

PAC Meeting Minutes 2/13/2025

Attendance: Beth Berkowitz, Steve Bennett, Kara Farnham, Abigail Isbell, Tom Lieser, Jr., Maggie Wuellner, Vice Principal Beth Mock, Fr. Jamie Weber, Marta Misleh

Absent: Molly Bruegge, Mike McCafferty

Old Business:

A) February Minutes (Maggie Wuellner)

- a. Approved – have already been posted to school website

B) Teacher Attrition (Jen Reker-Murphy)

- a. Offers extended and accepted for all open positions
- b. Several teachers with changing responsibilities based on movement to backfill departing teachers and areas in need of additional support

C) Security Officer (Beth Mock / Jen Reker-Murphy)

- a. Offer extended to second candidate last week but have not heard back

New Business:

A) Purpose of PAC (Fr. Jamie / Maggie Wuellner)

- St. Mary School has the opportunity to achieve both academic rigor and faith formation and Christ is the reason for the school (FJW)
- CLI survey showed that families want to strengthen the Catholic identity of the school (FJW)
- PAC's role is to ensure the school lives out its mission
- Clarity on proper channels to express concerns is needed to ensure proper process is followed
 - i. Individual student and teacher concerns should always start with the teacher and be escalated to the principal if sufficient resolution is not achieved per the handbook; PAC should only be engaged if there is still a lack of resolution after that point
 - There has been a significant increase in work required of school leadership to address issues since PAC was established
 - ii. ACTION: Clear outline of ownership across school, Parish Council, Parish Finance and PAC is necessary so that PAC can help ensure the proper processes are followed and concerns are brought to the right audience vs. using PAC as a forum to air all concerns
 - iii. ACTION: School leadership to provide PAC early visibility to "hot" topics they are seeing in school when possible
 - iv. ACTION: PAC agenda items are due to Maggie Wuellner one week in advance. Maggie will align on agenda with JRM and Fr. Jamie prior to finalizing and deploying agenda
- PAC can support school accreditation efforts:
 - i. Fr. Jamie should be integrated into the accreditation process
 - ii. School was last accredited in 2021 and it is a 5 year plan
 - iii. Expect to kick-off the process within the next 18-24 months
 - iv. Accreditation process typically takes an entire school year to complete

B) Math Curriculum (Maggie Wuellner)

- Curriculum is in transition
- Additional math resources are needed, specifically to support upper-level math
- Cathy Venezia was a CPS resource and was replaced by a CPS resource but there are limitations on the roles and responsibilities of this resource

C) Drop-Off Safety (Steve Bennett)

- Parents are stopping at the top of the driveway by the gym to drop off kids causing safety issues in front of school and for cars attempting to pull into the driveway from Erie
- Request was made to add a sign reminding parents to pull all the way to the bottom of the driveway near Astoria before stopping

Proposed Next Meeting Dates:

- 4/10 at 10:15am
- 5/8 at 10:15am
 - Likely needs to be rescheduled as this conflicts with Kindergarten “Parent Party”