

STATUTES AND BYLAWS OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD CATHOLIC SCHOOL

ARTICLE I: NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION

The name of this body is the School Board of Most Precious Blood Catholic School (hereinafter “the School Board”).

ARTICLE II: PURPOSES AND FUNCTIONS

SECTION A. The School Board is established by the Pastor, in accordance with the policies of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend (hereinafter “the Diocese”), to assist him and the Principal in the governance of Most Precious Blood Catholic School (hereinafter “the School”), an outreach of the broader educational mission of Most Precious Blood Catholic Church (hereinafter “the Parish”). The School Board is advisory to the Principal and the Pastor. For any determination of the School Board on a matter of policy to be binding and effective on the School, the approval of the Pastor is required. School Board member have no authority to make decisions binding on the School without the approval of the Pastor or to act otherwise apart from the Pastor and the Principal.

SECTION B. The responsibilities of the School Board are the following:

1. Strategic Planning: To establish a mission statement and participate in strategic planning for the school.
2. Policy Formation: To assist the Pastor and the Principal in developing policies for the School in conformity with policies of the Diocese and laws of the State of Indiana.
3. Public Relations and Marketing: To develop and assist in implementing a plan for presenting a positive public image of the School and its Catholic identity, character, and mission.
4. Evaluation: To determine whether the School is meeting academic goals and fulfilling strategic plans, and whether the School Board is effectively performing its functions.

As provided in diocesan guidelines, the responsibilities of the School Board do *not* include:

1. Administration of school policies
2. Involvement in the day-to-day operations of the school (e.g., disciplinary incidents; administration of classroom pedagogy or procedures; administration of school procedures and events).
3. Representing special interests or a special group (e.g., a child, school parents, teachers, parishioners, parent associations, athletic association).
4. Acting as a grievance committee or solving problems for individuals.
5. Involvement in teacher evaluations or teacher issues.

ARTICLE III: RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER GROUPS

SECTION A. Diocese

Diocesan educational policies prescribe the relationship between the School Board and the Diocese. The Bishop enacts these policies and the Diocesan School Board endorses them. These policies are available to local School Board members.

SECTION B. Parish Pastoral Council

The School Board and the Parish Pastoral Council are both advisory to the Pastor. Because the School is an outreach of the broader educational mission of the Parish, both groups are responsible for cooperative relations, information sharing, and common planning for the benefit of the entire Parish community.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

SECTION A. The School Board shall consist of nine members. Seven members shall serve by appointment, and two members (the Pastor and the Principal) shall serve ex officio.

SECTION B. The appointment process for membership on the School Board shall proceed as follows. Every year, the School Board shall solicit from the Parish community nominations of parishioners, who currently have children that attend the school, to serve on the School Board. A Selection Committee (see Article VII, Section B) shall facilitate consideration of nominations by the School Board. After consultation and discernment with the School Board and the Principal, the Pastor appoints new members to fill vacancies on the School Board.

SECTION C. Appointed members of the School Board serve three-year terms. Terms are staggered so that ordinarily no more than two to three vacancies occur each year. A member of the School Board is ineligible to serve a consecutive term on the School Board but may serve non-consecutive terms. Terms begin July 1st of the year of appointment. When a vacancy in an appointed position occurs during the year, the School Board shall recommend to the Pastor a parishioner, who currently have children that attend the school, to serve the remainder of the unexpired term; upon approval of the Pastor, the Pastor shall invite a parishioner to serve the unexpired term.

SECTION D. All members of the School Board are entitled to vote on matters before the School Board.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

SECTION A. The Officers of the School Board are the President, Vice-President, and Secretary. After consultation and discernment with the Board and the Principal, the Pastor appoints Officers for three-year terms from the entire membership of the School Board.

SECTION B. Each Officer serves a three-year term. Appointments shall occur at the last meeting of each third year. Officers can be re-elected if no other individuals step forward, or are voted back in to the position.

ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS

SECTION A. The School Board meets monthly during seven months of the school year, as needed. The School Board has the authority to change the meeting cadence to bi-monthly if agreed upon by all members of the Board, the Pastor, and the Principal. To balance the need for full consideration of matters before the School Board with the need to respect the time of School Board members and enable their attendance, meetings may last up to, but not exceed, two hours.

SECTION B. The President, in consultation with the Principal, the Pastor, and the other Officers, compiles the agenda and sends it to all members in advance of each meeting.

SECTION C. Members of the School Board shall aspire to resolve matters before it by consensus. If there is a failure to reach consensus on a matter before the School Board and a vote is necessary, the School Board shall resolve the matter by a majority of those present so long as a simple majority of the total School Board membership is present.

SECTION D. Meetings of the Most Precious Blood School Board are closed for the public to observe. This follows Diocesan School Board policy. Individuals shall be encouraged to contact the school Principal and/or Pastor with any ideas or concerns that are considered school-wide issues. The Principal and/or Pastor shall then determine, by their authority, whether the issue brought forth warrants being an agenda item for the School Board meeting.

1. A person wishing to address the School Board shall submit a request in writing to the Principal and/or Pastor and the School Board at least ten (10) days prior to the School Board meeting. This request shall include a statement describing the presentation the person wishes to make to the Board. The statement must relate the presentation to a direct responsibility or policy of the School Board.
2. If the Principal and the President approve the concern as an agenda item, the item will appear on a meeting agenda as soon as is practicable. At the meeting, the presentation of the concern to the Board shall last no longer than five (5) minutes.
3. No Board discussion shall follow the presentation.

ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES

SECTION A. The standing committees of the School Board are the Marketing and Development Committee, the New Member Discernment Committee, the Strategic Planning Committee, and the Principal Evaluation Committee. The School Board, upon consultation with the Principal and the Pastor,

may establish other committees on an ad hoc basis. Committees may be augmented by additional members outside the regular School Board membership as needed.

SECTION B. Special Committees - The composition and functions of each committee are as follows:

Principal Evaluation Committee – This committee consists of two members of the School Board, appointed by the Pastor. It provides confidential assistance to the Pastor in performing evaluations of the Principal in accordance with guidelines of the Diocese. The Principal, at his or her option, may meet with the Committee and Pastor to discuss any reports that the Committee prepares for the Pastor.

New Member Discernment Committee – This Committee consists of appointed members of the School Board who are in their final year of their term of service. It will work with the Pastor and the Principal who solicits nominations from the Parish community of Parish members to serve on the School Board and facilitates consideration of nominations by the School Board.

SECTION C. Strategic Initiative Sub-Committees – The following sub-committees shall consist of one Chairperson, as well as other members of the School community. They shall establish their own meeting schedule, but commit to no less than one meeting every other month. The Chairperson for each sub-committee shall then present the progress towards their Strategic Plan goals at each bi-monthly Board meeting.

- Building & Grounds/Facilities
- Catholic Identity
- Curriculum/School Improvement
- Enrollment/Marketing
- Finance/Budget
- Technology

ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS

These Statutes and Bylaws may be amended at any meeting called or that purpose, provided that written notice of said meeting, included the proposed amendment, shall have been delivered to School Board members at least seven (7) days prior to the date of said meeting. An amendment shall be proposed upon the approval of two-thirds of the members of the School Board and adopted upon the approval of the Pastor.

ARTICLE IX: RATIFICATION

These Bylaws and Statutes shall be considered ratified and in effect when signed by the Pastor, the Principal, and the President of the Board.

OFFICIAL SIGNATURES

 8-20-24

Pastor

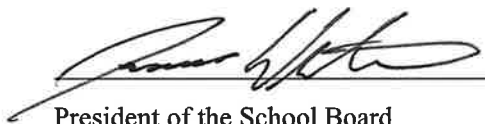
Date



8-20-24

Principal

Date



8-20-24

President of the School Board

Date