

BOARD OF EDUCATION SUMMARY - 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

The Board of Education works closely with our school staff and administration to cultivate the mission of the school to its fullest extent. The Board is proud to have supported St. Gabriel the Archangel School through another school year, and we look forward with optimism to the upcoming year. Major updates and proceedings of the Board over the 2022-2023 school year are as follows:

Education: One of the major responsibilities of the Board is to support the educational goals identified by school faculty and administration to “develop the whole child,” academically, emotionally, and in the Catholic Faith. This past school year included monitoring the recent curriculum updates in math and language arts as well as the opening of a new STEM lab and updates to the learning annex. The board also endorsed recommendations to continue supporting utilization of learning consultants into the new school year.

Safety: In coordination with the St. Gabriel Auction Committee, the Safety Committee coordinated proposals and bids for this year’s Fund-A-Need focused on

enhancing welcoming and safety throughout the building including a new stage curtain in the gym, NGS safety film installed on outside doors and ground floor windows, updated signage, crisis supplies, walkie talkies and an audiometer. The board also began initial planning for a comprehensive emergency operations plan which will continue into the next school year. The safety committee will also incorporate the Living Our Faith liaison going forward to consider safety in all its forms within the school community.

Policy: The Board published an updated handbook with revised structure and organization to provide enhanced clarity and usability for both parents and school administration.

Finance: Alongside parish and school administration, the Board finalized the 2023-24 budget and set registration fees for the upcoming school year. While tuition still falls short of the full cost of educating students at St. Gabriel and takes advantage of parish support of the school, the increases for the upcoming school year were comparable or below similar percentage increases for Catholic schools in the area. The budget also took into consideration an archdiocesan recommendation for increases in teacher salary as well as maintaining some programs and staffing that began with governmental

grants but delivered benefits worth including in our budget as those grants sunsetted. The finance committee also led a *Giving Tuesday* initiative for the second straight year.

Technology: Throughout the school year, the Technology committee meets to provide guidance to the school as it pertains to technology purchases, technology fees and allocation of governmental grants. The Board is also committed to ongoing review of the technology fee to make sure its purpose is clear and it is able to meet the technology needs of the school while also providing funds for insurance of items not under warranty or unanticipated needs that arise during the school year. The technology committee also moved forward with a new lunch ordering software.

Mission & Communications: The Board of Education continued to support Mission alongside the Living Our Faith Committee, SEL counselors and staff incorporating "incorporating Catholic Social Teaching into curriculum and school policies." The board also supports PFA Community Outreach and this year's school-wide volunteerism on Make a Difference Day. The committee supported a number of school communications throughout the year including Giving Tuesday, Open House, enrollment communications, auction support and annual public summary as well as communicating

between the school and broader parish regarding the All Things New process.

The Board of Education meets on the third Thursday of every month. Meetings are closed sessions, but an open forum is available for parents and parishioners who are interested in sharing a topic for consideration. All such topics must be provided in writing prior to the meeting and should include at least one solution for consideration. All parents and parishioners are also encouraged to contact Board members with questions and suggestions at any time. Board members serve a three-year term and are elected via a parish-wide election each spring. Please contact 2023-24 Board President Shawn McLain (shawnmcl@gmail.com) with any questions.

2023-2024 Parish Board of Education

Shawn McLain (President), Laura Kloos (Vice President), Kristen Favazza (Secretary), Renee Angeli, Kathy Daily, Joanna Fisher, Lacy Gassner, Angelica Herbert, Margaret Lake, Dan Reynolds, Kate Wacker, John Weller, Tonya McEnery (Principal), Julie Smith (Assistant Principal), Deborah DaLay (CRE), Fr. Thomas Molini (Pastor)