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Community Meeting – School Strategies

To Review and Prioritize Strategies

May 22 & 23, 2017



Opening Prayer & Thoughts

- ▶ Let us pray † – “Dear GOD, we want Your will above everything else. We’re not just asking You to bless whatever plan we devise – we want and need Your wisdom. We want to move by Your direction and in Your timing. We want to work together to help provide Our Lady of Good Counsel Community with what You want them to have and do in Your name. LORD, please send the Holy Spirit to guide our thoughts and keep our hearts tuned to Yours.” AMEN †
- ▶ GOD placed Adam in the Garden “to work it and take care of it” – Genesis 2:15
- ▶ “The wisdom of the prudent is to give thought to their ways.” - Proverbs 14:8
- ▶ As we proceed – let’s continue to ask “LORD, what is your direction in this area?”



OLGC Mission Statement

WE, AS MEMBERS OF OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL PARISH,
STRIVE TO WITNESS TO THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST BY

PROCLAIMING OUR FAITH,
EDUCATING OURSELVES AND OUR CHILDREN,
SHARING OUR PERSONS, RESOURCES, AND GIFTS
IN THE CARE AND SERVICE
OF ONE ANOTHER.

WE ARE CALLED TO FOSTER
AN ENVIRONMENT OF HOSPITALITY
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPIRITUALITY OF
ST. FRANCIS DE SALES.



Pastoral Planning Cycle





Values

To clarify what we stand for and believe in.....
These are used to Identify who we are, highlight
Theology and guide Action

- ▶ Prayer and Worship
- ▶ Faith Building
- ▶ Service to Others
- ▶ Family-focused
- ▶ Inclusive - Hospitality

**These are the values recommended by the Joint Councils
(Pastoral and Finance) and were reviewed during Mission
Planning**



Joint Councils 5 Year Visions

- 1) We know our community – Census – know their talents
- 2) Pre-School in Place
- 3) Continued Improvements in Liturgy & Worship
- 4) Diversity of School and Parish Activities in line with local community
- 5) OLGC/SJN – Known as local Center of Salesian Spirituality
- 5) Physical Plant – totally accessible and promotes the highest level of function
- 6) Fully enrolled school catering to students with all levels of abilities
- 7) In Place Funding for School Tuition Assistance – scholarships
- 8) Improved communication of activities into the community
- 9) Satisfy the hunger for involvement in OLGC activities
(possibly bring the Vienna offerings here)
- 10) Active Small Faith Groups



Mission Areas Definition

- ▶ Liturgy & Worship
- ▶ Faith Formation
- ▶ Community – Fellowship
- ▶ Community - Outreach
- ▶ **School**

Supporting Functions

Communications

Development

Facilities

Technology

Financial

Administrative



School

Activities

- After-School Activities
- Clubs
- Devotion/Adorations/Prayers
- Educational Curriculum
- Pre-School
- PTO Activities
- Salesian Spirituality in Curriculum
- Sacramental Formation
- Weekly School Mass
- DFE Planning in 2017

Resources

- Facilities
- Financials
- School Volunteers
- Staffing
- Technology

Strategy Areas

- Faith – fellowship, outreach, spiritual environment
- Curriculum – academic areas, meeting needs of diverse learners
- Services – extra curricular activities, opportunities for fellowship
- 21st Century Learners – using technology, problem solvers
- Community – communication, feeling in touch with the School



School – Things we are doing well

- Educating our children in the faith
- Technology is always improving
- Beautiful campus with nicely maintained facilities
- Welcoming environment
- Children are safe and secure throughout the day
- Strong with our academics
- Helping our students be 21st Century Learners
- STREAM activities (Science Technology Religion Engineering Art Math) cross-curricular activities



School – Faith Strategies

Strategy Description

A. Need more “Faith in the Field Activities” (visits to Catholic Charities, Veteran’s facilities, Animal Shelters)

- Could be done with prayer partners.
- Could be one concentration per grade.

