

**DPA School Board Agenda**  
**2024-2025**

September 12, 2024  
7:00-8300 pm  
SJ Campus

- 1) **Opening prayer** (Fr. Andrew)
- 2) **Roll Call-** (Becky)
  - a) Present- Father Andrew, Kate Beuschel, Adam Taylor, Jennie Taylor, Leanne Lipski, Christina Watkowski, Misty Conran, Taylor McGough, Tonya Fritz, Jason Smith, Becky Porter
  - b) Absent-
- 3) **Approval of previous minutes:** Minutes approved ()
- 4) **Approval of agenda:** Agenda Approved ()
- 5) **Administration update** (enrollment, staffing, other) (Kate)
  - a) **SC Campus**
    - i) **Ms. Hoyle is helping to cover preschool at both campuses to help reduce staff salary expenses**
  - b) **SJ Campus**
    - i) **two new K-8 enrollment**

**Jackson Public School has contracted with DPA. Jackson is a shared time program that pays K and Specials for certified teachers. Jackson gets to count DPA kids for count \$. With this arrangement, Jackson helps pay the salary of DPS special teachers.**

**Coopersville would like to move away from busing DPA kids. But this will not happen in reality.**

**Accreditation will start in March 2025. We are reviewing standard 10 - 13 tonight. 10-13 looks at the financial plan for DPA.**

**Christina Watkowski is now acting admin at both campuses**

**3 new teachers at St. Campus**

**6) Action item / committee review**

- a) **Finance:** (Taylor)
  - i) Finance front loaded the auction donation at the beginning of the year to help off-set expenses.
  - ii) Grants were able to off-set the cost of the All Belong Contact to help reduce expense in the school budget
  - iii) St. Joseph Campus - Cost per student was calculated at \$9,924.61. Tuition rate is \$4,275.00 cost difference is -\$19,180.85.
  - iv) St. Catherine's Campus - Cost per student was \$23,455.85, Tuition rate same as above with cost difference being -\$19,180.85 This rate is based on the 2023-2024 school year at St. Catherine's.
  - v) Toddler program at St. Catherine's is projected to open in October 2024
  - vi) St. Joseph's Parish is paying the cost of maintenance fees this school year, which is different from the 2023-2024 school year. Another financial saving
- b) **Development:** (Christina)
  - i) We received \$8,700 from Muskegon Community Foundation for a new toddler room at St. Catherine's.. John Conran is working on getting that set up. We will have a grand opening when it is complete.
  - ii) PLTW - Received grant for STEM programming. Deferred the grant due to the training program until 25/26 & 26/27 school years. Teacher will go through training and the cost will be covered by the grant

iii) Applied for Catholic Foundation Grant for a Marian garden at St. Joseph's

c) **Building and Grounds:** (Jason)  
i) Windows, doors and roofs will be upcoming expenses down the road but no surprises coming up

d) **Strategic planning/Policy:** (Misty)  
i) Will be sharing with the finalized strategic plan with both parishes in the coming months

e) **Mission Effectiveness:** ()  
i) Mission statement needs to be completed so Father Andrew can approve it.  
ii) Father will attend a staff meeting with the teachers to discuss the mission statement and come up with a few options. The options will be presented at the next board meeting to finalize and approve the new mission statement.

f) **Marketing:** (Christina)  
i) Purchased Welcome to DPA signs that we will be putting in new families yards.  
ii) Need a marketing person to join the board so Christina can focus more on her admin responsibilities and grants.

#### 7) HSA/Auction update

a) SJ/SC HSA- (Jennie Taylor)  
i) Currently working on merging SC and SJ by laws to create one DPA HSA.  
ii) Parent involvement from both campuses has been great so far this year. There has been some concern from SC parents that the SC fall auction is not happening. This year's auction chairs for SJ, Kaity and Curt Dietrich, are open to involving SC in the planning and renaming the SJ auction to DPA only. Instead of having SJ in the name.

#### 8) Open discussion:

- a) Make sure new members have board email addresses and are added to the BOD group email list so all are included in one email.
- b) need to finalize the mission statement/vision statement that was being updated as of last school year and get it approved so that it can go out on all marketing materials and social media
- c) create a flier format and a poster format of our updated strategic plan to go in the back of church for parishioners and school parents
  - i) needs to be easy to read and be able to show accomplishments and objectives of the plan

Next Meeting is: October 24th at SC Campus. 7:00 PM

**Vision:** *Divine Providence Academy welcomes all students to receive an individualized education in a nurturing environment centered in God and in service to others*

**Mission:** As a Catholic Academy, we cultivate courageous servants of God through prayer and education, providing a spiritual foundation for growth.

**Divine Providence Prayer**

O loving Providence of God, please guide me in my journey of life. Your love is greater than my difficulties and stronger than all my temptations. I cannot live without your grace. Though I will sin a million times, you always forgive me. You will always take care of me. For you, I will forget about myself, my thoughts, and my fears. Help me to hope in you, even in my darkest hours. Guide me through my path of life with your tender heart and protective care.

Providence did provide, Providence can provide, Providence will provide. O loving Providence of God, I commit this cause to you. Amen.