

LAC Families in Partnership Meeting

Date: January 6, 2026

Time: 7:00-8:30 PM ET

Location: Google Meet [<https://meet.google.com/vnq-smjy-obf>]

1. **Welcome and call to order** by Stephanie Jablonski and Brianna Lindbloom
 - a. **Attendance:** Stephanie Jablonski, Brianna Lindbloom, Kathy Grierson, Kara Kriessel, Rebecca Lange, Hyatt Smith, Rochelle Mizewski, Kaitlyn Jackowski, Jennifer Manuszak, Jan Bigalke, Laura Cameron, Liz Sneigowski
2. **Agenda add-on** Review of Christmas Program
 - a. Report from hospitality Liz
 - i. we had the perfect amount of cookies, set-up went smooth
 - ii. Need more volunteers for clean-up next year-this year only had 3. Liz, Kaitlyn and Jan
 - iii. Jan inquired if Sunday was a convenient day for parents-consensus was that Sunday seemed to work well for most people and was nice to have out of town grandparents be able to attend. Jan mentioned Grandparents thanked her for having it on Sunday so they could attend.
3. **Treasurer's Report**
 - a. by Kara Kriessel that not a lot of money is going out currently
 - b. Jan added that typically \$10,000-\$15,000 is transferred from the FIP at the end of the school year to fund various things at the school. Kara mentioned that typically Amy McGraw leaves ~\$5,000 in the FIP account to fund the Fish Fry supplies and this was confirmed by Jan. There were a few years with an overage due to COVID and decreased school activities but there is no longer an overage.
4. **Committee Updates**
 - a. **Fundraising Committee-**
 - i. **Visions Planning** Date changed to first weekend in May
 - ii. **Krave Fundraising Event:** 15-20% of the day's sales going to LAC
 1. Organized by Rebecca Lange arranged with Ashley Melchert (Krave Owner) scheduled for 2/13/26 12pm-3pm
 2. There is a half day of school that day for LAC
 - iii. **Culver's Fundraiser idea:** Rochelle submitted it for Classroom and teacher supplies -waiting to hear back from Culver's on what dates are available
 - iv. **Gustafson's Greenhouse Fundraiser:** Kara said typically gift certificates are sold in \$10, \$20 increments and must be used during a certain time of May-June timeframe. LAC gets a percentage of the money and the estimate is that this raises a couple thousand dollars a year. Will talk about this again at the next meeting if we plan to do this again this year.
 - b. **Family Social Events Committee**
 - i. **Catholic Schools Week Friday 01/30/2026 Family Potluck-** (discussed more later in meeting)
 - c. **Hospitality and In-School Events Committee**

- i. **Happy Birthday to Jesus Party 01/09/2026**
 - 1. Cupcakes and ice cream cups in gym and singing happy birthday
 - 2. Cupcakes getting delivered on Thursday
 - 3. Kara already delivered the ice cream cups to the school freezer
 - 4. Heather Bluhm bought paper plates and napkins
- ii. **Valentine's Party 02/13/2026 Friday (Half Day)**
 - 1. Discussion regarding previous party styles
 - 2. Jan suggested we do a small Valentine's party since its so close to Catholic Schools week
 - 3. 10:00 am Donuts and Juice in the gym with whole school/parish valentine exchange and then students return to their classrooms for individual classroom valentine exchanges when it is convenient for the teachers

2. Teachers Report

- a. Provided by Laura Cameron
 - i. LAC hosting Robotics Competition Saturday 01/17/2026
 - 1. Teamwork and collaboration competition and not battlebots
 - 2. Set up will be Friday night, someone from Bellaire is setting up the computer portion and Matt Bluhm, Sara Kaltunas and Heather Blumn also helping.
 - 3. Plan to get posters to Manistee and Custer Churches
 - 4. Event is free to attend but raffle tickets can be purchased with a donation
 - 5. Plans to touch base with Bluhms and Kaltunas regarding concessions and if any additional help is needed
- b. Provided by Jan Bigalke LAC will host a book fair March 9th-15th but not the scholastic bookfair. It is with an approved company allowed by the diocese.

