



IHMCS Advisory Council Meeting Minutes December 9, 2004

Attending: Deann Speltz, Cheri Gardner, John Goodrich, Brad Cook, Jane Victorey, Ken Horst, Terri Kemmerer, Tim Benz

Tim began the meeting with prayer.

Finance: Through November 30, 2004 finances are looking very good. The Finance Committee has adjusted the budget based on current enrollment and projections for the year are positive. Previously, it appeared there would be a deficit for the 2004-05 year, but it now appears there may be a surplus for the year. This can be directly tied to cost control, increased income from Sally Foster and Grand Celebration, higher revenue than projected from Kids Care and increased tuition fulfillments. The construction loan for the new addition (through Catholic Finance Group) will lock in January. The Finance Committee continues to do finance modeling/projections for the next several years. Jane is also working on a new accounting system for the parish/school.

Development: The campaign has \$1.3 million pledged thus far. The \$200,000 challenge grant is in effect and calls are being made from the campaign committee. Further follow-up will be required prior to January 31, 2005 if we are to attain the anonymous donor's request. Gina and Cheri will meet after January to discuss long term fundraising/development strategies in the school.

PR/Marketing: Postcard mailing for several upcoming events (K-8 Open House, Pre-K, K and Grade 1) are in the mail. Jane will pull together parish demographic information on the ages for families and grade school children. The hope is that IHMCS becomes the first choice for grade school for all parish families with grade school age children. Important marketing dates are listed on the website.

Strategic/LR Planning: Brad, Cheri and Tim met on November 12 to discuss issues that are most important for the long range viability of the school. Main priorities are enrollment, financial stability and busing/transportation. Brad met with Eden Prairie's Director of Transportation to talk about options for school transportation. Due to high costs, many schools and school districts are contracting with private companies to handle their busing programs. Additional topics for long term strategies are parish subsidy,

infrastructure and facilities and salary and benefits. Brad will continue to stay connected with all the committees.

Policy: Terri distributed two policy drafts regarding class sizes and admissions. These will be fine tuned and brought to the committee for approval at the January meeting. Jane V. has reviewed many of the school policies to check for any gaps or omissions that may need to be clarified or further defined. Brad wanted to make sure that an attorney would review the final policies. Cheri said an archdiocesan attorney would review the final policy drafts. Additional topics and policies the committee are reviewing include; special education/gifted program, student records, search and seizure and student/parent grievance.

Home and School: Deann reports that early indications are Grand Celebration exceeded the goal by nearly \$25,000. It was a wonderful gathering of friends and the support of the participants was fabulous! Auction committees will meet next week to process this year's event and discuss suggestions for 2005. McDonald's night has become very successful thus far. Receipts from the first two nights have nearly surpassed revenue from last year. The HSA will be hosting a Christmas party for the faculty and staff following school on December 17. Bingo Bonanza will be January 29 and the committee has met several times.

Principal's Report: Cheri reports that the Weekender will be posted on the website exclusively beginning after the school break. This will save the school significant money in the long run. Any family who does not have access to the internet will be provided a printed copy of document. Principals from many of the archdiocesan elementary schools attended Law Day on November 30, 2004. The topics for the day focused on personnel issues and employment. The December late start was focused on the curriculum overview. Several members of the faculty have been reviewing the curriculum and will provide input and direction on future curriculum content. This will be posted on the website when completed.

Each Monday during Advent there is an all school prayer service and that has been well received by students and faculty/staff. The Christmas program will be performed in the church, and future participation in the church will be based upon the behavior of the students and families.