

# SCHOOL OF ST. MARY SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC)

# NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2025



## Planning for 2026-27 School Year is Underway

While we're still almost a month away from the new year, it's time to plan for the 2026-27 school year! **Please enroll your children now, if you haven't already done so.** Our leaders need time to plan staffing and facilities for the coming school year, which they can't do without accurate enrollment numbers. Our **goal is to reach at least 400 students** (377 are currently enrolled for 2025-26). Enrollment is now open beyond current SOSM students so classes may fill fast.

Given the success of the recent open house, another **open house is planned for Sunday, January 25**, at the UGC to kick off Catholic Schools Week (CSW). If your PGC students would like to tour the UGC and if you have friends interested in SOSM, please mark your calendar! **Stay tuned for other exciting CSW events like Pack the Gym!**

## MySOSM Improves Report Card Process

MySOSM (Blackbaud) continues to help improve school communication, including the first trimester report cards. This first report card process required significant time to transition data, and teachers reported this all went smoothly, with **MANY thanks to Isa Naud Dewar** for leading this effort.

We're so grateful to Isa for ensuring the MySOSM investment benefits both staff and families.

## New Spanish Curriculum Now In Classrooms

Supporting curriculum improvements to help ensure teachers and students have access to high-quality educational resources is a top priority for SAC and SOSM leaders.

Principal Thompson shared at the last SAC meeting that **new Spanish curriculum is now in all K-8 PGC and UGC classrooms**, to help support Sra. Lina Pearson-Moreno as she helps our children discover new language skills.

## Catholic Identity Committee Sets Goals to Support Students' Faith Formation

Our new SAC member, Erica Cook, shared goals she developed to support SOSM faculty in their efforts to help our children continue to grow in their faith. Goals include: 1.) optimizing the Hallow app with staff, students and families; 2.) establishing activities across all grades that reinforce Catholic values beyond the sacramental years; 3.) celebrating monthly Marian virtues, to reinforce our commitment to St. Mary; and 4.) connecting classrooms, subjects, and celebrations (e.g., the Heart of the Crusader Award) with saints and other Catholic models of faith.

**Father Andre shared with SAC that Family Masses will be starting at COSM soon. Stay tuned for more details!**

## Strengthening Catholic Education by Supporting and Retaining Excellent Teachers

SAC continues to share recommendations with SOSM leaders to support teacher retention, which is key to creating a positive culture and community for everyone. Vice Principal Monroe shared with SAC that she continues to meet with new teachers and connects individually with all staff each month. These meetings have been beneficial in identifying and enacting strategies to support their development.

*Please reach out to the SAC Executive Committee at 312.952.0220 or [mfricke@live.com](mailto:mfricke@live.com) with any ideas or questions. **Approved meeting minutes are posted on the school website and MySOSM.***