3. Event Planning: Catholic Schools week

- a. **Theme:** Jan mentioned they follow the guidelines from the NCEA website for the daily themes we can add to them as needed. She mentioned incorporating Brianna Lindbloom's idea of "Holiness at Home" with focus on the corporeal works of mercy into a monthly curriculum for next year instead of with this year's catholic school week.
- b. **Sunday: Kick-off at Masses January 25th, 2026 (also 24th sat Mass)**
 - i. Speakers at mass needed: Jan will contact the speakers herself
 - 1. St. Simons: 5:30 pm Saturday, and Sunday 8:30 am and 10:30 am
 - 2. St. Mary's Custer masses
 - 3. Divine Mercy Manistee- Mrs. Bigalke will take care of this one.
 - ii. After Mass Receptions:
 - 1. St. Simon's Family Center after 8:30 am and 10:30 am masses
 - a. Need 300 Donut holes and we still have remaining coffee from Christmas program as cups, plates and napkins
 - b. 3 volunteers after each mass time- sign-up genius will be made to recruit volunteers

2. St. Mary's- Kara checking if there is availability for a reception
 3. Divine Mercy- Jan will organize this one and get back in touch with Rochelle on how many donuts are needed
- c. **Monday: Student Appreciation Day-Wear PJs Day**
 - i. Classroom party for students 1:45pm to 2:45 pm organized by classroom room moms
 - d. **Tuesday: Nation Appreciation Day- Wear Red, White, or Blue**
 - i. students will make Valentines for Veterans
 - ii. First Responders invited for lunch with the school-Jan arranges with Chef Paul
 - e. **Wednesday: Vocations Appreciation Day- Wear Your Best for Mass**
 - i. Students will give gifts to Priests and Deacons
 1. Jen getting gift cards in :\$100 total for Priests and \$50 for Deacons
 - a. St. Simon's: Father Wayne, Deacon Len, Deacon Jan
 - b. St. Mary's: Father Jake
 - c. Divine Mercy: Father James and the new assistant Pastor
 - f. **Thursday: Teacher/Staff Appreciation Day (Dress up to be determined by Jan and the students)**
 - i. Jan suggested one idea was to have parents have their children write heartfelt thank you notes to teachers and another idea is to restock the teacher lounge with essentials, snacks, coffee, etc
 - ii. Laura Cameron mentioned a nice thank you she once received from each family on an 11x 8 sheet of paper and put into a binder that she really enjoyed receiving
 - iii. Teacher/Staff Luncheon: put on by the parents for the LAC staff
 1. LAC hospitality committee will send out a sign-up genius for food and supplies from parents
 - g. **Friday: Family Appreciation Day (Dress up to be determined by Jan and students)**
 - i. **Friday night Potluck: Soup/Chili Crockpot & Magic Show 5:30-7:30/8:00pm**
 1. Family Event for Fellowship amongst LAC Families
 2. Families will be requested to bring a soup or chili, sides, salad, dessert
 - a. Sign-up genius will be sent out about 3 weeks beforehand by Kaitlyn J.
 3. Kaitlyn's father-in-law is scheduled for family friendly magic show
- 4. New Business**
- a. **Acquire a Larger Crucifix for the LAC gym.**
 - i. Kara checked with St. Mary's and Father Jake plans to replace the crucifix at St. Mary's but there is an unknown timeline on the replacement
 - ii. Kara will look into pricing out Crucifixes
 - b. **Fish Fry first one is 02/20/2026**

- i. Need to put on the agenda for next meeting
- ii. Questions on if 50/50 would be set up for Mackinaw field trip or not
- iii. Likely visions tickets for sale
- iv. Possibly a robotics demonstration set up

5. Confirm next meeting date Tuesday February 3rd at 7pm via Google Meet

6. Meeting Adjourned ~8:45pm