## Aquinas Catholic Schools

Attendees: February 17, 2018

|                                     | present |                                      | present |  |
|-------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|---------|--|
| Blessed Sacrament                   |         | Fr. Peter Raj*                       |         | TBA                                      |
| Blessed Sacrament                   |         | Fr. Billy Dodge (Vicar-Assoc)        |         |  |
| Holy Trinity                        |         | Fr. Richard Roberts                  |         | Terry Smith                              |
| Mary, Mother of the Church          | X       | Fr. Brian Konopa                     | X       | Lori Meyer                               |
| Roncalli Newman                     |         | Fr. Peter Raj*                       |         | Jessica Boland                           |
| Roncalli Newman                     |         | Fr. Billy Dodge (Vicar-Assoc)        |         |  |
| St. Charles Borromeo                |         | Fr. William Dhein                    |         | Joleen Trussoni                          |
| St. Mary, Coon Valley               |         | Fr. Joseph Arockiam                  |         | TBA                                      |
| St. Elizabeth Ann Seton             | X       | Fr. John Parr                        |         |  |
| St. James the Less                  | X       | Msgr. Charles Stoetzel, Dean         |         | Curt Riley                               |
| St. Joseph Parish, St. Joseph Ridge | X       | Fr. Timothy Welles*                  |         | TBA                                      |
| St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral    | X       | Msgr. Charles Stoetzel, Dean         | X       | Jessica Skemp                            |
| St. Leo the Great, West Salem       |         | Fr. Doug Robertson*                  |         | TBA                                      |
| St. Mary, Bangor                    |         | Fr. Doug Robertson*                  |         | TBA                                      |
| St. Patrick                         |         | Msgr. Steve Kachel                   | X       | Justin Silcox, Chair                     |
| St. Peter, Middle Ridge             | X       | Fr. Timothy Welles*                  |         | TBA                                      |
| Other Representatives               |         | Fr.Matt Marshall<br>AHS/AMS Chaplain |         | Pat McElligott,<br>Aquinas Music Parents |
|                                     |         | TBA, Aquinas Booster Club            |         | Dr. Mary Ann Campbell, Foundation        |
|                                     |         | TBA, Consecrated Life                |         |  |
| Aquinas Administrators & Staff      | X       | Ted Knutson                          |         |  |
|                                     | X       | Kay Berra                            |         | Sue Amble                                |
|                                     | X       | Denise Ring                          |         | Brad Reinhart                            |
|                                     | X       | Patty Gallagher-Kosmatka             | X       | Bonnie Waide                             |
|                                     |         | Others:                              | X       | Krista Topolski                          |

|   | DISCUSSION  | ACTION / RECOMMENDATIONS |
|---|---|--------------------------|
| Call to Order   | The Meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm. The opening prayer was led by Fr. Welles. The Mission Statement was read by Kay Berra.  |                          |
| Chairman of Ed Commission: Justin Silcox  President's Report: Ted Knutson | Justin asked if any comment/changes to the Minutes of November 16, 2017, and they were approved as distributed. Justin then recognized the President's Report by Ted Knutson:  **Scheduling Co-Curricular Activities**: After a follow-up discussion on possible editing, Justin reported that he and Ted will finalize the Policy on Scheduling Co-curricular Activities and ensure it is distributed appropriately. Fr. Konopa added that he feels this policy should absolutely been observed now that it is in place. Lori Meyer added that she too felt this should be enforced and represent and be applicable to all, i.e., consistency is at the fore front. Mrs. Ring ensure she will definitely provide Matt Schneider, Athletic Director for AHS/AMS, this finalized policy to implement and continue implementation regardless of season/sport from this point onward.  **Tuition** for 2018-2019 school year was point of next discussion with Ted reporting that tuition will increase 2.5% for 2018-2019 with previous tuition cost for the last two years representing 5% increase from previous years' tuition. Ted also reported at this time a 3% increase in pay for ALL ACS Staffthe 3% relating to the teacher pay scale for 2018-2019 with the end result being that younger teachers with less years of service receive more than the 3% and the veteran teachers with the greater numbers of years of service may be below that 3%. Next item Ted commented on was that the ACS Budget for the second year in a row is on track and actually has a bit of a small surplus.  Ted also reported that there had been a \$60,000 tuition gift and it is earmarked for Catholic students. |                          |
|   | Regarding the <u>Technology Coordinator position</u> – it is on hold at this  |                          |

time with the Finance Committee also involved and hopefully as of June 2018 discussion and relevance of this will proceed. Ted explained at this time Deb Gilkes has this responsibility up to a point with 3<sup>RT</sup> being contacted if a difficult problem persists.

