

# Saint Thomas the Apostle Board of Education Minutes

March 13, 2025 (6:00pm to 8:00pm)

## Opening Prayer - Ryan Corcron lead Prayer

## Pastor Report -

Father Jim toured the preschool, ensuring it remained visible to the parishioners. We need to continue providing ECDC status updates to everyone. Progress will be monitored closely. Father Jim is very pleased with the school, the children, and the overall engagement of the parish in all its dynamic roles.

## Mission Moment - Jamie CC

CC-Theology Teacher came to present.

Each morning begins in chapel, immersing the kids in the Catholic faith in as many ways as possible. The CC kids are actively participating in Aquin's lectures and the community, particularly reaching out to the homeless downtown. Additionally, they engage in a house system (with four houses), where they pray and serve together, connecting deeply with the community. To date, over 9,000 hours of service have been contributed.

There is nothing more practical than finding God and falling in love with Him in an absolute, transformative way. What you love, what captivates your imagination, will shape everything. 'Fall in love, stay in love, and it will decide everything.' — Fr. Pedro Arrupe, SJ"

## Strategic Accreditation:

- We are one year away from the site visit. Jeremiah attended the first accreditation, and now we are reviewing the benchmarks and determining the necessary evidence. The biggest challenge is understanding exactly what evidence is required. For more details, refer to Corcoran's Corner for further insight.
- After accreditation, we will transition to strategic planning, where we will shape our 5-year roadmap. The National Standards of Catholic Education benchmarks (NESBECS) and the Credit Tracking System, which has been used nationally for approximately 13 years, will guide this process.

## Dress Code & Tardiness -

- Certain measurements need to more enforced and/or reviewed further:
  - Socks/ties/uggs/crocs/etc
  - Will continue to review in Chapel with kids.
  - Parents will be bringing in the correct clothes if kids are incorrectly dressed.
  - Tardiness - discussed ways to address the tardiness moving forward. Brainstormed ideas. Example: 1 tardy = 15 min of serving for the parish.

## St. Thomas Staff Exit -

- Created an exit interview document for future reference. Reviewed doc and will begin utilizing this document moving forward.

## Board Committee -

Full slate to vote on in May 2025 to board members for next year.

## Staff Support -

Jeremiah - Continuing with the PLC leads, who serve as the eyes and ears of the staff, meeting regularly with Jeremiah. Professional development (PD) was completed, and literacy was a key focus during the staff week of 3/7. Post-staff meetings have been held to review the curriculum and generate ideas on various topics. We're working on providing resource support and creating time to bring the staff together, offering both emotional and morale support for teachers. Additionally, we're striving to find more dynamic ways to integrate faith into all subjects

## Partner Organization Reports

### Education Foundation (Betsy Edgerton)

- Coaching - basketball going to states! *Absent from meeting*

### Home and School (Genevieve Boyle)

- Next meeting scheduled to talk teacher appreciation week (1st week of May)

### Boosters (Ashley)

- Songfest! *Absent from meeting*
- Met 3/12 - team very engaged to increase visibility across the board (tie dye, table at parts in the park, tailgate) Increasing options across the community and creating that visibility.
- Euchre tournament - in the gym - fundraiser

## Committee Reports

### Finance (Carla Grant/Mark)

- No Reports

### Building and Grounds (Coleman Baar)

- No Reports

### Finance (Mark)

- No Reports

### Policy & Planning (Molly Kennedy)

- No Reports

### Mission Effectiveness (James Wilson)

- **Lecture series** - please be aware and come 5/5 Brook Shannon on behalf of problems with cell (tech).

### Committee on Directors (Meredith Maczka)

- No Reports

### Development and Outreach (Betsy Edgerton)

- No Reports

### Marketing and Communications (David Shankin)

- Awaiting identity refresh
- New family booklet (continuing fwd)

### Principal's Report (Ryan Corcoran)

- Please read report out online

### Previous Meeting Minutes Approval

- Brian minutes 2/13/24: approval of board minutes: James motioned to approve, Anne seconded - **passed**.

### Concluding Prayer

### Ryan Closes w/ prayer

### Attendance

#### **14 Voting Directors:**

Chair, Brian Hillary: Present

Vice Chair, Elissa Williams: *Absent*

Secretary, Jake Smith: Present

Building and Grounds Committee chair, Coleman Baar: *Absent*

Finance and Fiscal Development Committee chair, Mark Fjelsted: *Absent*

Marketing Committee chair, David Shankin: *Absent*

Mission Effectiveness Committee chair, James Wilson: Present

Policy & Planning Committee chair: Molly Kennedy: *Absent*

Board of Directors Committee chair: Meredith Maczka: Present

At Large Member, Michelle Anderson: Present

At Large Member, Jamie McCabe: Present

At Large Member, Mary Vonk: *Absent*

#### **Ex Officio Members and/or guests**

Pastor, Fr. Jim: *Absent*

Principal, Ryan Corcoran: Present

Jermiah Sluggett, Present

Development & Outreach chair, Betsy Edgerton: *Absent*

Financial, Carla Grant: *Absent*

Home and School, Genevieve Boyle: Present

Boosters: Ashley Emmerson: *Absent*

Visiting, none