

ST. MARY'S EVANGELIZATION & CATECHESIS COMMITTEE MINUTES

- A. Called to order by Jenny Miller in the St. Mary's Parish Meeting Room at 5:31 p.m. on Tues., Jan. 13, 2026
1. Prayer ~ Fr. Craig Timmerman led prayer
 2. Roll call ~ Present: Jenny Miller, Emily Krzmarzick, Dan Braulick, Jamie Pietig, Victor Martinez, Matt Wagner, Matt Grausam, Peter Roufs, Shelley Roufs, Fr. Craig Timmerman
Absent: George Schwint
 3. November minutes were approved
 4. January agenda was approved with the addition of: 2. Cell Phone Policy
- B. ENRICHMENT ~ none
- C. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS
1. Preschool survey response and updates and tuition...34 responses received; PK3-did not want to expand to a week, some said to leave it, some to add 1 day; PK4-a good portion would be in favor of all day every day. We would keep what we have and add another teacher for the 3rd day for PK3, and every day for PK4; Tuition would be increased...PK 4 every day \$2850 and Kindergarten \$2900; (Daycare comparison \$750.00/month); Motion carried
(Daycare topic at SMS was approached-no infrastructure to support the idea.)
Teacher #1 schedule...PK4 mornings & all day sections
Teacher #2 schedule...PK4 afternoons & PK3 morning sections
 2. Cell Phone Policy...a parent brought up the policy, and would like to see it go to a no phone during the school day; Mr. Roufs went over the current policy. High School students put phones in "phone bank" upon entering class. They can have phones between classes, at breakfast, but not at lunch except for "Phone Friday". Other levels...Elementary-no phones. Middle School-must keep in lockers, but can check for messages between classes; Discussion on the pros and cons were brought up, and the parent's proposal will be kept in mind...it is an ongoing discussion that will be addressed as necessary. Feel free to ask the teachers how they feel about cell phones. What would make it better? Possibly add an athletic policy for phones on the bus?
- D. STAFF/COMMITTEE REPORTS
1. School~Mr. Roufs reported that some 7th graders are concerned about going to the March for Life, so is making it optional to attend. 8th-12th graders are invited to sign-up as well; The virtue of the month for January is Patience-enduring difficulties with a calm spirit, trusting in God's will; The OJT (On the Job Training) Job Fair was attended by Gr. 9,10,& 11 on Thursday, Jan. 8th. The fair has area businesses come to show opportunities for students for this program for their Junior or Senior year; An All School Mass with Bishop Zielinski will be Thursday, Jan. 15th; 2nd quarter/1st Semester will be ending on Friday, Jan. 16th, and there will be no school on Monday, Jan. 19th; Winter NWEA testing for reading/math will be Jan. 20-23rd for students in grades K-8; Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated Jan. 24th-30th, with Family Fun Night on Thursday, Jan. 29th from 5-7:00 PM; Our accreditation report from MNSAA was received. The school's committee is now meeting to address the findings, and Peter Roufs will keep the E & C board updated; The head football coaches position is presently open and is taking applications; The SMS staff was greatly appreciative of the Christmas bonuses from 3 generous donors; The CUF Raffle will kick-off on January 16th; Our Caribbean Knight event will be Saturday, Feb. 7th this year, starting at 5:30 PM in the SMS Gym & Field House...note the earlier date!
 2. Religious Education~ Shelley reported that First Reconciliation was moved to a Saturday morning (Jan. 24th, 10:00 AM); Religious Education is going well, with attendance being very consistent; Confirmation Student/Parent meeting is Feb. 1st; Confirmation retreat will be Saturday, Feb. 21st (NET team is looking for housing). The NET team will also be giving a retreat to the SMS 9th grade on Friday, Feb. 20th.
 3. Pastor/Superintendent~Fr. Timmerman reported that they are starting to meet with Seniors in small group settings... Fr. Timmerman with boys, Mary Moritz with the girls...for those that are interested.
 4. Financial~Matt went over the financial report and 403b for employees. The budget is going well, even with the decline in adult support, as there was a cut back in spending somewhat to keep the "bottom line positive and cash-flow in a good place". (Some ground was made up with an increase of adult support at the end of the year.); The 403b retirement plan will take the place of the Christian Brothers plan for each employee (with an employer contribution).

E. FUTURE AGENDA

1. MEETING DATE: Tuesday, February 17, 2026, 5:30 p.m.
(moved from the 10th as Fr. Timmerman will be on a retreat.)
St. Mary's Church Parish Meeting Room

2. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

F. PRAYER~ Fr. Craig Timmerman led prayer.

G. ADJOURNMENT~ 6:42 PM

Respectfully submitted, Marti Schroepfer