


Purpose: Ascension School Board	President: Bryan Back	Secretary: Katie Spencer		
	Meeting Date: October 3, 2023			
The Vision of the Ascension staff is to foster a Catholic community that models Jesus' teaching at home, school and in our community. We strive to ensure an academic program of excellence, which challenges each student to achieve his/her maximum potential. Our goal is to expand student involvement in global issues, technology, foreign language, and cultural programs.				
Living Faith	We achieve through sustained prayer and faith-filled interaction with each other that marks us as Ascension.			
Embracing Community	We achieve through active participation in service to our parish, neighborhood, metro areas and global community.			
Encouraging Opportunity	We achieve through activities, whether in traditional or community classrooms, to enhance ways in which students learn so they can continue to be life-long learners.			
Respecting Giftedness	We achieve by providing a level of instruction to challenge students to extend beyond the basics to maximize their potential in their areas of strength.			
Celebrating Excellence	We achieve through recognition of student accomplishments and alumni that say, "Well done!"			
In Attendance: Father Robert Barnell, Terry Mullaney, Bryan Back (Chair), Mike Brockman, Bob Feger, Mandy Goodwin, Natalie Ising, Laura Krebs Lewis, Josh Lile, Autumn Monaghan (faculty representative) , Katie Spencer, Helen Walter.				
Absent: Tony Forns, Jaclyn Mullin				
	Topic	Presenter	Discussion, Assignment and Responsibilities	Follow-Up
	Approval of Minutes	Bryan Back/Terry Mullaney	Email	

Living Faith	Opening Prayer	Father Robert	Prayer led by Father Robert	
	Mission Statement	Father Robert	<p>Proposed Mission: To develop thought leaders with a foundation in Christ.</p> <p>Identified Need: Our current proposed mission statement could have a stronger Catholic aspect</p> <p>Reviewed reworked statement options sent by Fr Robert and debated verbage of 'develop vs form'.</p> <p>Group connected with "To develop Christian thought leaders"</p>	To Do: Father and Terry to move this to the next stage needed for implementation
	MAP testing results	Terry Mullaney/Autumn Monaghan	<p>Per Donna Brown at Archdiocese – Ascension was one of the two "shining stars" of fall MAP testing in the whole diocese.</p> <p>Reviewed class aggregate data for Language Usage, Math and Reading Achievement percentile and Growth percentile. Discussed standard deviation of the scores to reflect range of scores within the class. Discussed way to promote</p>	Informative – no follow-up needed

			<p>this and make all parishioners aware of the current successes</p> <p>Autumn reviewed strategies implemented by the faculty to minimize test fatigue and ensure kids were setup for success, how many sections of the test were administered each day/week. All aspects of successful testing thought about by staff.</p>	
	Terry Mullaney	Service Hours update for Handbook	<p>Handbook currently lists grades 2-5 are required to do 5 service hours and 6-8 do 7 hours. But current practice is to have grades 3-5 do 5 service hours and grades 6-8 still do 7 hours. And service hours are optional in grades K-2</p> <p>Update to reflect current practice: Grades K-2: service hours encouraged but are optional Grades 3-5: 5 service hours per trimester Grades 6-8: 7 service hours per trimester</p> <p>Discussed amount of hours per trimester as well as recommendation that if there are guidelines for how many hours can be earned in any certain task/area of service to have those guidelines available prior to the start of the</p>	Informative – no follow-up needed

			trimester so that families can plan accordingly	
	Open House	Terry Mullaney	<p>October 24th 9-6pm</p> <p>Helen will be available starting at 9am and Natalie will help as well with set-up. Helen will get cookies</p> <p>Bryan: signs have been ordered from Talgrace ~ 35 small signs. The two large signs will be setup as well in the neighborhood – Natalie to forward addresses. Bryan will get balloons.</p> <p>Discussed need to update pictures that are displayed on tables during Open House. Idea of having alumni submit testimonials and using them in some way. Also there is a new promotional video in the works.</p> <p>Discussed how board members will follow up with prospective families (hand written notes vs phone calls)</p>	To Do: Bryan will let members know when signs have arrived so they can be placed in yards
	Accreditation Prep for 2024	Terry Mullaney	<p>Initial accreditation visit will be 11/4/23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed school improvement plan 	Informational
	Next meeting	Bryan Back	Thursday 11/2 at 5:45PM	

			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will plan for longer than 1 hour to allow for time to bring up topics brought forward by board members	
--	--	--	--	--

Mission: As a vital ministry of the Church of the Ascension, our school's mission is to recognize the uniqueness of all students in a caring, disciplined environment that exemplifies Christ's command to serve one another. Ascension School fosters excellence in academics and promotes spiritual, intellectual, emotional, and physical growth of the whole child.

The faculty, supported by the parish staff, School Board, and Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), recognizes that students must be prepared to meet challenges of an ever changing world and to live cooperatively as critical thinkers and problem solvers in a global society. Love of GOD, human dignity, justice, ecumenism, service to others, stewardship, and excellence are among the values lived.