

## **Future of Catholic Education Meeting**

*St. Nicholas Academy, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School, and St. Clement School June 4, 2009*

## **Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church Community Room**

7:00 pm

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Dave Reker at 7:00 p.m.

### **Opening Discussion - Guidelines for Committees**

Dave Reker brought up for discussion the first set of guidelines in forming a committee: 1) Decide on a formal name, and 2) Develop a Mission Statement.

### **Formal Name**

Meeting participants discussed various names for the committee and agreed on the following: St. Nicholas Academy, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School, and St. Clement School Transitional Steering Committee. Adele Iwanusa made a motion to accept the name of the committee. The motion was seconded by Paul DiMario, all were in favor, and the motion passed.

### **Mission Statement**

Dave Reker read the Mission Statement. Dan Hackett suggested a modification; meeting participants agreed and the Mission Statement was adopted.

### **Presentation of Process**

Dave Reker referred meeting participants to the following document: *Linking Tradition, Transition and Transformation (LT<sup>3</sup>): Planning for Catholic Education*. Dave Reker noted that the committee must complete the following four tasks:

**Task 1** Develop an Executive Summary

**Task 2** Construct the proposed Final Report

**Task 3** Share the proposed Final Report with leadership groups including, but not limited to: Pastor, Pastoral council, Board of Trustees, parishioners. Document the responses, recommendations, and/or approval.

**Task 4** Prepare and submit the Final Report to the Catholic School Office. The report will be forwarded accordingly.

Dan Hackett agreed to draft the Executive Summary. The timeline for the Executive Summary was discussed. It was agreed to submit the Executive Summary to Dr. Laura Meibers (Deputy Superintendent, Catholic School Office, Archdiocese of Cincinnati) by August 14, 2009.

### **Discussion: Consensus Voting Procedure**

Jay Hollmeyer opened the discussion of consensus voting procedures by providing an overview of St. Nicholas Academy's meeting and voting structure. Meeting participants agreed that four members from each parish will each have an equal vote. Jay Hollmeyer made a motion to accept the consensus voting procedure. The motion was seconded by Paul DiMario, all were in favor, and the motion passed.

### **Discussion: Types of Elementary Schools**

Dave Reker referred meeting participants to the following document: 200.00 *Classification and*

*Organization of Schools.* Dave Reker noted that Our Lady of the Sacred Heart and St. Clement are Parish Catholic Elementary Schools whereas St. Nicholas Academy is a Regional Catholic Elementary School. Meeting participants reviewed the differences in schools. Dave Reker noted that a regional school, rather than a consolidated school, has a closer relationship with the Archdiocese.

### **Discussion: St. Clement School**

As representatives of St. Clement School, Kate Anello and Linda Westendorf reported they were uncertain of St. Clement Parish's position regarding the possible merging of their school with St. Nicholas Academy and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School. It was noted that St. Clement Parish will have new pastor in the near future, although the actual date is to be determined. Dave Reker agreed to find out where St. Clement stands.

### **Discussion: Facility Studies**

Fr. Ron Williams reported that a facility study of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School will be conducted by an independent reviewer on June 8, 2009. It was noted that St. Nicholas Academy's facility study was conducted in 2007 by the same independent reviewer and is still applicable. Fr. Ron Williams agreed to call Fr. Bruno regarding the need for a facility study at St. Clement School.

### **Discussion: St. Nicholas Academy Board of Trustees - Code of Regulations**

Dave Reker reported that both Fr. Ray Kellerman (pastor, Holy Trinity Church) and Anne Battes (former Assistant Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Archdiocese of Cincinnati) recommended that it would be fair for the new school to rewrite the Code of Regulations currently adopted by St. Nicholas Academy. Jay Hollmeyer remarked that rewriting the Code of Regulations should initially be presented to the St. Nicholas Academy Board of Trustees for approval. Dan Hackett noted the Code of Regulations would be marked up as a draft. Meeting participants agreed to present to the St. Nicholas Academy Board of Trustees, in due course, any modifications to the Code of Regulations.

### **Discussion: Decisions on Moving Forward**

Dave Reker noted that although not all committee members were present; through consensus at this meeting it was agreed this is the way the group wants to move forward. It was also agreed that as a new participant in the discussion, St. Clement will need to decide on their position and have a facility study performed on their school.

### **Timeline**

Meeting participants agreed to submit the Executive Summary to the Area Commission on Education by August 14, 2009 and to submit the Final Report to the Archdiocese Catholic School Office by November 14, 2009.

### **Next Steps**

It was agreed to hold the next meeting after the facility studies have been conducted and St. Clement Parish has enough time to confirm their decision. The next meeting will be held Wednesday, July 1, 2009 at 6:30 pm in the Church Community Room at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.

Submitted by:  
Nancy Hackett