

St Joseph Grade School Board Meeting Update  
November 11, 2020

The St. Joseph Grade School Advisory Board met on Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> for their third meeting this academic year. The three major agenda items included (1) a discussion about the ways SJGS educates mind *and* heart, (2) review of three new proposed committee compositions and the charges of these committees, and (3) an update on COVID and the school safety protocols and guidelines. To initiate the conversation about the comprehensive education of a SJGS student in both mind and heart, Mrs. Gelchion presented an overview of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Summons Project. This project is a culminating experience that provides an opportunity for SJGS students to take a leadership role in their call to serve. This presentation informed the Board's ensuing conversation about the mutually supportive relationship between academic excellence and the call to faith and service.

Three new standing committees of the Board—*Academic Excellence, Catholic Mission and School Culture, and Operational Vitality*—will form in the coming weeks and will formally convene on a routine basis in the second semester. While each of these committees and their representative domains has a unique focus, the school leadership is committed to cross-committee collaboration, as this overlap best reflects SJGS's investment in the full flourishing of SJGS students in both mind and heart. Finally, with regard to Covid-19, Principal Azar and Fr. Kevin shared the school administration's commitment to keeping the school open for in-person instruction while remaining equally committed to keeping all students safe in this environment. The administration does not intend to put restrictions or guidelines in place for family activities outside of school and expects that, when not in school, families will make the best and most responsible decisions for themselves and the school community. The next school board meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2021.