

**LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**  
**School Board of Directors Meeting**  
**December 13th - 2022**

**The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Michelle Hajdukovich at 7p.m.**

**Present:** Bill Arnold, Fr. Tom Lilly, Aaron Sperbeck, Dr. Kevin Jones, Audrie Williams, Marcus Holmquist, Anne Gore, Brian Ross, Kathy Gustafson, Michelle Hajdukovich, Marcy Adkins, Daniel George, Jim Seeberger.

**Absent:** Deacon Dave Van Tuyl, Shane Locke

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Approval of the Agenda

Michelle asked to re-order the agenda to accommodate part of the Mission Moment (see below) with Coach Pat Moran. Marcus Holmquist seconded the motion to do so.

Pat introduced himself as the new head coach for the Boys Basketball Team. A 2013 Lumen Christi Alumni, Pat went to Holy Cross College in South Bend, Indiana, graduating with a teaching degree. He returned to Anchorage and taught at the elementary school level for a few years; then spent a year overseas teaching English; then returned to Anchorage and is now teaching at Clark Middle School. He's happy to be back in Anchorage, teaching and coaching. He recalls many positive memories from his student days, perhaps most notably the excellence of the teaching staff. Fr. Tom thanked him for 'coming home' to Lumen and sharing his talents with us!

After Pat's introduction, members broke into their small working groups of Finance; Recruitment and Retention and Lumen Forward for 15 minutes.

After small groups, the group reconvened for the second half of the Mission Moment, as Kenny Barker, new head coach for the Girls Basketball Team arrived. Kenny introduced himself - a native of San Diego, he played basketball for UAF and UAA; after graduating spent 10 years in Europe playing professionally. He's now back and settled in Anchorage, coaching for the first time and is excited to be doing so. Dan George thanked him for sharing his enthusiasm with the students and school.

With the small business meetings and "Mission Moment" and small meetings concluded, members returned to the order of the agenda.

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

### Approval of the Agenda

Michelle moved to approve the minutes, it was seconded by Anne.

### Approval of the Minutes

Michelle moved to approve the minutes from 11/15/22, it was seconded by Aaron.

### Words from our Sister School - Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

Kathy Gustafson reported doing well. It's been a busy year and there will be one staff change in January. Lindsey Wackowski will be joining the staff as a 1st grade teacher. Her son Lukas will be joining her so official enrollment is now 192, full capacity is 195. There are 10 kids already on the pre-k list for next year.

The "Black and White" Gala was a success with \$200k gross/\$160k net profit. Next year marks the school's 40th anniversary and will feature a 'ruby' theme.

The Robotics Team is going to State! There are 2 Lumen students who are a part of this effort. The school is looking at implementing more STEM programs in the school starting with STEM kits in every grade, even kindergarten.

### Lumen Christi Principal's Report

As written and attached. Brian noted things went well during the challenging snow days, especially on Monday where some classes held modified/online learning periods. Marcus Holmquist thanked Brian for coordinating with teachers that day. These thanks were echoed by Aaron Sperbeck.

There was general discussion about students coming in on the lower lower end of the spectrum of learning. This seems to be true for elementary, high school and even (as Kevin Jones pointed out) college.

### Mission Moment

As above.

### School Financial Report

Marcy Adkins presented this month's Statement of Activity which continues to show good news on the bottom line. There have been a number of issues with Blackbaud (our tuition management system) from July - October, but they appear to finally be settled. There have been some delays in Archdiocesan billing for payroll, but new staff have been hired and hopefully things will be more timely.

Bill Arnold wondered about the Campus Ministry budget, Marcy noted that the Reetz Foundation grant helps cover this. Lumen has been encouraged to apply for \$8-12k in this next application cycle. Marcy also noted that sales are up at the Archange Attic, almost back to pre-COVID figures.

## **COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS**

### Recruitment and Retention

Shane Locke not present, committee didn't meet.

### Finance

Bill Arnold noted there was nothing beyond Marcy's report to add.

### Lumen Forward

Aaron Sperbeck stated their committee was once again focused on the Speaker Series, scheduled for March 28th. The general topic will be a round table conversation on college preparation. Financial planning, Federal loans, 529's, how to apply for scholarships and to universities, sports scholarships and more will all be topics addressed. Aaron said that details will be finished up by the next meeting.

Kathy relayed an interesting story about having UAA teachers come and present on all of the things available here in town. Her husband (former Principal at West) had been present at one such gathering and was surprised at the breadth and depth of local offerings.

### Development Report

Anne Gore provided the following updates:

1. LUMENary Drive: The school is currently at 97.43% of our annual goal of \$75,000. Just \$1,928 left to raise....hoping to have that come in by year end. If not, there are always donations that come in after the 1st of the year and Anne is confident we'll meet our goal.
2. Gala: February 11th. ATTEND! Invitations will go out the 1st week of January. If the SEAS Gala is any indication, it's expected to sell out so if you plan on attending, buy tickets early. Interesting donations coming in.

## **BOARD CHAIR COMMENTS**

Michelle started her report by addressing the topic of Strategic Development and next steps. Since the questions used during the last Strategic Development process yielded great feedback (most notably the request for, and development of the Speaker Series), it was decided to use the same questions again, this year. Brian states he will "prime the pump" during the upcoming Principal/Parent forum and let parents know this will be forthcoming.

Michelle then noted that the joint SEAS/Lumen committee envisioned during the August joint board meeting had not really materialized, with all members simply being too busy. Despite a committee not formally coming together to look at bigger issues, there were many activities occurring between and in support of each school ("Jump Up" Day, Halloween Carnival, planned activities for Catholic Schools week, etc.)

Catholic Schools Week runs Sunday, Jan 29 - Saturday, Feb 4th. Tuesday Jan 31st also marks the 7th Annual State of the School address, Michelle notes that Brian will be aligning/presenting themes between SEAS and Lumen during this presentation on the 31st.

The last day of CSW (Friday, Feb. 3rd) is "Celebrate parents/volunteers/staff." Michelle is looking for Board volunteers who might be willing and able to hand out donuts and coffee to parents at morning drop off, and to staff and teachers as they start their day, and perhaps even provide lunch.

Michelle would like to reconvene a steering group to examine the Family Partnership/Homeschool issue again as there is a large number of SEAS families utilizing this program for tuition support. Brian will recruit parents during the next Principal/Parent forum who may be interested in sitting on the committee. Anne recommends reaching out to Liz Loeffler as Director of Catholic Schools and having her be on the Committee as well. Fr. Tom recommended talking with Monroe Catholic High School in Fairbanks, as well. Hopefully there will be deliverables to share on this topic by February or March.

### **PASTOR COMMENTS**

Father Tom noted that everything he wanted to say, he covered at the Rosary Rally earlier in the evening. He was sorry former members Kara Moriarty and Rys Miranda couldn't make it tonight, but noted again he was deeply grateful for everyone's service and to have more eggnog!

### **CLOSING PRAYER // ADJOURNMENT // NEXT MEETING**

The meeting closed in prayer to St. Michael the Archangel at 7:40. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 16th via Zoom.