

**Fairfield-Hocking Catholic Schools Executive Committee**  
**Saturday, October 15, 2011**

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**Minutes (APPROVED)**

Attendance: Al Klinger, Fr. Kessler, Pam Eltringham, Kristin Gentile, Kent Kerns, Karen Wolfe, Fr. Eilerman, Carlton Rider, Kellie Boyden, Fr. Gideon, Kim Kirchgessner, James Bryant, Fr. Walter, Cynthia Goss, Sean Kenney, John Snider, Brian Shonk, Fr. Reade, Jeanette Kam

Absent: Msgr. Dunn, Erin Schornack, John McGraw

The meeting was opened at 9:00 a.m. by Jeanette Kam (in the absence of Msgr. Dunn) with prayer led by Fr. Gideon.

**Approval of Minutes** (September 29, 2011) Fr. Reade requested that the Sept. 29 minutes rewritten in sentence format. Approved. There was also general agreement that the criteria for scenario selection should be Enrollment, Finances, and Educational Effectiveness.

**Committee Reports**

- **Personnel/Facilities** – Kellie Boyden stated that the committee has completed its reports on current Personnel (degrees, certification, etc.) and Facilities of the four schools and submitted them to the Finance Committee. Members will work with Finance as requested.
- **Marketing and PSR Survey** – Kent Kerns reviewed the PSR Survey results in bar graph format. Results showed that the reasons for parents of the Parish Schools of Religion (PSR) at St. Bernadette and St. Mary to choose to send their child(ren) to a school are (in priority order): Academics, Safety, Reputation of the School. The reasons that children of PSR families do not attend a Catholic school are: Cost/Tuition, Transportation Problems, and Reputation of the School.
- **Communications** (Exit Survey) – Kim Kirchgessner discussed the outcomes of the Fairfield-Hocking Catholic Schools Exit Survey who have withdrawn their children from St. Mary, St. Bernadette and/or St. John schools. The reasons stated by parents for their decision not to re-enroll their children in a Catholic school (in priority order) are:
  - Administration/Faculty/Staff – Inconsistently applied policies and procedures
  - Academics/Extra Curricular – Lack of varied instructional strategies
  - Student Factors – Child unhappy; negative school experience
- **Data** – Jamie Bryant distributed a handout and described the stewardship proposal which includes all six parishes initiating a stewardship program in support of Catholic schools. In addition, a proposal for the Rockford, IL. Diocese 40% Elementary School Tuition Reduction was also presented as a stimulus package, along with stewardship, to increase the Lancaster Catholic school enrollment for the 2013 school year.

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- **Finance** – Brian Shonk distributed the Finance Report in the form of an overall organizational plan including a school organization, overall collaboration structure, a funding initiative and a presentation recommendation. Discussion centered on the members understanding each statement in the report and its implications. Many questions were raised. It was agreed that the questions and some follow-up committee work would be collated and distributed to members. (This information was emailed to all FHCSEC members: Follow-up Questions from the Finance Sub-Committee Report and Immediate Topics for Considerations at the October 27 meeting.)

Most members agreed that, because each parish/school member was selected to represent his/her constituency, an open meeting prior to submittal of the recommendation to Bishop Campbell was not necessary.

Brian Shonk agreed to make several changes to the original document. This document will continue to be the discussion focus at the next meeting.

After much discussion and questions, the meeting was adjourned about 11:30.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 27, at 7:00 a.m. at St. Mark.

The November meeting is scheduled for Nov. 17 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Spirit Center.  
(NOTE: The meeting date was changed to Nov. 16 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Spirit Center.)