

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
STELLA MARIS ACADEMY
Stella Maris Academy High School Campus
June 2, 2022

Present: Fr. Seth Gogolin (Chair), Sr. Kathleen Del Monte, Paul Fitzgerald, Nick Minardi, Fr. Tony Wroblewski, Fr. Rich Kunst, Bob Lisi, Margaret Romano, Andy Busam, Cynthia Zook (Director of Schools, *ex officio*), Andrew Hilliker (President, *ex officio*)

Absent: Joe Gerard, John Kenney, Fr. Jim Bissonette, Karen Newstrom

Guests: Silas Simone, Annie Phillips

Opened at 3:00 PM with prayer.

Mission Moments:

- Sincere appreciation to Cynthia Zook for her many years of service in Catholic Education serving our Diocese and in particular Stella Maris Academy.
- Joy is infectious and has been experienced in multiple recent events at SMA such as Stellabration, end of year concerts, and all SMA Mass held at the Cathedral.

Public Comment: Parents voiced support for ongoing school safety efforts and desires to know that school safety is a high priority at SMA in light of the Uvalde shooting.

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Fr. Tony Wroblewski, seconded and carried.

Approval of Minutes: Moved by Fr. Tony Wroblewski, seconded and carried.

President's Report:

End of School Year: Abundant blessings in all the events and end of year activities with our students.

High School Planning: Preparing for Phase 1 demolition. Capital campaign is nearing completion. Excited to announce Chris Lemke has accepted the position of Principal/Activities Director. Veronica Hunder has accepted an Administrative Assistant position at the HS campus. HS swim meeting was held in May with many families attending. An extracurricular activities survey for incoming grades 6+ will be sent out on Monday.

School Safety and Security: Active dialogue internally and with local partners on strengths and weaknesses. SMA is in a good position with being secure, established lockdown drills, and internal communication tools and procedures. Areas of growth include codifying the external communication responsibilities and forming additional campus and academy committees to more formally evaluate safety procedures going into the next school year. MN Legislature is debating funding school security measures.

COVID Update: SMA currently has no active cases.

Department Updates:

Campus Principals are finalizing curriculum updates, performing year-end teacher meetings, and planning/scheduling for 2022-2023.

Business Office is processing tuition assistance awards, working with admissions to issue contracts, and assisting with new administrative assistant onboarding.

Faith Formation organized the all SMA Mass for June 2 and supported 8th grade retreats.

Admissions and Enrollment following up on tuition contracts and responding to regular inquiries.

High School Committee: Phase 1 construction plans received today and will be used as reference for the Board to walk through the HS Campus after the board meeting.

Finance Committee: Welcomed Fred Lewis as a new member to the committee. Worked with Administration to move for approval purchase of materials/resources for a new math curriculum that will be implemented in the Fall.

Facilities and Buildings Committee: No update. Noted in the previous board meeting that Joe Gerard will chair this committee to support Nick Minardi's expanded role on the High School Committee.

Policy Committee: The 2022-2023 School Handbook was presented to the Board for review and approval. Decision made to hold an electronic vote to approve the handbook in July as this meeting serves as a first reading of the revised handbook.

Nominating Committee: No update

Development/Marketing Committee: No update

Election of Officers: Motion to proceed with a white ballot approval of current board officers to continue as officers for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Moved by Fr. Tony Wroblewski, seconded and carried.

Moved to work session at 4:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Lisi – on behalf of Karen Newstrom, Secretary