

Summary of Meeting – August 21, 2025

Attendees and Introductions

- Key participants included members of the school administration, faculty, parish community, parents, and advisory committee (SAC).
- The meeting opened with gratitude for community support and introductions of members, highlighting connections within the school and broader parish community.

Meeting Framework and Purpose

- The committee is guided by updated bylaws and ongoing development of guiding principles.
- Meetings aim to be concise, targeting one hour, with a standard format: opening prayer, principal's update, discussion topics, and closing.

Principal's Report and School Updates

Enrollment and Staffing

- Enrollment is strong at 695 students, slightly above the budget baseline.
- Some grades are at or near capacity; waitlists exist for some classes.
- Staffing is stable, with minor turnover mainly due to retirements or family reasons, not competition from other schools.
- Infrastructure investments continue, especially in technology, security, and media center innovation.

Academic Programs and Initiatives

- Amplify CKLA implemented for K-5, and Envision for math is being adapted for higher grades as needed.
- Ongoing focus on responsible AI integration and professional development for teachers.
- Project-based learning and increased integration of technology and research methods.
- Efforts to reinforce prayer and spiritual development throughout the school day.
- Annual surveys and feedback mechanisms are used to guide strategy, especially in preparation for accreditation.

Accreditation and Improvement

- The school has submitted its mid-cycle accreditation report and received positive feedback on strategic improvements.
- Key focus areas: technology plan, curriculum alignment, teacher retention, and guidance program.

Financial Aid and Scholarships

- Opportunity Scholarships are utilized by many students, though enrollment is not directly affected by fluctuating public funding.
- Financial planning assumes scholarships could be withdrawn in future cycles.

Technology and Communication Challenges

Technology Infrastructure

- Recent upgrades and security enhancements following a previous ransomware attack.
- Network segmentation, regular staff training, and alignment with diocesan IT standards.
- Ongoing evaluation of AI platforms and education technology solutions; openness to expert parent involvement.

Parent Feedback and Technology Access

- Parents expressed confusion over multiple digital platforms (Google Classroom, IXL, Quizlet, RenWeb, etc.).
- Calls for clearer documentation, flowcharts, or tutorials to improve parental access and understanding.
- Suggestions for parent tech workshops or guides, with recognition of differing needs across grade levels.

Communication and Community

- Discussion of the importance of clear, unified communication before and after key decisions to prevent misinformation and community division.
- The advisory group's role in providing feedback and helping craft messages was emphasized.
- Need to assess communication impacts and maintain transparency, especially with major changes affecting school culture or staff.

Community Building and Engagement

- Recognized challenges in maintaining school and parish community cohesion after COVID and recent changes.
- Suggestions included more social events, shared service opportunities, and better information-sharing regarding community activities.
- Input awaited from parish surveys to guide future engagement efforts.

Action Items and Next Steps

1. Focus future meetings on:

- Improving technology integration and parental support.
- Enhancing communication strategies, especially around major decisions.
- Building stronger community ties through events and feedback.

2. Consider parent workshops and clearer guides for navigating school technology.
3. Ongoing review and adaptation of communication processes to foster a united and supportive community.

Closing

- The meeting concluded with a prayer and appreciation for members' dedication.
- Next steps include reviewing notes, further discussion on technology and communication, and following up on suggested workshops and community initiatives.