B. Continue to hold school Mass every week, class Mass per month can be additional

C. Participate in Parish wide employee team retreat

D. Introduce retreats for children



School – Curriculum Strategies

Strategy Description

A. Implementation of Pre-K program for 2018-2019 school year

B. Parents Support at Home – parents need to understand teaching objectives and techniques to support teacher goals

C. More reading in Middle School – DEAR
(Drop Everything and Read) time

D. Improved Quality in Hiring (example - find teachers with incentives – such as undergrad scholarships)

E. Consistent orientation/indoctrination for new teachers

F. Explore improvements in Science Program, balance hands on lab work vs. video labs, Science Fair process, etc.



School – Curriculum Strategies Cont.

Strategy Description

- A. Improved Parent and Middle School student feedback on how teachers are doing
- B. Review requirements for Middle School Honor Roll for potential improvements
- C. Explore implementation of more writing assignments while better communicating about existing work of our students and the contests entered
- D. Review field trips to ensure objectives are properly aligned with curriculum
- E. Offer more gym classes each week



School – Curriculum Strategies Cont.

Strategy Description

F. Continue to improve in our ability to teach children of all levels, reaching each child's needs to the best of our ability

- Further expand the use of the Academic Support Center, including the use of specialists
- Expand use of instructional assistants as class size indicates
- Emphasize more student-centered learning vs. teacher directed to ensure students of all levels are learning
- Explore options for high achieving students, such as possibility of offering Geometry to 8th graders
- Review multi-sensory learning approach to ensure videos are used in the classroom for curriculum needs and objectives to enhance learning



School – Services Strategies

Strategy Description

A. Explore more leadership opportunities for students (8th grade jobs, Student Council, Peer Tutoring, etc.)

B. Review CYO Sports and Facilities for new opportunities

- Baseball / Softball brought back
- Volleyball just started
- Consider building a track

C. Consider expansion of after school activities offered for students K – 3

D. Review/Reconsider Grace Arts Program



School – Services Strategies

Strategy Description

E. Improve the ECAP program

- Increase training opportunities for staff members
- Ensure policies and procedures are in place and followed
- Provide more structured activities and routines for students
- Review the possibility of morning drop-off at 7 am



School – 21st Century Learners

Strategy Description

- A. Educate parents on resources available along with iPads or textbooks
- B. Offer a class on internet safety for parents
- C. Review and Improve Health and Wellness classes
- D. Provide a Career Day for students
- E. Continued STREAM centered approach



School – Community Strategies

Strategy Description

A. Improve school to parent communications:

- Increased timeliness of communication as things happen (when possible and appropriate)
- Better mobile friendly website design
- Increase consistent communication in the same grade level
- Provide announcements in multi-media formats (such as podcasts, blogs, videos, etc.)
- Implement a time for round table discussions with parents and administration

B. Increase the number of student – teacher conferences

C. Increase participation in the PTO



School – Community Strategies

Strategy Description

D. Create a “How to Guide” for Parents

E. Educate parents properly on how class lists are created and information disseminated to parents

F. Explore opportunity to establish a program for students with different needs (similar to an Options program)

G. Increase number of volunteer opportunities for parents and parishioners at the school in various ways

H. Expand communications into Vienna about OLGC (for current and prospective parents)

I. Review carpool procedures, enforce expectations to ensure compliance and safety of students



School – Community Strategies

Strategy Description

J. Review ways to engage alumni to continue to be active members of OLGC community

K. Evaluate and update dress code

L. Improve upon our Parish wide, school led community outreach events (Example of Green Initiative Events - Giant paper bags, Shred Event, etc.)

M. Resubmit and obtain Blue Ribbon Status

N. Improve ways to display children's work throughout community (both in school and in Vienna)

O. Create and execute an aggressive enrollment management plan for grade levels with low numbers



Survey

- Strategies
- Volunteers / Leaders?
- Sponsors for unfunded projects?
- Your ideas
- Contact?
- Name or anonymous