

**SEPTEMBER 2011 MINUTES**  
**-Catholic School Commission-**

**-CORE COMMITTEE-**

Catholic School Commission Core Committee Meeting  
9/13/2011 Meeting Holy Cross Church, Mt. Calvary

Core Members Present : Joe Zenk, Gary Stepanek, Br. Steve Kropp, Sr. Deb Golias, Dr. Joe Bound, Pat Lofton, Kay Henschel, Amy Christianson, Linda Jelinek, Jodi Slowiak, Lori Grahl, Kevin Ditter, Mike Wahl, Dean Thelen, new committee member Pat Knier, excused Rev. Joe Coerber

Prayer Br. Steve

Address to observers

Discussed date of tour of New Holstein campus, Joe Z. going through building for "spruce up test"

\* Tour date moved to October 18th at 6:30 p.m. at Divine Savior New Holstein Campus (Holy Rosary)

Pat Lofton - Copy of the Kenosha Report

Sr. Deb added Steering Committee comments-at end of the report we are to turn in to the diocese. Need appendices of each committee notes of all meetings.

Joe Bound- same with Green Bay diocese

Voted on when to have recommendation to Archbishops, by March or April. Consensus vote for March 2011.

Joint Chairs will meet after tonight's meeting to decide which areas are covered by which committee.

Lori Grahl-Communication Com. Report

- Due Date for sub-committee questions for the survey by the next sub-committee meeting for each sub-committee. Preferably by 9-28-11 communications meeting or as soon after as possible.

Sr. Deb and Pat Lofton - reiterated the communication/website that is being setup needs to continue even after schools are combined if that's what measure is taken.

Linda Jelinek - Education Com. Report

- The question was brought up who should make staff decisions? (Principle, Parish Directors, core committee, school board?) Will decide at a later date.

Kevin Ditter - Finance Com. Report

Dean Thelen - Facilities Com. Report

- Suggested to look at Parish Boundaries for bussing. Map out current students for location.

- Pat Lofton suggests map out Parish students not going to DS/CPES currently also because these may be potential students.

Mike Wahl - Governance Com. Report

Br. Steve and Joe Zenk - We are still awaiting Krisinski Report

Discuss Parent survey Analysis- will discuss next month still receiving responses.

November 9th Meeting rescheduled for November 16th 2011. The Marytown Community Center was offered to us as a permanent meeting site. Accepted. The November 16th meeting will be at the Marytown Community Center (Baseball Diamond) located across the road to the North from St. Mary's Church.

October 18th Core Committee Meeting at New Holstein Divine Savior Campus-6p.m.-7p.m. Consent Agenda to Abbreviate Meeting All Sub-Committee Notes should be faxed to Core Committee each member should review notes and come to meeting with any questions or ask for clarification on anything.

Listening Session is at 7p.m. October 18th 2011, Pat Lofton will head meeting.

Kevin Ditter asked if we could come up with a prayer for the students to pray everyday, also have the Parishes say it at Mass. Br. Steve and Joe Zenk will come up with a prayer with some suggested input from any member. The prayer will be announced at Holy Rosary Divine Savior Campus at the listening session in the Gym.

Adjourned 8:35p.m.

The new procedure for meetings:

This procedure was in response to concern that although observers could interact with the Committees, they had to wait till the meeting was over. With a consent agenda we can engage the observers soon and for a longer time.

The Core and Steering Committee meetings will be organized around a consent agenda and interaction with the observers present.

1. There will be approval by the group of the Steering Committees' minutes and the Core Committee meeting minutes.
2. There will be a call for all to ask questions and make suggestions based on the Steering Committees' minutes. This will give each Chair the chance to clarify action items and/or ask for input from the Core and other Steering Committees.
3. Questions/discussion will be solicited from the observers.

