



May 20, 2020

Dear CKS Community,

As we wrap up the 2019-20 school year, one that ended in a manner we never could have predicted, we as the Advisory Council write to update you on several key topics. As you know, we are entering an unprecedented summer filled with uncertainty, but we remain hopeful and optimistic that the 2020-21 School year will bring with it some sense of a return to normalcy. We are very fortunate as a Council to have such a diverse group of people, including representatives from Bishop Lynch, Ursuline, and Jesuit as well as parents with different personal and professional backgrounds and we want to share with you some departing thoughts for this school year.

Transition to E-Learning

First and foremost, we thank our extraordinary teachers and administration for their swift and effective action to transition from in-school education to E-learning. The immense and diligent work of these dedicated professionals to navigate this public health emergency while continuing their critical work of teaching, has been phenomenal and we are so grateful for their efforts. As parents, despite frustrations and growing pains throughout the transition, there was a lot of reward as well with the time we were able to see our kids grow educationally in front of our own eyes. Our school was well-prepared to make this transition given the very difficult circumstances. The CKS parents sprang into action to partner with the school in this transition and the entire community deserves a round of applause for coming together in partnership to continue educating the hearts, minds, and spirits of our children in these unprecedented times.

Retirement of Monsignor Zimmerman

Thank you to Monsignor Zimmerman for his guidance and spiritual presence on the Council during his tenure at Christ the King. While we hope to get back to normal this fall, it will feel anything but normal without his presence on campus leading our community in its Faith. Monsignor's vision and support for the school have been unwavering and the school is so much better for it. His decisions on leadership and willingness to delegate certain matters to the school, Advisory Council, and parent leadership have left the school on solid footing for the next Pastor. We look forward to working with the new Pastor to further execute the groundwork Monsignor has established for the school as well as begin to incorporate the new Pastor's vision for the future.

Role of the Council

As a reminder, the Christ the King Advisory Council is an advisory board to the President, Principal, and Pastor. The Council assists in developing and implementing policies and programs in order to achieve and maintain the mission of the school. Whether in normal times or in times of a pandemic when the school is on lock down,

PASTOR

Msgr. Donald Zimmerman

PRESIDENT

Dr. Patrick O'Sullivan

PRINCIPAL

Dr. Lisa Bosco

ADVISORY COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Mr. Jimmy Archie

ADVISORY COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. Brian Tusa

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Ms. Beth Burau

Mr. Christopher Galante

Dr. Mark Knize

Mrs. Elissa McClure

Mrs. Stephanie Phillips

Mr. Colin Raymond

Mrs. Michele Snyder

Dr. Michael Tolle

Mr. Todd Weissmueller

CKSPA PRESIDENT

Mrs. Sissi Jorge

our role remains the same. During this time of transition, we have continued to hold regular meetings via conference calls and video conference in which we have open dialogue with Dr. O'Sullivan, Dr. Bosco, and Monsignor Zimmerman to help them think critically about issues. While we would typically take a break from meetings for the summer, due to the circumstances, we have decided to continue regular meetings throughout the summer. We have formed several committees to help guide the transition back to campus that include parents with different expertise to educate, exchange ideas, and offer advisement. Dr. O'Sullivan will provide more detail on these committees in his year-end communication that you will receive prior to the end of the school year. Ultimately, while the Diocese, Pastor, and President will govern decisions for next school year, in-depth discussions among the Council, committees, and school administration are occurring regularly regarding the best approach for a safe and thoughtful return to school.

Financial Status

Although the pandemic has certainly had a financial impact on all of us, the school is well-positioned to manage itself through the unpredictable times ahead. We expect some additional operating costs related to COVID-19 protocols and prepare for a potential decline in revenue. The finance committee conducts periodic reviews of the school's financials and we are confident in the school's financial well-being as we enter the summer and prepare for the 2020-21 school year.

Capital Improvements

The Council has reviewed and recommended for approval several capital improvements that, while needed even in a normal school year, are certainly needed at a time when health and safety is a focused priority. Two of these significant improvements include Bernadine Hall restroom renovations and the athletic field drainage repairs, which should increase the number of days throughout the school year that the field can be used for outdoor activities.

Partnership with CKSPA

For the second year in a row, the President of the CKSPA has attended the entirety of our Advisory Council meetings. The partnership between the Council and the parent volunteers that support the faculty and staff in making our school engine go is stronger than it has ever been. We look forward to continuing to strengthen the synergies between these two organizations with the CKSPA representation on the Council. Our school is only as great as the parent volunteers that give of their time to support the school's mission and we as a Council are grateful to those that serve in the many different volunteer positions.

In closing, as we enter the summer with uncertainty for what lies ahead, the adage that we can only get through this together has never been more appropriate. There are eleven members on the Council from various grade levels and three high school institutions that have volunteered their time to serve the school. Please do not hesitate to reach out to any of us with thoughts, ideas, concerns, or suggestions. That is what we are here for. We are a community and we will get through this together with hope, optimism, and a commitment to one another!

Sincerely,

Jimmy Archie
Beth Burau
Christopher Galante
Dr. Mark Knize

Elissa McClure
Stephanie Phillips
Colin Raymond
Michele Snyder

Dr. Michael Tolle
Brian Tusa
Todd Weissmueller