

**LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**  
**School Board of Directors Meeting**  
**October 18, 2022**

**The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Michelle Hajdukovich at 6:02p via Zoom.**

**Present:** Bill Arnold, Michelle Hajdukovich, Fr. Tom Lilly, Aaron Sperbeck, Dr. Kevin Jones, Marcy Adkins, Audrie Williams, Marcus Holmquist, Deacon Dave Van Tuyl, Anne Gore, Brian Ross, Shane Locke, Daniel George, Kathy Gustafson, Doug Barry, Liz Loeffler

**Absent:** Jim Seeberger

The meeting opened in prayer, led by Father Tom. Members immediately broke into their small working groups (Finance; Development/Marketing/Relations; Lumen Forward) for 20 minutes.

**The meeting was reconvened at 6:20pm.**

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

### Approval of the Agenda

Michelle Hajdukovich moved to approve the agenda, it was seconded by Bill Arnold.

### Approval of the Minutes

Michelle Hajdukovich moved to approve the minutes from 9/20/22, it was seconded by Marcus Holmquist.

### Archdiocesan Perspective

Liz Loeffler joined the meeting from Washington D.C. where she was in meetings on behalf of the Archdiocese. While there wasn't anything significant to report from the AoAJ, she did want to pass on that Archbishop Bellisario loved being able to celebrate the Mass of the Holy Spirit with Lumen Christi students earlier in the month.

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

Kathy Gustafson noted that it had been a busy year so far and it was hard to believe it was the end of the first quarter.

Kathy noted she was thankful for a couple of things: 1) To Anne Gore for assisting Megan Gallagher who Anne's counterpart at SEAS with regard to advancement and fundraising; 2) For being included on the Chris McKenna 'tour' schedule, his presentation was very well received at SEAS; 3) For the Lumen Christi students who were signed up to help with the upcoming SEAS events - Halloween Carnival on 10/28 and Gala on 11/11, which is sold out!

Enrollment is currently 190 students which is the highest it's ever been. There are wait lists for several classes.

Kathy purchased the "Hallow" app for staff who are using it for professional and spiritual growth and development.

After concluding her report, Fr. Tom jumped in to congratulate Sven Gustafson, Kathy's husband on his recent ASD appointment.

#### Lumen Christi Principal's Report

As written and presented, with an apology for misspelling our new Campus Minister's last name! (Berry, not Barry.) Welcome Doug!

#### Mission Moment

This month's Mission Moment was an open introduction/dialogue with Lumen Christi's new Campus Minister, Doug Berry. Doug gave a brief overview on his 31 year career in the private sector with UPS and his current job with both St. Benedict Jr. High Youth Group and Lumen Christi. Doug noted that the take away in retiring from the private sector and being back in Anchorage at St. Benedicts and Lumen Christi meant that he'd gone from a job he needed to a job he wanted. Welcome Doug!

#### School Financial Report

Marcy Adkins presented the monthly financial update. She's still having problems with BlackBaud, the school's tuition management system which has led to some erroneous reporting but was hoping for resolution soon.

The Balance Sheets show large expense supplies for both the school and school admin, but this normally happens in the beginning of the year with textbook, supplies, etc. There are also several large science equipment purchases but those are covered by a grant.

Marcy notes there was a very large deposit today with both the LUMENary Drive and Volleyball Tournament gate/concession proceeds. Overall things look very good and we should be in a good spot at the end of the fiscal year.

### **COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS**

#### Recruitment and Retention

Shane Locke, Chair noted there was nothing to report on this at this meeting but hoped to have more next month after focusing on alumni and thoughts on retaining current families.

Michelle chimed in, noting that this committee seems to have changed a bit in name/function since its creation. Namely that it sometimes includes public relations and marketing, as well as development and wonders if the Lumen Forward committee shouldn't add in particular, development to their scope, vs. having it in Recruitment/Retention.

### Finance

Bill Arnold, Chair echoed Marcy's thoughts above, that things continue to look good. He articulated the front end spending and early costs/deficits with beginning of the year spending, but had every confidence we would get back to a surplus situation.