Catholic School Commission  
Communication Committee August Meeting Update  
Prepared for September 12, 2011 Core Committee Meeting

Communication Committee Members: Janalle Feldner, Lori Grahl (co-chair), Amanda Johnson, Dan Keuler, Sarah Kraus, Becky Meyer and Jodi Slowiak (co-chair)

Last Communication Committee Meeting was August 24, 2011 at St. John's School

Summary:

1. Sharing a Vision Newsletter (Sub committee Jodi, Sarah, and Amanda)  
First publication distributed September 11, 2011 in bulletins, e-mailed to parents and printed and sent home with families that are not on-line.  
Future Newsletters will be sent out by the second Sunday of each month.  
Attention Committee Chairs -  
Please have your Committee Summary for the monthly Newsletter e-mailed to Jodi Slowiak at webjams@frontier.com before the Third Wednesday of each month.  
The next deadline is September 21.  
Please keep your summaries less than 100 words if possible  
October issue will feature - "Message from Joe Zenk"
2. Parent Questionnaire - (Sub committee Lori and Janalle)  
Sent out at the start of school  
Deadline was September 8th  
Preliminary data was compiled over the weekend  
A comprehensive report will be sent via e-mail within 10 business days
3. Divine Savior New Holstein Building tour and Listening Session  
Tentatively set for October 11 at 6:30pm  
Date and time confirmation needed tonight
4. Survey - (Sub committee - Lori, Becky, Janalle)  
This will be a more formal online survey  
The Arch diocese will be contacted to offer support  
Each Committee will be asked to contribute, please start thinking of questions you need answered  
Target date - November  
Will this be in time to meet the Dec decision deadline?
5. Web site (Sub committee- Dan, Jodi, Janalle)  
The website is Sharingavision.net  
All 3 sites will be linked CPES, DS and Sharingavision  
Construction is currently underway  
Approval of content needed tonight  
Target completion date is prior to October 9th (the next Newsletter printing)  
The communications committee would like to provide all the latest information on the website.  
Minutes Request  
Each committee is asked to approve their minutes electronically and have them sent to Dan Keuler at family@thekeulers.com one week after your meetings.  
Please take care to use words like "recommendation" rather than "decision" as we are a recommendation committee.  
Include the names of members who are working on specific areas.  
Please be conscious to have detailed information with substance. Our goal is that readers understand your committee's focus, via the written word.
6. Gatherings  
Volley Ball Social when DS plays CPES at CPES - details to come

Communications Committee Minutes  
August 24th, 2011

Committee Members in Attendance: Lori Grahl, Amanda Johnson, Dan Keuler, Sarah Kraus, Jodi Slowiak,  
Becky Meyer, Janelle Feldner  
Committee Members Excused: None

Summary of Committee's Actions:

Newsletter for parents and parishoners

Ready to send by 2nd Sunday of the month

Titled- "Sharing A Vision"

Double-sided single page layout

CSC Core Committee report from August 10th

Open House/ Listening Session

Week of October 10-17th

6:15-7:00 PM Open House, followed by Listening Session

Questionnaire

Emailed to Divine Savior parents

Included with registration packet for CPES

Additional Feedback

Question boxes for schools

Comments and questions to be put in with the collection at parishes

Web address for updates- decided that separate web site will be developed

Governance Committee

8-24-11

Members Present: Joe Zenk, Br. Steve, Lori Lisowe, Mike Wahl (Chair), Ken Turba, Dan Meyer

Excused: Mike Buechel, Martha Holst

We reviewed and approved minutes from the 8-17-11 meeting with the following corrections:

-Under "Education" change "reduces" to "reduced or"

We welcomed Lori Lisowe as our newest member

Old Business:

Issues 5 and 6 were addressed— ownership / tradition and governance

-Ownership/Tradition

1. How can each option encourage / discourage involvement (ownership) by...

Parents? Parishioners? Parish leadership? Teachers/Staff? Students?

2. How does each option honor the traditions of each school, while creating a vision for the future?

(What is "tradition" for each school?... Names, facilities, fund-raisers and activities, etc...)

3. How can each option enhance our overall Catholic identity and rooted-ness in parochial life?

4. How can each option offer the smoothest perception of transition? (Marketing)

-Governance

1. How can each option offer the most efficient governing structure?

2. How is each parish equitably represented in each structure?

-additional question for FINANCE and LOGISTICS:

1. How will activities and fund-raisers be effectively arranged and executed in each option?

Next meeting: begin to answer these questions.... Governance Committee 6:00pm at Holy Cross in Mt Calvary

Tentative meeting on October 4 at 6:30pm

## Governance Meeting 8.17.2011

Present: Br. Steve Kropp, Mike Wahl, Mike Buechel, Joseph Zenk, Dan Meyer, Ken Turba

Meeting started at 6:30 with a prayer and review of minutes.

