

Pastoral Council Minutes  
Meeting of January 19, 2021

**Present:** L. Schaefer, Fr. Colter, T. Hoag, T. Dethlefs, K. Engels, E. Lyons, D. Wilcox, M. Hannasch, B. Ames, and J. Rathjen.

**Opening Prayer**

**Minutes of September Meeting:** The minutes of the September meeting were discussed and approved.

**CVCS Update**

Tom Novotney, Chief Administrator of CVCS and Interim Principal at Columbus HS gave an update on the state of Cedar Valley Catholic Schools

- Bill Rhomberg also appeared to assist with the update
- Supporting parish subsidies have decreased to 55%.
- Different rates for parishioners and non-parishioners were discussed
  - A definition of “active parishioner was also discussed
  - Further discussion of utilizing different rates will occur
- The high school is working on becoming a “Leader in Me” school
  - One of the four steps to this designation have been completed
  - St. Edwards and Blessed Maria schools have already earned this designation
  - The trophy cases are being reorganized to reflect achievements and photos of current students
- Registration of 8<sup>th</sup> graders has begun
- Catholic Schools Week is coming up – recruitment events were discussed
- Columbus HS is looking for service projects for parishes where the students attend
- A college/career readiness program will be started with a generous donation from the Feredays to assist. Drew Robinson will be helping with the program.
- Tony Harrington continues as the School Administrative Manager. There has been good feedback and reports on his efforts. The principal position remains open at the present time.

**School Board Report**

- The PPP loan was fully forgiven
- The Annual Appeal has done well so far. The generosity of our parish has been a bright spot during the pandemic.
- Live-streaming of school events has been very well-received

**Finance Committee Report**

- The Next Step 2020 campaign has not only met the goal, but exceeded it by \$85,000. Decisions will need to be made regarding the surplus.

- Statistical information was reviewed
  - Income was down \$63,000 from last year, but Christmas donations increased and total expenses were \$28,000 lower.
  - PPP loan of \$86,000 was fully forgiven
  - Enrollment is down approximately 7 students
  - Endowment has grown by approximately \$60,000
  - The cash positions for both the parish and the school are excellent
  - The report compares our parish to others in the Deanery and most parishes are experiencing a period of generosity from their parishioners

**Archdiocese Capital Campaign** – plans are on hold due to the pandemic

**Changes to Lenten Services**

- Some upcoming changes to Lenten services were discussed, including the distribution of ashes, elimination of palms and veneration of the cross

**Motion to Adjourn** --- meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm

Next meeting scheduled for February 16 at 7:00 p.m.

Kevin Engels, Secretary