

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

OCTOBER 2025



SAC Starts the 2025-26 School Year With Renewed Purpose

Guided by Archdiocese best practices, the SOSM SAC provides counsel to school leadership on topics such as: financial management; technology and other operating resources; school advancement, including curriculum, marketing, Catholic identity, and teacher/family recruitment and retention; and long-range planning. The **SAC is not a governing body and is not responsible for implementing school policies or procedures.**

At the September meeting, SAC committees shared 2025-26 goals, which addressed **common themes, such as: staff and family retention; enrollment growth; financial transparency and collaboration; enhanced extracurricular opportunities; and long-term strategic planning**, particularly for initiatives like technology, security, and staff development – which, collectively, can help SOSM grow as a community where staff and students thrive.

**SAC Meetings are public, and we hope to see you at the next meeting on
October 15, 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Parish Center.**

SAC Committee Updates

- **Tech: MySOSM** (Blackbaud) continues to help improve connectivity and real-time knowledge-sharing. PLEASE log in regularly to check for curriculum and event updates. **Reach out to Isa Naud Dewar with any MySOSM questions!**
- **Enrollment & Retention:** 377 students are currently enrolled.
- **Student Life:** The “Heart of A Crusader” award will start in October; the committee is working with staff to continue to grow athletics and other extracurricular opportunities for all grades.

New SAC Members

Please join us in thanking these parents who have volunteered to fill new or open positions on SAC:

- Derek Sarmas, Chair, Security Committee
- Jenn Zeit, Security Committee
- Katelyn Belcore, Security Committee
- Emily Sturges Stanwood, Legislative Action Committee
- Erica Cook, Catholic Identity Committee

Nearly EVERY grade, across the PGC and UGC, is represented by the SAC 2025-26 members.

PA Continues to Enhance School Community and Culture

Thanks to our generous families, the PA Crusader Annual Fund continues to provide resources for staff and students. Recent donations include:

- 58 laptops, desktops, and document cameras for teachers and staff
- 140 new Chromebooks and cases for UGC students
- New equipment for the PGC playground
- Refreshed UGC and PGC staff lounges
- New Crusader mural in the PGC gym, painted by Janice Krakora Looby

All parents are members of the PA, and we look forward to seeing you at future monthly meetings!



Please reach out to the SAC Executive Committee at 312.952.0220 or mfricke@live.com with any ideas or questions.

Approved meeting minutes are posted on the school website and MySOSM.