

## **St. Paul the Apostle School Board Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting held: October 19, 2010**

**[www.stpaul-school.org](http://www.stpaul-school.org)**

**Present:** Lori Salva, Jeff Potter, Dale Manske, Steve Cole, Emily Teed,  
Celine Terranova, Greg Lauria

**Guests:** Ms. Gutting

**I. Meeting opened with prayer.**

**II. Presidents Report** – Jeff introduced our guest speaker Superintendent Dave Faber

**III. Vision for Catholic Schools Diocese of Grand Rapids** – Dave Faber

**A. An Alliance of Catholic Schools** – Dave talked about recognizing we have an opportunity to foster and develop an alliance of Catholic schools. He emphasized it means creating a “culture of collaboration” but that it needs to be done with respect to the existing culture and traditions of our unique schools.

1. Inquiry – we need to start the process of seeking out opportunities to collaborate
2. Transparency – it will be critical that the diocese and its member schools work together to provide greater transparency which is something Superintendent Faber recognizes has been lacking.
3. Response – Superintendent Faber and his office are working on reaching out to our community schools and gather responses to the Vision for Catholic Schools.
4. Improvement – As the vision is sharpened in the coming months improvements can be made

**B. Mission founded on three pillars**

1. Faith formation – a key element that differentiates us from public schools
2. Community participation – critical to reach out to our community regardless of their affiliation with the school
3. Academic rigor – need to work harder to create a more challenging academic environment

**C. Mission Focused Work in our schools**

1. Prayer and sacraments
2. Strong relationships
3. Transparent communication
4. Global universal perspective
5. Desire to go where the students are
6. Robust academic programs
7. Leadership by example
8. Positive outlook and a “do whatever it takes attitude”

**D. Customized Schools**

1. Small schools – serving primarily rural and some urban areas
2. Urban schools – serving large or growing populations of minority, immigrant or families of poverty
3. City Edge schools – serving primarily suburban schools like St. Paul
4. Multi-Parish schools
5. High Schools
6. Satellite schools with shared administration and services – growing suburban or rural Catholic populations

**E. Vision – Leading the Nation**

1. An innovative 21<sup>st</sup> century approach to growing Catholic education
2. Affordable and accessible to families willing to invest their time, talent and treasure
3. The mission will be righteous, rigorous and relevant

In summary Superintendent Faber was very enthusiastic about the vision for our schools and articulated the vision very well. He will continue to reach out to our Catholic school community both formally with surveys and meetings and informally.

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:40PM**

**Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday, November 16**

Regards,

Steve Cole, Secretary