Mike W. reviewed meeting of full committee. Only one visitor who was not on a committee came to the meeting. The meeting that evening spent the most of the time reviewing the committee meetings. There seemed to be much overlap.

Buildings - best is Johnsbury - but no good lunch facility. Next Kiel, new heat and water, then NH - old boiler - leaks in the roof - been patched a lot. The plus for NH was gym and lunch area, but the building itself will probably need more work sooner. St. Cloud about the same shape but didn't have lunch or gym. It did not have as many issues on roof and mechanical, but still lower because it didn't have a lunch and gym.

Going to work with dioceses for audit of schools to get a better understanding of how the buildings, technology of the schools, and curriculum look. They will then have recommendations and ideas on where each building is for the long term and what is needed.

Facilities committee also going to review bussing.

Finance is deep in the paperwork - have had a great help from each parish. They need to run numbers on potential info and losses in students

Communications committee created a newsletter sent out monthly. Going to have info on what's going on (committee min. etc.). Survey being done. Guy from FDL willing to help with this process. Done electronically

Education committee - lot of their work based on recommendation of our committee. Two schools (CPES and DS) are on even level for most part as far as curriculum. Each has it's +/- comparatively. Home and school committees are going to meet.

### General info

Based on dioceses timeline we need to have clear decision on what is going on by November meeting. A lot of this will hinge on the work of the finance committee. They are looking at info from 6 parishes and 2 schools.

Goals seem on task for the meeting.

Old business - looking for committee member in Mt. Calvary area. Lori Lisowe has volunteered to help. Has done a lot for school in the past - added bonus she is on the outer line of the school district.

Martha Holst will still be joining - but could not make the meeting tonight.

We reviewed each of issue we came up with last meeting and determined what questions we need to answer

### Education

- what subjects can be added or enhanced with the collaboration
- what subjects would be reduces removed
- are there any unconventional classes that could be offered
- what are the benefits to our educators and the staffing of the schools

- what are the extracurricular benefits
- what are the ways technology can affect and benefit the school.
- what are the abilities of expanding the curriculum that expansion brings
- different type of sports options: fishing, skiing, kickball, archery etc.
- affects of each dioceses on the school

#### Financial

- what is the impact is for each of the five options on the table - the questions below must be answered for each question. i.e. if we do example 1, how does that financially impact each of the items listed below:
- how does it \$\$\$ impact the parents, parish (subsidy and faculties), and school. (school as entity and building)
- if we lose 5, 10, 15, 20% how does it financially impact the school system.
- don't overpromise what is going to be done and how it is handled.

#### Logistics

- length of bus ride for the education day
- private bus that still comes from New Holstein or similar. What would a school owned bus/14 person van require. Utilize Public School Bus to get to school (administrator of school must get this info to bus companies/public school by May 15)
- can the facilities handle hot lunch
- proximity to the parents

#### Class size/retention

- what are the class sizes going to be and will look like for each situation
- can the facilitates handle the class sizes

#### Ownership/Tradition

- questions 5 & 6 (ownership/tradition) should be answered by our committee at next meeting (ownership & governance)

What is important for the parents to be involved with to feel ownership of the school?

Mike W is going to get info to Six Sig black belt to put info into ##. He is also going to get with Mike and Dean (facilities) chair to give a heads up on the work needed.

Meeting adjured at 9:00 with a prayer.

