



**St. Mary's Academy  
Regular Meeting of the School Board  
March 23, 2026**

**BOARD MEMBERS**

**Present:** Father Scott VanDerveer (Pastor), James Viviani (Interim Principal), Mike Feeder (President), Kathy McNulty (Vice President), Kate Fowler (Secretary), Janet Curley, Francine Buser, Mary Tully.

**Absent:** Mark Olechowski, Michelle LeMay, Neelo Jaikeran (PTO).

**GUESTS**

Diana Steves

**Meeting •**

Mike Feeder called the meeting to order at 5:52 PM.

- Father Scott offered the opening prayer.
- Kate Fowler called roll.
- Kathy McNulty moved to accept February minutes. Janet Curly seconded. Motion carried.

**Pastor's Report (Father Scott)**

**Noah's Ark Program:**

- Magen MacDavid collaborated with Bev Kerpka to provide a Noah's Ark Professional Development Day. Father Scott attended, as well. The purpose was to sharpen skills and discuss plans moving forward. The program is doing well but experiencing some "growing pains," including navigating the differences in function between this program and the K-8 program: longer days, no financial aid for parents, staff vacation days, etc.

**Arts Academy:**

- The Arts Academy is growing and, as with all new programs, there are "pinch points." We need to "dream big." Xanadu will be held March 27 & 28. This performance is a collaboration between the Arts Academy and St. Mary's Academy.

**Parent Involvement:**

- Thank you to Sally Behan for her work on the K-8 Open House. It was informative and well organized! 15 families attended. Thank you to Mrs. Reilly, as well. Our PTO still needs more parental involvement for events like this.

**Finance:**

- Thank you to Laurie Butler for the success of Trivia Night! It was a great success with 143 people attending. The event brought in \$3,047.00.
- The Guardian Angel program is experiencing continued success with donations to SMA in lieu of flowers.
- PACE can be used to strengthen friendships as well as to help SMA. Thank you to Katie Sullivan for her help with PACE report cards.

### **Principal's Report (Mr. Viviani)**

- Dr. Hladik hosted a Middle School Retreat, which was “a blast.” Students responded well to the spiritual and leadership aspects of the retreat. They also wrote notes to residents of The Glen.
- Mr. Viviani has received Letters of Intent from the staff.
- Mike Feeder and Mr. Viviani will have a meeting with a security consultant after Easter. The fence company measured for an 8' fence (with privacy slats) for the area near the Cronin High Rise.

### **Parent Teacher Organization**

- February parking fundraiser raised \$340.00.
- The Snowball raised \$450.00 with excellent attendance. Thank you to Lauren Berry.
- The PTO has donated \$325.00 for a Theater Scholarship.
- On 3.28.26 there will be a parking lot fundraiser. In the church parking lot. It is SMA play night (Xanadu) and an Adirondack Thunder game.
- Stewarts has donated Easter Eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt. Candy is needed.
- Students are invited to participate in the Holy Thursday procession at St. Mary's Church. They have been invited through the Kerry Blue.

### **Old Business**

- Mike Feeder asked the Board to review the Constitution and By Laws before the next meeting.
- A discussion was held regarding the parking situation along Church Street.

### **New Business**

- Mike Feeder suggested that we look into discount cards for a fundraising project. Cards would cost buyers \$20.00, and we would make \$11.00 per card sold.

### **Guest Opportunity to Be Heard**

- Diana Steves inquired about how SMA finances are handled. Could there be more transparency regarding finances and how school/building priorities are decided? Father asked what form of financial reporting would be helpful. Diana's answer mentioned communicating with parents regarding the goals for the year, salaries and benefits, building priorities, etc. She also mentioned that the Kerry Blue has been very helpful in giving advanced notice about everything that is happening at SMA.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM. Next meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2026.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Kate Fowler, Secretary*