



Advisory Board Minutes

Trinity Catholic School will provide excellence in education and meaningful formation to prepare minds for a lifetime and souls for eternity.

10/22/25

Members

Present	☐ Joe Godina, Principal	☐ Molly McElgunn, Booster Club President
	☒ Father Meng, Chaplain	☐ Jenny Armour
	☒ Father Weldon	☐ Stuart Bornholdt
	☒ Father Spexarth	☐ Irene Faudoa
	☐ Janet Eaton, Superintendent	☐ Jill Guajardo
	☐ Shannan Miller, Development Director	☐ Steve Maskil
	☐ Kim Griffith, Counselor	☐ Dave Vogel
	☐ Rosa Palmer, Business Manager	

Introduction

Introduced all around to those that were/are new.

Business

Enrollment Study

HOLY CROSS DOWN 7% TRINITY CATHOLIC DOWN 6% for this year 2025-26

FROM PREVIOUS MEETING: *Question: What to do about decreasing enrollment? participation? WHY is Holy Cross down in enrollment? **Combination of reasons over the past several years.** The advisory board has done a "study" for a strategic plan, however, has taken no further action.*

Aging Community - Decreasing Catholic Community ... multiple factors

MEETING DECEMBER 10, 2025 @ 3:30 pm @ HOLY CROSS RECTORY

TEAM = Called by Janet Eaton = members include our local priests, Father Jirak (possibly) ... There are openings for members of the advisory board to be a part of the team. The study will focus on a strategy to retain and add students to our schools.

Needing some numbers from the Chamber/community/class sizes/baptismal records/PSR looking at demographics and comparing the number of potential students to those actually enrolled and attending our Hutchinson Catholic Schools. It would benefit us to know the % of our Catholic families that are NOT sending their kids to Catholic schools. As well, why? Why do they not attend? Why have they left? Do they want to return?

Priority will need to be on elementary Catholic education. It's when we need to "capture" them. Majority of those students are lost in the elementary years. Q: Have we sent a survey to ask the families WHY NOT Catholic Schools? Can we send one out? What scares people about attending?

PreK 3 and PreK 4 - only district that charges for preschool.

For Trinity Catholic, EXIT surveys/interviews are a MUST from now on. It is important to have feedback. We have to ask even if we are afraid of the answers. Q: Whose responsibility is it to administer/be present for the exit interview? A: The principal.

Senior students and senior parents DO receive a survey near graduation.

With the BIG BOND for Hutchinson USD 308, the talk is about how enrollment at HUTCH HIGH has gone down. Q: Why are 1A, 2A, 3A school districts staying consistently constant yet the larger schools are losing students? Q: What can we do to make TCHS stand out? Q: How do we get all the Catholic school students to the Catholic schools?

ASK CURRENT PUBLIC SCHOOL FAMILIES: WHAT ARE THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS NOT DOING FOR YOU? WHY ARE YOU NOT GOING TO CATHOLIC SCHOOLS? CALL? RING THE DOOR BELL? ... DIRECT CONTACT TO THOSE NOT ATTENDING. LET'S START CALLING!!!

We need to promote our ACADEMICS and FINE ARTS.

WHAT CAN WE DO TO MARKET OURSELF AS UNIQUE?

It will take a great deal of effort to get the answers/numbers and what do we do with it now? BUT WORTH IT!

HOW DO WE PROMOTE TRINITY? #1 GET STUDENTS IN THE BUILDING

School Visits, Grade School Nights, Chamber Info, Church Bulletins (weekly), Prescription Bags, Electronic Billboards, BEST RECRUITING TOOL is word of mouth.

Promoting via Eagle Radio - what's going on? - Monthly interview with Joe (all local principals)

School Safety Task Force

Dave Vogel reporting - He met with Fr. Jerome after the last advisory board meeting about the need to improve safety within our parishes and schools. With the help of Dustin Sawyer, KS Hwy Patrol and Holy Cross Parishioner, Father is wanting to put together a task force. Those already involved are working on a grant which includes the needs of three institutions of HC, ST T, and HC School. Within the task force, people will work with Trinity Catholic to improve our safety. Next step would be to form the task force and include 2 TC people. At the church level, the task force is more of a security team and equipment (cameras)... **Q:** Laws: how does the law affect having a teacher carry a firearm?

Dave will be “recruiting” for task force team members.

Former WPD and FBI, Tracey Repp reported positively on what we are doing and/or planning to do. Smaller suggestions to be worked on. These are physical things we are working on. There is a dire need to update and share a crisis plan with faculty and staff.

Q: Is there something in place TODAY? **A:** There is no plan in place. Teachers/Staff do not have guidance in what to do in the case of an emergency.

