



Our mission at St. Mary Magdalen Catholic School is to educate, model, and inspire faith, academic excellence, integrity, respect and service within ourselves and the global community.

### **School Commission Agenda: January 2026**

Date: January 13th, 2026

Location: Library 5pm-6:30pm

Attending: Bernie, Ashley, Nicole, Dan, Mike, Andrew, Rochelle, Christian, Brett, Jen

#### **I. Opening – 5:00-5:15pm**

Prayer - Nicole

Opening Remarks – Ashley/Bernie

- All staff are returning next year!
- Working on annual accreditation
- Distinguished Graduate
  - Tri Nguyen, Jan 29
  - Parent Club reception after

Approval of Last Month's Minutes - Ashley

#### **II. New Business – 5:15-6:00pm**

'26-'27 Budget - Bernie/Group

- Create a multi-year budget – 2-5 years
- Based on 350 students, 5 less families from last year
- Being conservative
- Need to close the gap of salary and inflation increases
- Increased fundraising

- Maintain financial aid to families
- There isn't designated money that will go into the Deferred Maintenance account
- Trying not to raise tuition this year, tuition is close to other schools around us
- Create a spreadsheet to show increases, while keeping a comfortable amount in Deferred Maintenance

### **III. Updates – 6:00-6:30pm**

#### **Budget - Bernie**

- Fulcrum donation – stained glass window
- Donations from Christmas alumni cards

#### **Facilities/Security - Rochelle/Bernie**

- Storage containers – Assign the groups to go through and see in February – School - Safety, Parent Club (cage downstairs), Drama (closet)
- Interviewed for a new custodian
- Front and interior doors have been filmed for protection
- Looking into cameras for outside
- Fobbed doors
- Phones are working
- Blinds are in along the front, and the next phase will continue to go down the primary wing

#### **IT - Christian**

- Phone system is in, which is getting savings
- Next focus is to clean the tech closet in the library, which is costing a lot
- Erate starts this month, pricing break for technology services
- What can Ziply do for us
- Hoping for another computer cart for a primary wing, have to schedule with three other grades

#### **Legal – Brett**

- Urging Washington in, legislative, IRS collected comments about the program – keep procedures not being, publish guidance submit to treasure for states to opt in, free money to students, concern that it's a road to a voucher, some benefit to public schools, we can help for after care, list of organizations by 2027, publish rules in the spring, 2026 K-12 cut state school funds, individuals can donate to it

Teachers – Nicole

#### General Climate

- Students and teachers are refreshed and happy to see friends after the Christmas break
- Teachers are celebrating each other and recognizing acts of kindness and service through Teacher Be Irish Slips

#### Highlights Happening!

- 2nd grade preparing for First Reconciliation
- 1st graders preparing for Catholic Schools Week – prayer service
- 1st graders are learning how to use the library database to research information on penguins and create penguin reports/
- 4th grade huge improvements in DIBELS from BOY to MOY in both accuracy and WPM
- 4th grade prepping for National Parks essay by writing multi-paragraph essays to help build stamina
- 6th, 7th, 8th grade Drama students are working hard on our production of The Little Mermaid Jr. which will be performed at the PUD Theater again in March.
- Kindergarten will start attending the all school masses January 14th. They have been practicing and are excited to attend with the big kids. They will be celebrating 100th Day of school on Feb. 5th with a day filled with counting and math activities
- We have new books in the Library from Votive Word on Fire. They support Catholic teaching. These were purchased using book fair proceeds. Grades 3-8 are participating in a Novel Reading Challenge where they can enter to win prizes for the next three months. This is to encourage them to read books other than graphic novels. Students in

K-5 are being introduced to research sites, software, and materials used for completing research papers.

**STEM Update:**

- **3rd Grade:** Students will be creating snowflake models using a specific set of materials. They will work within given lesson constraints as they design and assemble their snowflakes, practicing planning, problem-solving, and creativity.
- **4th Grade:** Students will design and build paper chairs that must be strong enough to hold a stuffed animal. They may only use **two pieces of cardstock, masking tape, scissors, and a pencil**, encouraging thoughtful engineering and efficient use of materials.
- **5th Grade:** Students will design rockets that travel on SAM Labs cars. As the rockets pass an RGB LED “star,” the light will become brighter or dimmer depending on the rocket’s distance, introducing concepts of motion, distance, and sensor-based technology.
- Library/Tech: 6th graders are completing their digital art nativity scenes using Google Sheets.
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade went to Seattle’s MoPop

Marketing - Ashley

- Pick a target day (in February) for parent survey, last year it was during Catholic Schools Week
- Fund-a-Need
- Fundraising page on our website to show upcoming donation ideas
- Experiencing fund-raising fatigue
- Special QR code for Catholic Schools Week

Parents’ Club – Andrew

- Bingo was great
- Donuts at Catholic Schools Week
- Irish Blessings for teachers

