-Need includes: bus purchase and tuition assistance for teachers pursuing dual credit certification
- 4/13: Palm Sunday Breakfast (F&F)
- 4/25 Pro-Life trip to Springfield
- 4/26: Prom at MD
- 4/30: Clinton Co Academic Honor Banquet @ Mater Dei
- 5/2: Hall of Honor
Terry Thole
Ray Korte
Gary Behrmann
Fred Becker
- 5/13: Seniors Last Day
- 5/16: Graduation
- 5/23: Last Day
- 5/28: Freshman Welcome
- Bishop McGovern has been appointed to Archbishop of Omaha. Father Caruso will attend Graduation and Baccalaureate.
- Ali Kampwerth will be on Maternity Leave soon. Mr. Litteken will be helping, and Ali may work a little (remotely) from home. Michelle Pingsterhaus will take care of payroll while she is on leave.

Fr. Chuck:

- Advancement Report was distributed to board members.
- Calendar sales have increased this year by 89.
- Mother's Day Mass and Remembrance will be on Thurs., May 1.

- Mega Raffle tickets are available for sale. Turn in by Wed., May 28.
- The Class of 1955 Reunion was held last Saturday. This was the first graduating class of Mater Dei. They had attended St. Mary's and St. Dominic's.

FUTURE BUSINESS

The next board meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 5, 2025 at 7:00 P.M.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jody Grawe and seconded by Paula Kampwerth.

The meeting adjourned with prayer by Fr. Chuck Tuttle at 8:08 P.M.

Submitted by

Jill Sinnock