Janet reported that the Bishop/Catholic Schools office is working on compiling the requirements for inclusion in each school's crisis/safety plan. It is in draft form, however, we've requested a copy of it to begin working on ours here at Trinity Catholic.

Development Report

Fundraising

<i>Annual Fund</i>	<i>Goal \$125K</i> <i>Appeal will go out first of November - 750 snail mail, 2000 emails</i>	<i>\$20,000</i>
<i>Giving Day</i>	<i>October 10th - Students raised over \$1,000</i>	<i>\$7,000</i>
<i>Giving Tuesday</i>	<i>iGiveCatholic - 12/2/25 - Academic + Religious (spiritual library)</i>	
<i>Fulfill the Promise Campaign</i>	<i>Pledge Balance \$210K - Some \$\$ to be written off</i>	

Enrollment/Spirit

<i>Catholic Grade School Night</i>	<i>9/26/25 Holy Cross/McPherson/Ost/Kingman/Newton - 96</i>
------------------------------------	---

Community

<i>11/5/25</i>	<i>Memorial Mass - 9:30 am</i>
----------------	--------------------------------

Marketing

<i>Website/TV Screens/Social Media/Electronic Billboards/Radio (AdAstra) - ONGOING!</i>

Alumni

<i>10/3/25</i>	<i>2005 (20 yrs) + 2015 (10 yrs) Class Reunions - HOMECOMING</i>
<i>10/17-18/25</i>	<i>1975 (50 yrs) Class Reunion - Football Game (intro) + tour Went amazingly well. Class of 1975 - 14/16 (1 death) = 88%</i>

Counselor Report

ON THE PATH

*Peg has started providing **On The Path** sessions for the JH students. She has been here twice and will visit seven more times this school year. She focuses on the socio-emotional well-being of our students.*

HUTCHCC/COLLEGES

Kim Rinehart, advisor from HutchCC, is coming every Tuesday from 1:00 - 3:00. Students and parents have access to a sign up genius to make an appointment with her. She is here to help answer any college questions.

I have had several colleges visit TC, one of the most successful visits was the WRAP ...KU/KSU/PSU.

ACT

TC hosted another ACT PowerPrep class on October 6th. We had 17 total students with 13 being from TC and 4 from area schools. Twenty-three seniors took the ACT again.

ENROLLMENT/SCHOOL VISITS

St. Joe, Ost visit...I had our 3 students who are St. Joe alum attend with me. We attended Mass with the school and then visited with the 7th and 8th grade students. Two St. Joe students visited TC the following Monday.

St. Mary's Newton visit...The school invited a parent to my presentation. She is very interested in sending her son to TC. She and I visited at length after my presentation.

Religion Report

Retreats

Seniors VOCATIONS Retreat - Friday, October 17th

Friday, October 24th - religious in-service All faculty will continue their religious certification by attending Fr. John Riccardo's presentation at Bishop Carroll. Should be a wonderful day!

Seniors in Sister Maria Jacinta's discipleship class are working on preparations for the Kairos Retreat - visited Camp Kapaun today, Wednesday, October 22nd

Q: *what happens if a student misses the Kairos retreat?* **A:** *it is believed they will attend with the next group of students. Needs to be clarified and confirmed.*

Word on the Street

Question: Who is responsible for hosting a SENIOR PARENT MEETING? A: ??

Most of the senior parent questions have been resolved. However, it would be MOST beneficial if at the beginning of the school year the senior parents had information regarding homecoming, after prom, graduation, scholarships, etc.... They wish there was better communication regarding HOCO week ... what are parents responsible for, when will the candidates take their pictures, who is responsible for shirts, when can they attend events, etc... it is too gray.

*As far as the funds for after prom, they were shocked to find that the class had only \$300 in their account. **PROPOSAL:** Seems logical that parents start working on concessions as 7th graders so that by the time they are seniors they can have banked money. **Q: Who are the class sponsors?** What are their job responsibilities? How can they be of assistance to the parents? What are their jobs and how can they assist. **A:** It would be beneficial to put that information together. **Who is responsible to do this?***

Q: *Can Jean day \$\$ be given to class accounts? Think of it as kids supporting each other. Again, this is potential to have more \$\$ in the class accounts. **A:** Rosa explained that the \$\$ are used in the office to make change. Used as a petty cash account to purchase belts to "borrow." **Q:** Does it need to stay that way?*

Question: *HOCO - “if we are going to approve dresses, approve them” A parent felt under pressure of last minute stress waiting to know. Would like to see this be an easier process for everyone involved.*

OVERALL, the parents desire better communication.

Next Meeting

WEDNESDAY, December 3rd 5:30 pm