St. Mary Education Committee

February 25, 2026 – 5:30 pm

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Amanda Wurth, Andrew DuPerrieu, David Gavin, Blake Cvengros, Lynn Thompson, Matt Durbin, Dr. Ed O'Neil, Sheryl Chino, Paul Humm, and Austin Smith

Members Not Present: Kristen Stone

Guest – No guests in attendance

Episcopal Vicar Present: Fr. Mike Clark

St. Mary /Diocesan Staff Present: Mary Smith, Kathi Falk, Ashley Wright, Robin Mowers

Meeting Called to Order – 5:30 pm

Opening Prayer – Blake Cvengros

Approval of Minutes – January's meeting minutes were approved.

New and Pending Business—

GPA Scale – Kathi Falk, Mitzi Englebright and Lisa Clark are discussing recent changes to GPA scales in the OCS system. Once research is complete on the transition plan and how it was rolled out there, we hope to have a scale closer to the McCracken scale, but not exact. Academic standards will not change but we hope our students will be on a level field with public school students in competition for scholarships.

Athletic Handbook – Revisions required by KHSAA to the Athletic Handbook. These were briefly reviewed and approved by SMEC. Review and updates will continue as needed.

Safety and Security – Work has begun on vestibule updates. Cameras and additional door locks related to the 2024 Homeland Security grant have been installed. More work to come. The 2025 Homeland Security Grant approval is still pending and will likely be several more months.

School Calendar 2026-2027 – Calendar approved and will be emailed out soon.

Open Director Position – The system director search process was outlined. Applications accepted through April 1. Interviews may start earlier if viable candidates and search team are

available earlier. The search team will consist of at least 7 people: a representative from each parish, the Chair of SMEC, the Episcopal Vicar and the Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Owensboro. The committee will make a recommendation. The episcopal vicar and superintendent will choose. The job listing has been circulated all over the diocese and nationally via job sites like Indeed.

Strategic Plan Committee Reports-written notes provided to Blake.

Academics – Will meet again in March

Advancement – Updates are included below.

Catholic Identity – Catholic Schools week was full of activities and service projects. A system-wide mass was held for Ash Wednesday

Enrollment- Enrollment for 26/27 is open.

Facilities- Conducting interviews for a facilities manager.

Governance – Committee has met.

Student Life – Upcoming events include the MS dance, the Father Daughter Dance and 4-H speeches.

Finance – Continues to meet often.

Episcopal Vicar Update – Fr. Mike's updates are included throughout the notes.

Administrative Updates

Mary Smith and Kathi Falk provided a written report detailing staffing updates/needs, safety upgrades to the high school vestibule, the many faith-based activities held in connection with Catholic Schools week and several student life updates including the success of the high school basketball teams and the ES Academic Team. Mary and Kathy have conducted school tours with prospective new students.

Ashley provided an advancement report with Annual Fund, Booster Club and Restricted Gifts updates. A donor has offered a matching gift by June 30th and details will follow. The 2nd Annual Alumni Giving Challenge will kick off in late April. An alumni reunion will be held May 30th, 2026. We have an opening for an Alumni Coordinator. Marketing brochures and videos have been completed. The new website landing page is also active. Future parish "Open Houses" are in the works. Enrollment is open and the deadline for notification of not returning students is this Friday, February 27th.

Robin presented financials reviewed by the finance committee and recommended for approval by SMEC. AP balance presented for December close was already down as of today. AR mostly consists of ES. Expenses are at 54% compared to budget due to higher utilities, higher insurance and $8k in unscheduled repairs.

Announcements – Fish Fry to sponsor St. Mary Friday February 27th, St. Thomas will host a workshop on "Building a Community of Faith" to focus on faith-based parenting, Continued prayers needed for the best system director candidate.

Next SMEC Meeting – March 18th @ 5:30pm followed by April 15th.

Closing Prayer Fr. Mike Clark led a closing prayer

Meeting adjourned 8:15pm.