

TCCES Board of Trustees Meeting
09-21-11 6:30 PM at SMC

Members Present: Fr. Larry Seidl, Sara Widener-Brightwell, Marvin Daniels, Bob Andersen, Mike Sullivan, Michelle Dejno, Stewart Koskinen, Pam Seidl, Meg Brew, Howard Healy, Sue Pawlowski, Ann Rasmussen, John Fuller

Members Excused: Fr. Larry Ablner, Fr. Mike Ingold, Fr. Paul Paider, Jeff Berg

Opening Prayer

Fr. Siedl led the group with an opening prayer.

Approval of August Meeting Minutes

Meg Brew made a motion to approve the August minutes, second by Ann Rasmussen. Motion carried.

President's Report – Mike Sullivan

Planning process update – Mike went over the numbers on the *TCCES Enrollment & Comparisons* report. This report shows the enrollment by school and by grade level for the past five years. This report looks at enrollment patterns and helps to predict class sizes at the various campuses. The eighth grade class at Seton is quite small this year, so there is the potential for a smaller Freshman class at SMC next year.

Mike stated that the Annual Fund continues to provide a steady source of income. However, the challenge of replacing the Keller funds for financial assistance remains.

Principal's Reports

The elementary principal group has decided to place an emphasis on three main topics. Those topics are staff development, technology, and curriculum development. The manner in which the elementary schools will approach is quite different than in the past. They will have organized and joint faculty meetings that will occur on Wednesdays after school. The meetings will rotate schools so that staff members will have every third meeting in their building. The purpose of bringing all staff members together provides many opportunities and creates a better learning community among our teachers. This will also enhance the education that we can provide for our students. The other item that the elementary staff will tackle this year will be the understanding and implementing of the Common Core State Standards that have been recently adopted by 44 states.

The highlight of the Seton report was an explanation of the key features of the Connected Mathematics Project 2. These features are:

- Problem Centered – Students learn mathematical concepts as they work on problems by themselves, in a group or as a whole class.
- Practice – Students practice skills and algorithms and reinforce concepts through homework and class work.

- Research Based – Each unit was tested in school. The results were used to evaluate and revise the material.
- It Works – CMP students outperform non-CMP students on tests of problem-solving, understanding, and proportional reasoning. CMP students do as well as or better than other students on basic skills tests.

Mr. Batey's report for SMC explained the rationale for the ACT initiative. Last year, our ACT scores slipped from above to slightly below the state averages. While this concerns us and causes us to investigate and address the potential causes, there are a few other points to note:

- Statistically, within a class the size of our graduating class, just one or two students could skew the average scores. In a larger population, their scores would have been more inconspicuously absorbed into the averages.
- At SMC, typically all students take the ACT test while in other schools and in public school districts, a smaller more selected group of students take the ACT test.

It is our school goal to design our curriculum and improve delivery of it in such a way as to assure that students have the knowledge and skills to be successful **on** college preparatory tests and to be successful **in** college itself.

Athletic Committee – Marvin Daniels

The Athletic Committee is working on a plan to build the TCCES athletic program from the “bottom up”, beginning with grade school up through high school. The athletic personnel need to work together to maximize the use of school system gyms and fields and become more proactive with field/gym maintenance.

The committee is looking to have a fund raiser, something similar to the steak dinner that was held in the Fall of 2010.

The committee is working on a “wish list” for TCCES athletics that will prioritize their needs.

Marketing & Advancement – Michelle Dejno

- The Annual Report went to the printer on 9-22-11.
- The dates have been set for the two remaining facility accessments (St. Margaret Mary, St. Gabriel)
- The committee is in the process of reviewing the marketing plan. More information will follow at the October meeting.

Governance Committee – Stewart Koskinen

Stewart reported that the orientation has been completed for new board member, Pam Seidl.

Stewart asked that all members fill out their personal commitment and goals sheet. This is a personal exercise and does not need to be turned in to the Governance Committee.

Finance Committee – Howard Healy

Dan Engelhard will work with Mike Sullivan and Jeanne Lee to update the “what if” spreadsheet showing financial projections for the next three years. The variables will include revenue, enrollment projections, scholarship and subsidy changes along with expenses, which show the anticipated increase in health insurance and salaries. Repayment of the principal on the line of credit must be included. These projections are to be prepared to support the long-term facilities plan already in discussion.

Executive Committee – Bob Andersen

Bob stated that the Executive Committee has been focusing on looking to the future, and these discussions will be ongoing.

Fund Raising/Events Liaison – Meg Brew

The Seton event *Meet Me in the Middle* will be held on Saturday, September 24th at Miron Construction Co. Board members are encouraged to attend.

Brewfest will be held on October 21st at the Holiday Inn in Neenah.

The only all TCCES fundraising event, *Jumbo Gumbo* will be held at Waverly on Saturday, November 12th. Meg reported the sponsorships are going well. The promotion video will be filmed at the school sites in October with a Family Feud theme.

New Business – Bob Andersen/Mike Sullivan

Bob emphasized the need to actively recruit future board members. Terms for the board are for three years, and several members are due to have their terms expire in the Spring.

At 7:45 John Fuller made a motion to move to Executive Session, second by Sue Pawlowski. Motion carried.

A discussion was held regarding the press release that will be in the Post Crescent on Sunday, September 25th for *Fine Arts Education Center*. The announcement will be made to all TCCES staff on Friday, September 23rd.

At 8:05 PM, Sara Widener-Brightwell made a motion to adjourn, second by Michelle Dejno. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by Jane M. Sturn
TCCES/SMC Administrative Assistant