*The mission of the Catholic School Commission is to maintain quality Catholic education; by combining resources and preserving our solid traditions that honor our past, present and future.*



September 2011

2 pages

## ***A Message From Brother Steve...***

*To all the champions of Catholic education: our students, parents, and parishioners, welcome to the first issue of our Catholic School Commission Newsletter!*

*This newsletter is a collaborative venture of CPES School (Johnsburg and St. Cloud) and Divine Savior School (Kiel and New Holstein), and is an important method of communication on the work being done to ensure a strong and vital future for catholic education in our area!*

*As we proceed forward with the task of increasing the levels of cooperation and collaboration between our two schools, there have been many questions as to why we are doing this... and there are several answers, but only one true reason: this venture is for the sole purpose of ensuring the future of Catholic Education in our region. The work of the Commission will seek to, not only provide for the existence of a Catholic School, but to ensure that we are offering the highest quality Catholic Education for our students now and for years to come.*

*So, what can you do to help in the effort? First, talk to us... tell us your concerns, offer your questions, and enlighten us with your thoughts and ideas! Second, join in our work of the existing school committees, or even just by attending a public meeting of the Catholic School Commission. Third, and perhaps most important, continue to be an advocate of Catholic Education by prayers, support, and positive attitude about the great gift that a Catholic School offers our children!*

*Catholic Schools: FAITH EVERYDAY!*

*Peace and all good,  
Br. Steven Kropp, OFM Cap  
Pastor, Saint Isidore Parish / CPES*

# Sharing A Vision...

Monthly Newsletter of the Catholic School Commission

## **Communication**

The goal of the communication committee is to provide as much information as possible on the progress of the Catholic School Commission. Along with this monthly newsletter, a new website is being designed to give you up-to-date information. In the meantime, please find all committee meeting minutes on the school websites at [www.cpesonline.com](http://www.cpesonline.com) or [www.divinesaviorschool.org](http://www.divinesaviorschool.org)

**Please Join Us!** The next public meeting will be held at Holy Cross Church In Mt. Calvary on September 12th at 6:30 p.m. These are meetings when the committee chairpersons share their recommendations with the Core committee, each other and you. All are welcome!

## **Facilities**

The committee has completed their evaluation of the Johnsburg, Kiel, New Holstein, and Saint Cloud campuses. The evaluations assessed the quantity and size of the rooms; physical condition of the building structure; as well as the heating, plumbing, and electrical systems.

The next task of the Facilities Committee is to work on bussing issues.

## **Education**

The Education Committee has met twice this summer to look at the curriculum that is used in both schools. The committee found that they are in alignment for when they enter the common middle school. We recommend that the sacramental programs should remain as they are now in both schools, and with the Religious Education coordinators.

**JOIN US!** At the next  
Core Committee Meeting,  
Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup>  
at Holy Cross Church in  
Mt. Calvary, 6:30pm

"We Need To Be Jesus For One Another"

Fr. Loren Mys, SDB

## Q & A

**Will we be able to tour the New Holstein School? YES**

*Plans are in progress for a Tour, Open House and Listening Session to be scheduled in October.*

**When will a decision be made on combining the schools?**

*The goal is to have a recommendation ready in November. The final decision will be made by the (Arch)bishops in spring.*

**Who makes the final decision?**

*The commission only makes recommendations. Then the (Arch)bishops from each diocese make the final decisions.*

**Does Divine Savior have a band?**

**YES, lessons are available for 3<sup>rd</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup> graders during school hours. The cost is \$100 for the year plus the cost of the instrument.**

**How can I get my questions answered?** *Our goal as a commission is to be transparent. We will answer all questions as best we can.*

Joe Zenk [pjzenk@gmail.com](mailto:pjzenk@gmail.com)

Gary Stepanek [gstepanek@gmail.com](mailto:gstepanek@gmail.com)

Br. Steven Kropp [skropp@yahoo.com](mailto:skropp@yahoo.com)

Rev. Joseph Coerber [jtcbau@tcei.com](mailto:jtcbau@tcei.com)

Patrick Lofton [loftonp@archmil.org](mailto:loftonp@archmil.org)

Dr. Joseph Bound [jbound@ebdioc.org](mailto:jbound@ebdioc.org)

*Or contact any committee chairperson listed on the CPES and Divine Savior websites.*

**I am glad that my parents send me to a Catholic school because....**

*"I liked the All Schools Mass at the Resch Center" – Andie, Grade 3*

*"The teachers are awesome" – Casey, Grade 3*



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# Sharing A Vision...

