

Divine Mercy Catholic Academy
September 5, 2017 Board of Directors Meeting Highlights

Location: St. Benedict John Paul II
Board Members Present:

- Kathleen Martella-Zucco, Chairperson
- Dr. Eric Ecklund, Vice Chairperson
- Julie Edwards, Secretary
- Jeanette McCann, Treasurer
- Dr. William Brotz
- Marsha Critchfield
- Dr. William Fritz
- Father Angelo Patti
- Father David Peles
- Father William Rosenbaum
- Maria Sanders
- Thomas Smith, Divine Mercy Academy Principal
- Sister Donna Marie Leiden, SC, Diocesan Director of Education
- Jo-Ann Semko, Diocesan Director of Elementary Education

Principal's Report:

Mr. Smith reported:

- All three campuses off to a great start. Communication is good, with positive attitudes exhibited by students and parents.
- Advertising plans:
 - Newspaper ad placed to announce various DMCA Family Rewards
 - DMCA intends to share advertising with BMHS, may include billboards and TV.
 - Potential billboard sites were discussed.
- Several students have transferred into DMCA
- Abby Rullo training for DMCA teachers on guided reading was well received.
- Meet the Crushers/Crusaders Night was held to introduce our sports teams. Feedback was very positive.

Old Business:

- Mr. Smith reported on interviews to fill Business Manager opening. Lengthy board discussion ensued regarding candidate qualifications. Each board member expressed his/her preference. Final decision was assigned to Mr. Smith.
- Leases between St. Benedict Church and the East Campus and OMOS and the West Campus have been approved with amended language. Both are pending execution.

- Ms. Semko has diocesan login information for e-mail address for board communication.
- Board discussed accounting for funds raised or loans to DMCA Athletic Association and/or PTO. As best practice, these monies must be formally accounted for by the Business Manager and “earmarked” in the budget, with checks issued only after a purchase order is received.

New Business:

- No Finance Committee update, pending start of new Business Manager.
- Discussion on hiring part-time (3-day/week) receptionist and elimination of full-time administrative assistant position.
- Review of STREAM program. Generous donor has offered to purchase the LEGO® kits and fund the DMCA program for two years. Announcement and solicitation of additional community donors scheduled for September 14. Donor will be introduced and a LEGO® representative will provide hands-on demonstration of how kits will be used in classrooms.

Report from Catholic Identity and Mission Committee:

- Weekly masses are happening at East and West Campuses. Middle school masses have not yet begun, pending priest scheduling. Mr. Smith and Mr. Cotchen to facilitate.
- Committee would like to have a spiritual theme each month with related activities for the students.
- Discussed religious speakers and field trips to religious sites.
- Mr. Smith discussed E-healthy tools, a program for school nurses. Motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to purchase the program.