Subsequent discussion followed this regarding the One-to-One implementation and how a Tech Coordinator would certainly be of value in ensure this type of program was in place and continued in place successfully. With monies from both the Capital Campaign and the Gold Gala – it is planned that every 9-12 student will have a chrome book device; 90 chrome books will be added to AMS; and at the elementary level there will be chrome book carts to use. Cathedral may get additional I-pads and/or tablets. In-services will be necessary for ACS Staff on the procedures, uses, maintenance of these new acquisitions. The monies in place delegated to these additions for all of our students will maintain the above for four years – after which we will have to maintain within the system. As a point of information, 40% of the AHS/AMS student population do not have the right equipment and to be consistent and fair, all should have the same device to use.

<u>Strategic Planning</u> – The Strategic Plan is to be presented as a final draft at the May 17<sup>th</sup> Education Commission meeting.

Regarding *Service Bonus* and eligible ACS Staff to receive this – three (3) teachers are eligible to receive this if they select to term at the end of 2017-2018.... In the future, there certainly may be more discussion regarding ending this policy - it is a year-to-year decision. Certainly pros and cons voiced by several to consider in the future. Several general comments at this meeting centered around Service Bonus policy, e.g., last thing ever to have to do is encounter layoffs of teachers or close schools, and Service Bonus may in the long run with long-tenured teachers reaching retirement ease such a possibility if it should be a possibility, respect longevity of veteran teachers within our ACS system, etc. All agree a serious goal would certainly be to raise our teacher salary scale and further discuss purposes of service bonus usage

## which should be added to upcoming Agendas of the Ed Commission. Jessica Skemp asked for examples of benefits for ACS staff and examples of possible rewards in place for our ACS teaching staff. It was stated for 2018-2019 the base salary offered for a new hire with no experience and a Bachelors with less than 6 graduate credits is \$27,300.

## <u>Vice President's Report – Kay Berra</u>

applicable:

Kay explained that in ACS 4<sup>th</sup> graders are taking the FORWARD exam and at the time this group becomes 8<sup>th</sup> graders – they will take the FORWARD exam again. The cost of this exam is expensive – but with Cesa 6 assisting now – the cost has gone to \$35.00 a test to \$50.00 each. Cesa 6 will also assist with the interpretation of test results as well as preparations of subsequent Report Cards for this testing. Kay also expanded on the FORWARD testing, i.e., math is an issue for ACS 4<sup>th</sup> graders and our math curriculum is being reviewed presently by examining it, looking at any new programs to assist here, etc., by Kay, Patty & Sue on behalf of our 3 elementary programs.

## ACS Principals' Reports if Den

Kay added that the Continuous Improvement Committees are continue to work on a new Mission Statement with a vision on our core values. Denise Ring –Principal – AHS/AMS –

AHS: Denise commented on the excellent recent AHS Play – "The Tempest"; AHS Dance Team competition very successful and AHS had 36 Presidential Scholar invitations:

AMS: Denise also commented on the Brains/Brawns activities and how well that went during the Catholic Schools Week; Open House went well; positive Career Unit for AMS students; and three (3) new enrolled students at AMS 2<sup>nd</sup> semester;

BSS: Kay reported that a good deal of "shadowing" for 2018-2019 school year is taking place or scheduled to take place soon with interested families; 66 6<sup>th</sup> graders will move on to AMS and will be receiving from Cathedral 37 2<sup>nd</sup> graders; and BSS is in receipt of very useful grants;

Cathedral: Patty GK reported she has had a good number of interested new families touring Cathedral and she firmly believes that current ACS families are by far the best recruiters for our school system; Cathedral and BSS are sharing several joint activities between these two school populations; Patty is currently preparing a curriculum guide to guide upon more during the coming years.

| <u>Dean's Report – Msgr.</u><br><u>Stoetzel</u> | Msgr. Stoetzel reported to the Commission that all was going well at this point.  |  |
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| General Input from attendees:                   | Brief discussion presented by Mrs. Krista Topolski, parishioner from St. Patrick & ACS parent regarding consideration in future of physical implementation of activities at the middle school level as well as reevaluating curriculum or modifying curriculum at this level to add not only a bit of free physical time but perhaps consider curriculum in the area of shop, mechanical drawing, home economics, etc., perhaps through the methods of electives. Denise Ring commented that the Encore Team would look at this suggestion for some type of physical activity every day for the middle school population. |  |
| Adjournment:                                    | The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm with Msgr. Stoetzel leading the closing prayer. Next Commission Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 17, 2018, 4:30 pm – AHS Library.  |  |