Monthly Newsletter of the Catholic School Commission

## Parish Support

Catholic Schools are an important ministry of our parishes, and will continue to be supported and subsidized as part of establishing a solid financial future: "We advocate a collaborative approach to Catholic school support. In this model, each parish ... will be affiliated with an elementary school, as either the sole sponsor of its parish school or as the co-sponsor of a multi-parish school. Restructuring our resources in this way would enable every parishioner who wants to send a Catholic child to a Catholic school to do so, paying tuition based on means. At the same time, schools must develop cooperative models for ministerial support, refuting the perception that schools take funds away from other parish ministries." (*Catholic Schools Strategic Education Plan, Archdiocese of Milwaukee.*)

## Governance

The following options are being reviewed for the two schools:

- what would happen if we did nothing? We would no longer be able to exist beyond 2-3 years.
- Combine upper grades (5-8 or 6-8) as a separate school each having a "school board" (3 in total);
- Combine upper grades (5-8 or 6-8) as a separate school with a "school board" for DS and CPES, these school boards would make up a combined "school board" for the middle school;
- Combine upper grades (5-8 or 6-8) with K4-8 at DS and K4-4 or 5 at CPES with support for students to DS for the upper grades;
- Combine as one school with one "school board" (expected to be three locations);
- One new school in one central location with one school board.

Questions are being compiled from the collaboration committees to determine how each scenario will affect the long term goals of both schools.

## Finance

Currently we are working on a preliminary budget. We evaluated how each system collected from the parishes, fundraisers, and donations. With the help from dioceses personnel we have started to create a new more balanced way that revenue can be collected which reflects parish membership, number of eligible students, and parish revenue. At this stage we are still collecting all the necessary data to finish this formula.

Additional help is needed especially from the CPES community to help maintain a balanced workload among members. Even if it is on a part time basis and can fill in when possible. Please contact Kevin Ditter at [kjditter@gmail.com](mailto:kjditter@gmail.com)

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me"

Matthew 19:14

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Education Committee met on Sept. 6. Present were Jodi Steffen, Michelle Stephanie, Christy Schmitz, Diane Cherney, Linda Escher, Amy Christianson, Linda Jelinek, and Joan Nisler.

We looked at the bulleted questions that were received from the Governance Committee.

### - Subjects added/enhanced with collaboration

It was recommended that Spanish K-8 would enhance the program. The elementary students would meet 1-2 days, the middle students in grades 5-7 would meet 3 days a week. In 8th grade Spanish, it would be offered 5 days. It could be done as optional or pass/fail if mandatory for those students not taking it in High School. It is also recommended to establish a fine arts program which would include but not be limited to band, choir, and forensics.

### -Subjects to be removed/reduced

We would recommend that nothing be reduced because this is what we need to shine as a Catholic School especially now with scale backs in the public schools.

### -Any unconventional classes offered

Unconventional classes that could be offered include Life Skills classes that would incorporate CPR, BAT (basic aid training for kids), finance, sewing, cooking, child care/babysitting courses, destination imagination, acquiring Einstein kits, and bringing in journalism, media, and yearbook. Another recommendation would be to look at teaching subjects in quarters. An example would be English with one quarter journalism, one quarter poetry, etc.

### -Benefits to educators and staffing

It would give a chance for more collaboration time.

### -Extracurricular benefits

The children would have opportunities to participate in band, choir, and forensics. Both schools currently have volleyball. School basketball would now become an option for the CPES students. The students could play on school and town teams if they choose.

### -Affects and benefits of technology

We could look more into how to use the results of the MAPS testing to benefit the children. Possibly add net books in the middle school. With added technology, training in these areas for all teachers would also need to be addressed.

### -Abilities of expanding the curriculum that expansion brings

The abilities of expanding the curriculum depends on the budget and the enrollment.

### -Different types of sports options

During the school day the basics would be kept. Some of these that are currently being done at one or both schools include swimming, bowling, frisbee golf, and sledding. Field trips have been snowshoeing and roller skating. After school hours for family activities include family ski/tubing at Sunburst, a dance and movie nights.

### -Affects of each dioceses on the school

The dioceses are in communication about the curriculum and other areas of combining.

The next meeting is Oct. 4 at 6:30 at D.S. middle school

Respectfully Submitted,

Joan Nisler