

Fr. McGivney Catholic High School Committee Summary

(based on committee work completed in December 2008 and January 2009)

Doug Villhard, **Board President**, stated that we are looking forward to an exciting 2009. Each committee has set aggressive, yet attainable goals for the new year. Our focus has shifted primarily to fundraising and we're off to a fantastic start.

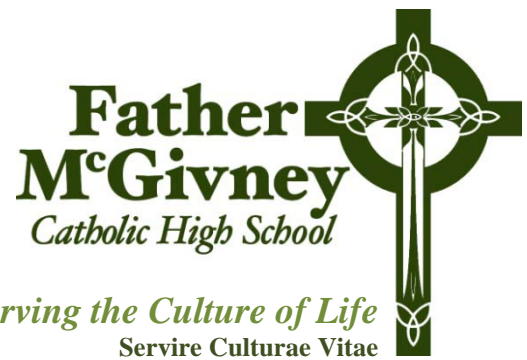
Fr. Tom Meyer, chair of the **Faith Formation Committee**, shared the committee's first measurable goal for 2009 is: "Developing (and evaluating) the Theology Curriculum." They have further identified strategies for developing the curriculum: 1. studying the US Bishops' document, 2. inviting Theology Chairs from reputable Catholic High Schools to speak to our committee on curriculum development and 3. once the curriculum has been developed, it should be evaluated against those of other Catholic high schools.

The committee proposed the idea of forming a separate subcommittee to develop the Faith Formation Program of McGivney Catholic H.S. (as distinct from the Theology Curriculum). The Faith Formation Program would follow the tenets of the Mission Statement, with the primary focus of *forming students as Christian disciples*. Campus ministry, retreats, sacramental life, service program, and days of recollection would all fall into this category. Fr. Chuck Edwards attended the January committee meeting and shared his experiences & knowledge of providing faith formation to teenage students in Catholic high schools and youth ministry.

The Faith Formation committee is beginning to work on molding the feasibility of forming a Campus Ministry program around the Mission Statement created for McGivney Catholic High School. The proposal is to have each pillar of the mission statement be developed as an overall formation theme for each of the academic years. Mini-retreats and days of recollection could be developed throughout the academic year which focuses on that year's theme. In this program the high school has as its overall mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ who will know how to properly integrate their faith with the greatest traditions enshrined in the U.S. Declaration of Independence and Constitution. Through this proper integration we are forming students who will be "Serving the Culture of Life."

The following are some of we might consider for each of the four academic years:

Freshman Year: Who is Jesus Christ? What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?
(Unity) What are the privileges and obligations of being a disciple of Jesus Christ?
 How do I respond to the call of Jesus Christ?



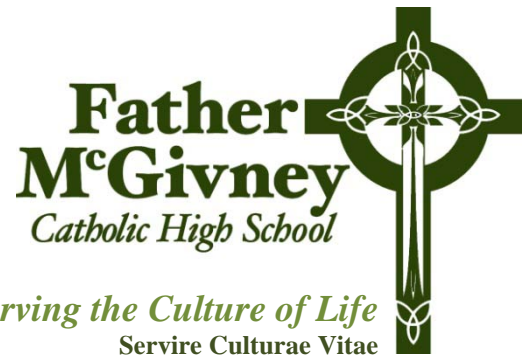
Sophomore Year: (Charity)	As a disciple of Jesus Christ what is the importance of charity/service? What does it mean to offer a total gift of self? What is the Culture of Life, and how do I make positive decisions which respect it? How is my sexuality connected to this total gift of self? (Chastity/Theology of the Body).
Junior Year: (Fraternity)	What does it mean to be a member of the Church? What is my sacramental participation in the Church? How do my gifts connect to the overall mission of the Church? What is my relationship to my parish and how do I share my gifts with my parish?
Senior Year: (Patriotism)	How is my faith integrated into my relationship with my country, state, local community? How does my faith guide me to defend the dignity and worth of the person? How am I called to faithfully evaluate the political platforms of parties and candidates? How do I engage my conscience in voting as a faithful citizen? How do I engage the federal, state, local governments to effect policy for the common good?

Dr. Chris Wangard, chair of the **Site Selection Committee**, continues to work with the Village of Glen Carbon and has provided a draft of the pre-annexation agreement to the committee and Chair of Village Board for review. Chris hopes to be on the Village's meeting agenda within the next two months. The closing date for the selected high school site is in March 2009.

The **Design and Building Committee**, co-chaired by Mary Beth Wilson and Gregg Korte, continue to meet monthly with the architects. The architects presented two options for the school to the Board in December. The groups reviewed the plans and budget for each option. The architects have asked that the Board to provide direction as to which Phase I design is to be further developed into design documents. This will be determined by the success of the capital campaign by April 2009. This will help in determining which accommodations will be included in Phase I of FMCHS.

The Design and Building Committee and the architects continue to work on ways to improve the school layout while meeting our budgetary needs. The Board would like to maximize the undeveloped site so the architects are investigating if 30 acres could be preserved. They are also designing a classroom wing to accommodate 300 students per a request from the Board.

Maureen Wangard, chair of the **Capital Campaign Steering Committee (CCS)**, stated that the committee is in the planning process for the capital campaign kick-off on April 26. The CCS will be working with PR/Marketing in planning the event with the CCS handling the campaign related portion. The kick-off day is more of a PR event in that the purpose is to get people excited about the school. Maureen is also planning a visit to St. James Academy (Lenexa, KS) for February. Maureen and other Board members plan to discuss many aspects of SJA including capital campaign, faith formation, curriculum and building & design.



The Prospect Review Committee had two meetings in December with donors, both meetings went very well and the donors committed financially to FMCHS.

The Receptions Committee had two receptions in the past couple of months. Both receptions were hosted by FMCHS Board members. Several additional receptions are planned; one more in Jan, two in February, three in March, one in April, and another in June. The follow-up contact will be done by the person who knows the potential donor or Maureen with the consultants.

The PR/Marketing Committee has a new chairperson, Diane Villhard. The committee continues to be very busy and productive. They are proud to announce that FMCHS was presented a Knights of Columbus Chalice from the family of Walter Luber in December.

In addition, the campaign video has been completed by Chris McGovern. He did an awesome job presenting a compelling message to join our efforts and ask for donations. The video is currently being shown at our receptions and it will be linked to the FMCHS website. The website re-design was completed by Diane Villhard. The look and feel is similar to that of the brochure and video.

Informational meetings were held at St. Boniface in late November. PR/Marketing would like to host meetings at all parishes within the next few months. Board liaisons are working with their parishes to find a date; our intention is to get the word out to the congregation on what is happening with the high school.

Several other items being worked on by PR/Marketing include: 1.) an ad in the Catholic Times featuring FMCHS with the area Catholic grade schools for Catholic Schools Week, 2.) working with the CCS committee in planning the public kick-off event in April, 3.) logo shirts/sweatshirts design, 4.) ongoing bulletin announcements and 5.) plans for a mascot and school colors contest.

The next Board meeting will be on February 26, 2009 at 7pm – location Fr. McGivney Catholic High School office in Edwardsville.

