

**Sacred Heart School Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 6, 2024**  
**6:30pm – 7:30pm**  
**School Library**

Welcome

- Jamie from St. Monica's School Commission joined the meeting

Opening Prayer

Approval of Minutes (September 11, 2024 & October 2, 2024 – postponed to December meeting)

Parish Updates

- Father Joseph back from Nigeria (returned 10/25)
- Children's Faith Formation started September 15<sup>th</sup> 12:30 to 1:30
- Confirmation for 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders starts December 15<sup>th</sup>
- Sacred Hearth Youthsgiving November 17<sup>th</sup> 5:00pm Mass, 6-7:30pm Social
- PorchLight – November Meals for the Homeless
- Stewardship pledges due
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Advent by Candlelight Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup> 6-8pm
- Children's 4pm Christmas Eve Mass Choir – 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders

Principal's Update / New Business

School Commission 2023-24

- Discussion topics
  - School Commission auction item – investigating alternative options
  - Auction fund-a-need options update – classroom closets and storage spaces under consideration
  - Field update – Sacred Heart/Bellevue Christian property line – on hold pending additional options from landscaping company
  - School Commission training – financial oversight
  - Capital campaign update – targeting end of the school year to kick off
  - Joint middle school dance – very successful and looking forward to the next dance
  - Attendance at St. Monica School Commission meetings – November meeting canceled, looking for sign ups for the remainder of the year
  - Religion Specialist Update – Emily Kirwin
  - Catholic Identity Challenges

- State of the School address – timing & topics
- Mission Statement Discussion
  - What does it mean to be a Catholic school?
  - What does it mean to be a Catholic school with St. Monica?
- Objectives for this year
  - Family group transition
    - Partnering with St. Monica's School Commission: Cross attendance at 2024-2025 meetings
      - November 21
      - December 19
      - January 16
      - February 27th (4th week due to Mid-Winter Break)
      - March 12 - State of the School Address
      - April 10 - (2nd week due to Holy Week)
      - May 15
      - June 12 (2nd week due to end of year)
    - Monthly St. Monica & Sacred Heart meeting (Principals, Vice Principals, PAAs, Priests)
    - Information sharing
    - Shared events
      - Middle school dances (chaperones from both schools)
      - 5<sup>th</sup> grade camp
      - Others?
    - Parish subsidy
  - Catholic Identity
    - Adoration
    - Confession
    - Summer church challenge
    - New challenges throughout the year
  - Accreditation
    - Next year (2025-2026): Self study
    - Following year (2026-2027): Accreditation – new process
  - Facilities
    - Analysis on potential fund-a-need opportunities
    - Deferred maintenance
    - Capital campaign – feasibility study proposal

#### Committee Reports Questions

- Health & Safety (Kelly Bach)
- Parent's Club (Kelsey Ashe)
- Technology (Orville McDonald)
- Catholic Identity (Kelly Surapaneni)
- Legal (Katherine Goodrich)

Next Meeting: December 4, 2024



## Committee Reports (November 6<sup>th</sup>)

- Health & Safety (Kelly Bach)
  - Next week is the screening for vision and hearing- all volunteer slots are currently filled!
  - Middle School Health Curriculum- I had sent some ideas/information (using the Health book from the school) to David and MS teachers. Will follow up in meeting with David to see possibilities of this curriculum in the future.
  - Get your flu shot- there are enough regular viruses that are STRONG this year (more symptoms, kids sicker) flu is strong in other parts of the country but not to us yet!!
  - Symptom reminder- Anne Marie typically sends out a reminder to families about return to school/when to stay home symptoms (from dept. of health). This is usually done when there is a spike in the community or school community (not yet).
- Parent's Club (Kelsey Ashe)
  - Trunk or Treat-
    - Roughly 26 trunks signed up to host
    - Great turnout from families
    - Pizza/popcorn/water sold and enjoyed by most
    - Adequate amount of volunteers
    - The lighting in the lower lot was bright and worked well
  - Booing for families-
    - 50 families signed up for booing
    - I haven't heard any direct negative feedback
    - Exciting and cheap way for kids to have fun during the halloween season
  - Mother/Son Night
    - 90 Children and 60 Adults turned out
    - approximately 5 families cancelled day of
    - Hard to do day after halloween, we will change that for next year.
    - Nice venue to have at because it is fun, clean, large and a safe environment
  - Coffee Cart Scheduled on 11/25, first day of conferences
    - Setup will be at 6am, serving coffee from 7-9am.
    - Teachers will be able to place order and then head to their classroom. Coffees will be delivered by 2 volunteers so teachers will not have to wait for their orders
    - Kelsey Ashe will be there in morning at 6am to help assist with set up
  - Scrip
    - Mary Ciaramello and Beth Granlund are in charge of this and we are very thankful for all of their time and help.

- Parents club gives a \$75 gift of script to each staff member that is listed. Total amount gifted for this holiday is \$5,320.00
  - Parents Club Meeting
    - Next meeting will be held on 11/18
- Technology (Orville McDonald)
  - To simplify bring your own device (BYOD) setup a checklist was created to help get computers into the right state for school.
  - For Fund-A-Need we discussed some of the projects that were previously funded with thoughts on how we can communicate the their impact on the classroom experience. This included unexpected benefits like using the EPIC (PA) system for a game of Clue.
  - Time spent on homework is increasingly an issue. Part of it is that as more school work is done on computers it is harder to do it in between activities or while on the move
- Catholic Identity (Kelly Surapaneni)
  - **Christ in the Classroom Retreat-** this Friday, November 8th, the faculty and staff of the Sacred Heart and St. Monica's schools will gather at Queen of Peace in Bellevue for their Annual Christ in the Classroom Retreat. This retreat, focused on the task of the catechesis, Knowledge of the Faith, offers a rich way for all members of our parish family a lens for Christ in the Classroom for the year.
  - **New Member of the Campus Ministry Team-** There is a new member of the Campus Ministry Team for St. Monica and Sacred Heart, Hannah Takemori. Her focus will be on liturgy. She has jumped into providing some liturgy training for our students.
  - **All Saint's Day-** Sacred Heart celebrated the many saints by offering their image and story last Friday at Mass. On an everyday basis, you can walk around the school to see the beautiful images of saints (and those on their way to sainthood) on the walls with a biography researched by students underneath.
  - **Monthly Free Dress-** every month the school participates in supporting a non-profit organization focused on serving different communities. This month the proceeds of free dress will go to [St. Vincent de Paul](#). This amazing organization offers this as their Mission Statement: *Compelled to action by the convictions of our founders, St. Vincent de Paul of Seattle|King County joins the community to listen, engage, and build relationships that assist and advocate for individuals and families to meet basic needs and achieve stability and self-sufficiency.*
  - **YouCat Bible-** You may have seen a new bible around. The YouCat Bible is being used in the classes of religion. Some highlights: It's filled with engaging photos, clever and fun illustrations by YOUCAT's award-winning designer, insightful sidebar quotes from great thinkers, Catholic saints and leaders, past and present, and young people living their faith today.

- It includes helpful introductions to the books of the Bible and short, easy-to-understand commentaries by some of today's top Bible teachers.
- Plus, an index of biblical names, terms, and topics.
- Based on the popular Revised Standard Version, Second Catholic Edition of the Ignatius Bible, the YOUCAT Bible carefully abridges the biblical text to help young people to follow the "story" of the Bible.
  - It also includes a special preface by Pope Francis.  
"You are holding something divine in your hands ... A book through which God speaks."  
-- Pope Francis, from the preface to the YOUCAT Bible
- Legal (Katherine Goodrich)
  - Nothing to report