

**SMOTH School Commission Planning Meeting for AY 2014**  
**7/26/2013**

Attendees: Fr. Jerry Ragan, Joe McBride, Rhee Fincher

Updates

- St. Teresa's will break ground for new church 8/2013; expected to open mid 2015; there are no current plans for developing a new school at St. Teresa and none are expected as long as St. Mary's School has space available
- Bus – Joe expects to purchase a 14-passenger bus for use at the beginning of AY 2014

School Commission planning for AY 2014 – Recommendations from planning meeting

- Invite all School Commission members to retreat (St. Mary's, Immaculate Conception, and Aquinas) – 8/13/2013, 8 AM – 12 N (8-9 meeting; 9:15 Mass; 10-12 meeting)
- SC members will be invited to fall and spring PTO meetings – no formal presentation; just to mingle
- Major emphasis for SC for AY 2014 – **Marketing and enrollment**
  - Ask Tony Ramage if he would continue as Marketing Committee chair
  - Discuss and determine specific goals for the year
  - Continue promoting school through Welcome Committee (Alisha Ramage)
  - Reach out to CCD (attend events where CCD parents are invited – e.g., coffee and doughnuts in vestibule during CCD time on some days provided by the school)
  - Topics for Marianite
    - IT at school – e.g., new i-Pads and how used for learning at school and home
    - Cutting costs – improving quality (feature Jimmy Carrick)
- Promote accomplishments
  - Advertise additions to school such as Smart Boards and i-Pads (provided by donors); cite other philanthropic opportunities (analogous to “giving” a pew in the church)
- Invite Mary Davis to speak at SC meeting
  - How can SC help with fund raising for school?
  - Giving opportunities such as giving framed picture of a patron saint for each classroom
- 100 years of Catholic education in the Hill celebration
  - October 19, 2013 – All School Commission members encouraged to attend celebration
- Initiate awarding St. Joseph Medal annually to one person who has contributed greatly to the school over a substantial period of time
  - Begin with the 100 years celebration
  - Bishop will present medal at Mass
- Catholic identity – Identify each classroom with the image of a patron saint, selected by the students in each grade, beginning with grade 8 (saint/room, not one/grade)
  - Seek donors to support the image of each saint
- Ongoing stewardship formation
  - Parents sign contract when children matriculate at school, so they should understand the expectations
- Budget – are there areas where we can decrease operating costs without hurting quality?
  - SC role – understand principles of stewardship as they apply to school; be able to answer questions about the principles, realizing that the school would be smaller if we used a tuition rather than stewardship model