

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
STELLA MARIS ACADEMY  
Teleconference  
February 4, 2021**

**Present:** Bob Lisi, Karen Newstrom, Fr. Tony Wroblewski, Fr. Seth Gogolin, Fr. Rich Kunst, Paul Fitzgerald, Nick Minardi, Barry Bigelow, John Kenney, Julianne Blazevic (principal, *ex officio*), Jesse Murray (principal, *ex officio*), Cynthia Zook (Director of Schools, *ex officio*), Fr. Jim Bissonette (Diocesan Administrator)

**Absent:** None

**Guests:** Lacey Wendland

**Opened** at 3:00 pm with prayer.

**Approval of amended agenda:** Moved by Fr. Seth Goglin, seconded and carried.

**Mission Moments:**

- The recently announced high school planning has met with support both locally and statewide.

**Public Comment:**

- Families are asking for a timeline of the intended return of full-day classes and regular busing.
- Not all reactions to the high school planning announcement have been positive.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Moved by Fr. Tony Wroblewski, seconded and carried.

**Principal Update:**

- The current celebration of Catholic Schools Week has received much local publicity.
- NWEA MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) testing has been completed for the second trimester.
- A study of the parts of the Mass is in planning for Lent.
- The parent satisfaction survey was completed by ninety-five percent of the families. Ratings for the new mySMA communication system as well as the principals' newsletter were high, an overwhelming majority of families of remote learners are satisfied.
- The current overall on-site attendance is the highest of the year, with COVID case reporting at its lowest. Confidence in on-site learning is increasing as more community members receive vaccinations.
- After meeting with teachers next week, the leadership team will make a decision on when to return to full-day classes, with a possible start coinciding with the beginning of

the third trimester. Classroom openings will be filled with returning remote students before admitting those on the waiting list.

**Financial Committee:**

- Although a second PPP loan is now available to those who have suffered a twenty-five percent loss in revenue, the committee recommends against it. The earlier revenue from the Cassie trust leads to an artificial decline; claims of revenue loss might be deemed unethical. Money from a state program, GEERS 2, for non-public schools will soon be available, however, would be precluded by acceptance of the second PPP loan.
- A Pre-K grant will be used to purchase easily cleaned classroom furniture.

**Board Formation Proposal:**

- A concept proposal from Partners Edge for analytics of the board was reviewed. Of the three areas addressed, the Excellence in Governance seems to offer the most potential benefits at this time. A possible start time of the annual retreat would allow for inclusion of new board members and the president.

**Governing Bylaws:**

- Required signatures have been obtained on the revised bylaws.

**Presidential Search:**

- Applications are currently being accepted by the Business Manager and forwarded to the Director of Diocesan Schools.
- An Applicant Review Committee will be formed, with representation from a variety of stakeholders.

**Moved to Executive Session** at 4:18 pm.

**Closed** with prayer at 5:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Newstrom  
Secretary