

**Saint Katharine Drexel Parish School
School Advisory Commission Minutes
4.22.26 6:30 pm**

Attendees:

Father Will Arnold, Principal Jennifer Weiss, Mark Roedl (Chair), Adam White (Vice Chair), Sara Beecher, Lindsey Lehner, Kirsten Reader, Carolina Ganske

Absent:

Matthew Bahr, Melanie Budde

Call to Order:

Mark Roedl called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Opening Prayer:

Opening prayer was led by Fr. Will.

Introduction of Guests:

Marybeth Schessow

Guest Comments:

Pancake Breakfast discussio

Approval of Minutes:

March minutes were approved by motion and vote.

Good News

- Carolina shared that a Wayland student did her Capstone project based on literacy for younger students. She wants to teach others what the teachers at St. Katharine Drexel taught her. She credited her learning to the SKDS teachers.
- Ms. Weiss shared that on April 11th, students participated in the regional Knights of Columbus math and spelling contest. A student qualified for the state competition.

- Kirsten shared that the band contest was really well done and the students performed very well. Ms. Lopas is an outstanding band teacher.
- Sara shared that the lenten performances, Living Stations and Shadowway of the Cross, were beautiful and meaningful.
- Adam shared that the pancake breakfast was a fun and great event.

Pastor's Report - Father Will

- The Parish is hiring for a faith formation position and the Director of Administration.
- Father Will departed from the Navy on Good Friday.

Principal's Report - Jenny Weiss

Principal's Report April 14, 2026

- On Wednesday, April 1, Ms. Sadoski and the fifth graders (with Mrs. Rampanelli's help) led the Shadow Way of the Cross for the 5K -8th-grade students at 9:00 a.m. in the gym and shared it with the Faith Formation students at 6:30 p.m. On Thursday, April 2, the third graders presented the Living Stations in church as part of their Lenten activities. Our 4-8 graders led the Stations of the Cross after Mass on the Fridays of Lent. These students also prayed the "Suffering Servant Way of the Cross" in the Narthex.
- The Spring Band Concert is in the gym on Thursday, April 16, at 6:30 p.m. After this performance, the bands begin preparing for the Marching Band Season.
- Our 3K & 4K students celebrate The Week of the Young Child this week. They have different activities and dress-up days throughout the week.
- Grades 3-8 are finishing up the Forward Exam. Testing will be completed by Friday, April 17, and the make-up tests will take place the following week. Our testing window ends on Friday, April 24.

- The Wisconsin Parental School Choice application period is open, and at this time, we have 50 students who have applied for the Choice program. Seven students would be new to SKDS.

WPCP Application Windows for 2026-2027

The Department of Public Instruction has designated the following application dates:

- April 1 – 20, 2026
 - May 1 – 20, 2026
 - June 1 – 20, 2026
 - July 1 – 20, 2026
 - August 1 – 20, 2026
 - September 1 – 14, 2026
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- Safe Environment Week will be observed this year on April 19-25. This week is a way for us to raise awareness regarding our efforts in our parishes, schools, and archdiocese to protect children and youth from abuse and neglect. This is also an opportunity to share resources with our families for use within their own families, as well as information on how all of us can create safe environments in our schools and homes. We will observe “Blue Monday” on Monday, April 20, when all students and staff will dress in blue to recognize the right of all children to grow up in safe environments. We will also hold an all-school prayer service on Tuesday, April 21, and after place blue pinwheels on the school fence in honor of victims of abuse.
 - SKDS Enrollment for the 2026-2027 School Year was sent out to families on February 23. We have about half of our current families enrolled for next year. The Tuition Assistance packets were sent home on March 26 and are due back to me on Friday, April 24.
 - Teacher Contracts go out on Wednesday, April 15, and are due back to me by May 1, 2026. Peggy Scott is retiring at the end of the year. At this time, I know I will need to hire a 7th Grade teacher and a Literacy Support Specialist for Gr. 4-8 for next year.
 - I have not received any nominations for SAC.

- Tina Steele is not returning as Director of Food Service. A position will be posted to find a replacement.

Pastoral Council - Liaison update - John Bowser (Trustee)

- Saint Katharine Drexel Pastoral Council and other five Councils from Western Dodge County did not meet in April 2026.

Finance Council - Liaison update - John Bowser (Trustee)

Saint Katharine Drexel Parish Finance Council met on February 17, 2026

- Finance approved funding for three Level-Leader positions, to serve as something resembling an Assistant Principal role for their respective grade bands.
- Much of the remaining time was spent on the first draft of the budget. Budgets are difficult to put together and this year's is no exception. School-specific fundraising amounts:
 - Glitz = \$40,000
 - SCRIP = \$25,000
 - Football Mania = \$10,000
 - Soles Walk/Day of Giving = \$15,000

Unfinished Business

- Pancake Breakfast results and feedback
 - This event is a Parish event that benefits the school and the funds go towards the band
 - The breakfast generated a profit of \$19,800
 - 617 attendees (687 tickets sold) - up almost 100 attendees
 - Single price ticket (not a child price and an adult price) seemed to be a successful change
 - Looking at Palm Sunday March 21, 2027 as next years event date.
- Discussion of SAC 2026-27 term and following years
 - Four open positions
 - SAC to start to recruit members
- Endowment fund update - Small educational flyer will go out with the May mailing. Banner will be put up in the Narthex to bring more awareness to the fund.

Closing Prayer:

Father Will led us in closing prayer.

Adjournment:

Kirsten made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Carolina.

Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.