



# Mother of Good Counsel School

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## School Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 (Teacher's Lounge)

In Attendance: Fr. Reed, Michelle Hagen, Dan Scholz, Erica Byfield, Anthony Makovec, Rolanda Makovec, Luke Feudner

Meeting began with a prayer by Fr. Reed

Review of January Meeting Minutes: Minutes were approved as submitted. As the website refresh gets finished, minutes will again be available on the school website.

### Pastor's Report:

- Lent is starting soon with Ash Wednesday Mass on March 5<sup>th</sup>.
- It was noted that the 8<sup>th</sup> graders have project-based learning through coordinating games in conjunction with Mardis Gras.

### Principal's Report:

- **Choice Applications** – MGC is signed up for the Milwaukee Choice program with applications being accepted in February, March, April, May, June, and August for the 2025-2026 school year. There will be no Wisconsin Choice this year to save on administrative work and an audit fee. There are no current students enrolled in Wisconsin Choice.
- **Grant Updates** - The FEMA grant is still a focus and will require an additional assessment. The MGC sign is completed, and installation will be happening soon. The digital mapping discussed in connection with the DOJ safety work should be available through Egrants once the appropriate documents are submitted. MGC should qualify for a grant that would secure new computers for all staff, available in August 2025 if approved.
- **Budget (2025-26)** – Work on the budget is to begin soon. Fr. Reed, Michelle, and Sandy to go over the Archdiocese timeline to ensure everything's on track. It's believed enrollment of 175 would be a good number to budget for. It was discussed that the Finance Council requests 3 additional versions to understand possible programming implications if enrollment is above or below 175. There are creative ways to structure instruction to save if necessary, and a budget surplus would allow for program expansion. The important thing is to do what's best for the kids. And ensuring there are highly qualified teachers available is part of the decision criteria. The music program is going well. Spanish, which hasn't been offered recently, could be a benefit, but it's unlikely it would draw Hispanic families from the parish like a bilingual school would.
- **Website Update** – Tony talked to LPI. MGC is at the top of the list for the update and will need a signed contract. Tony, who did St. Margaret Mary's website, said he could do MGC's to avoid additional payment to LPI. Tony partnered with Barb, and Erica said she could be a backup for website updates.
- **Title Services** – MGC receives federal money for disadvantaged students through Title services. MPS receives the money, and MGC receives an allocation. Some of the money is for instruction, and there are two Title teachers at MGC (for reading and math). The teachers do a great job,

there's good classroom management, and good fiscal management of the program. There's an expected surplus of \$12K, which may be used for summer school. (Michelle and Adolpho to coordinate if summer school is pursued). Other possible uses of Title funds could be for a trip to the zoo (giving kids an extra experience) and professional staff development. A letter was received regarding uncertainty of funds in light of changes the new administration is making, but it's believed Title services may continue given its high level of accountability.

- **ECP** – ECP is looking for additional employees. Let Michelle know if someone has interest in afternoon, part-time work. She already connected with Christine from the parish. There was a state visit last week, and violations were minimal (e.g. hand sanitizer should not be in the reach of children). There's an upcoming Young Star Review. The current rating is 4. There are 63 students enrolled. Parents and kids are pleased with the programming, love recipe Tuesdays, and say they want to stay when it's time to leave.
- **Athletics** – Basketball season is winding down with a couple games left. The exciting news is that MGC won two games last weekend and was invited to the Padre tournament.

#### Other New Business:

- **Visitor Policy** – A grandmother of one of the students who came to visit MGC didn't feel welcome. In light of the experience, there's an interest in updating the visitor and volunteer policies so they extend a welcome invitation and also set the requirements and guidelines for a successful visit. It was requested the committee review the current policies and some drafted language and consider what updates should be made. It was also discussed that it could be beneficial for MGC to host safeguarding training.
- **School Safety** – There is a template for the MGC safety plan that needs more specific language/instructions. That will be brought back into the committee for review when appropriate.
- **Teacher Highlights** – A teacher shoutout with profile will be included in KidMail periodically going forward. A big thank you to all MGC teachers and staff!
- **March Meeting** – The March SAC meeting will be rescheduled to Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>.

Closing prayer and dismissal by Fr. Reed.