### Lumen Forward

Aaron Sperbeck, Chair noted that in his opinion, we had knocked it out of the park with our fall Speaker Series with Chris McKenna. Across the board: Elementary/Jr. High/High School - all were very well received.

Michelle Hajdukovich noted there were approximately 105 in person attendees, up to 96 online though that number fluctuated throughout the night with about 40 remaining consistently logged on. Additionally, there had been at least 80 "likes/tags" of the online viewing; and that at least 100 viewers had watched at least 50% of the presentation online after it concluded. It's anticipated that this number will increase!

Aaron thanked Brian Ross and Father Tom for the work in helping coordinate. He pitched an idea for the Spring Speaker series to address 'next steps' after high school - college and trade school preparation; financial planning to support those, etc.

### Development Report

Anne Gore provided the following updates:

1. LUMENary Drive: Solicitations had been sent to all parents, staff, Board Members and parishioners at Saint Benedict parishioners. As in years past, the goal remains 100% staff, board and family participation with a \$75,000 total financial goal. We're nearly at 60% of total funds raised goal (\$44,000) but are lagging in participation rates! Anne notes confidence that the participation rates across the board, with staff/families and Board members will be met.
2. Gala: There's a great team in place and behind the scenes work is starting to ramp up, including donations and sponsorships being solicited.
3. The Annual Report has gone to print - due to its size it won't be printed and distributed in hard copy the way it has been in the past. Instead it will be posted on the school's website with a postcard of the cover mailed to families/donors/parishioners letting them know it was now available online. A select number of copies would be mailed to the Archbishop, AoAJ, Parish Priests and extraordinary donors (anyone contributing above \$1,000.00)

### **BOARD CHAIR COMMENTS**

Michelle started with a thank you to Aaron for a great Speaker Series recap and she had nothing to add beyond it, other than thanks to all who helped make it successful. She then noted the Athletic Department was exploring the idea of becoming a Division 3A (vs. current 1A) school and would be talking to ASAA (Alaska State Activities Association) about

this. There are pro's and con's associated with the move - more information would be forthcoming.

Michelle then noted she was looking for volunteers to work on a Committee with Saint Elizabeth for Catholic Schools week in January.

Moving on to Strategic Planning she noted there was a lot to unpack across multiple categories, e.g., Recruitment, Development, Student Leadership, Excellence etc.

With regard to Excellence - Michelle noted the UAF partnership was a perfect manifestation of that for students as they look towards college! Further "excellence" discussions that would be beneficial include hiring a SPED teacher; as would provision more art/creative endeavors and opportunities for health and wellness, eg. a student weight room.

With regard to Student Leadership, Brian noted that the school's "Faith in Action" hours had been revamped at the beginning of the year, in an effort to have students be more fully engaged and aware of their acts of service vs. "just doing them." Students will be asked to present on their activities to other students and potentially, members of the Board.

Turning towards Recruitment and Retention, it was noted that the updated website would be very helpful with both of these avenues of enrollment/re-enrollment. An active Facebook page and student friendly social media is also helpful. Michelle presented the idea of summer camps as a way of exposing students to the school as well as a post-COVID return to cultural nights which had happened in the past; expanded youth group activities; 6th grade nights; etc.

With regard to the new website, Daniel George noted it was now ".org" vs. ".com" which is what it had previously been, and wondered if school email addresses which are ".com" would be updated to reflect the change to ".org" as well. Anne said that she would look into this.

With time running short, Michelle curtailed her comments and asked the Board to be ready to discuss Development at the November meeting.

### **PASTOR COMMENTS**

Fr. Tom began by thanking Michelle for shepherding the Board through this Strategic Planning! There are many good things happening and we're listening to what parents say.

He also thanked Liz Loeffler for her participation on the Board in her new role as the Archdiocesan representative.

Fr. Tom then noted that he had talked to former Board members Kara Moriarty and Rys Miranda and invited them to the December in-person meeting, during which they can be properly thanked for their time and service to the Board.

And finally, he thanked those Board Members who had contributed to the LUMENary Drive so far, noting that 100% participation is key.

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

The meeting concluded in prayer to St. Michael the Archangel led by Father Tom and adjourned at 7:18.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 15th via Zoom.