

FROM THE CHAIR

What an exciting time at Bishop Foley Catholic High School!

This past Sunday, November 3, 2024, over 100 prospective students and their families were met with an enthusiastic crew of student and parent ambassadors. Trevor Tyle, Kaitlyn Chornoby and Allison Hoover did an incredible job putting together this great event. I especially thought the teacher and faculty presentations were extremely informative, warm, and welcoming to all. We certainly have a very special community, and the Board certainly appreciates everyone's efforts.

The next exciting event at Bishop Foley is the Amy Uebbing Annual Auction on November 15, 2024. The event is sold out, but you can get your virtual tickets to bid on the silent auction items and support the school.

The Bishop Foley Catholic Board of Directors meets every month. Our last meeting was held on October 7, 2024. As many of you may know, Bishop Foley Catholic High School is part of the pilot program in launching the new Board-based organizational school structure throughout the Archdiocese of Detroit. We are continuing to evolve our by-laws, Board guidelines, and are in the process of creating a handbook. These will be used as a template for all Catholic schools throughout this region.

At our most recent meeting, the Board reviewed the Financial Report submitted to the Archdiocese for the 2023-2024 school year. Bishop Foley Catholic expended \$4,314,185.42 during the last school year. The average cost to educate each student is \$14,150. The cost to educate a student remains higher than the cost of tuition charged, and this gap continues to be bridged through extensive school fundraising efforts. The Financial Report was reviewed during the Board meeting and approved.

Additional items reviewed during the October meeting were the accreditation process, AP Honor Roll, and the Staff Report. The Advancement Director made a presentation about all the exciting events happening around Bishop Foley with both admissions and also alumni outreach. The Board was introduced to our New Alumni Engagement Coordinator, Antonette Slobodian, who discussed her new pilot podcast program, Facebook outreach, and Grandparents Club. Ms. Hoover made her presentation regarding advancement activities, including a status report for the annual auction.

Nine local parishes have agreed to allow Bishop Foley Catholic to send parent representatives to answer questions about our school after Sunday masses.

Prior to the Board of Directors meeting, six different focus groups had their committee sessions. We could certainly use more members to join these committees. They meet approximately three or four times a year. The Board member who chairs each of these six different committees made their respective presentations at the Board meeting. During the Board meeting, much of the focus was on new artificial turf for the football field, which needs to be replaced. Much discussion was held on how to finance this new project.

In an effort to serve the school better, Board members participated in a training program on Monday, October 21 at 6:30 PM. Steve Perla from ADAC and his staff presided over this Zoom teleconference. Additional training sessions are anticipated in the future.

Once again, thank you for everyone's efforts in helping make Bishop Foley such a great community. The students, faculty, and parents will all be receiving a survey to help us better highlight your priorities and suggestions for this school year. The survey will be sent out at the beginning of December, and we would ask everyone to participate so we can examine the results and the Board can act on them to make further improvements.

God Bless.

Tim Finegan
Board Chair