



Saint Gabriel

Consolidated School

Master Plan & Feasibility Study Update

In our last update we reported that the Pastor's met on October 14 to discuss and respond to our recommended next steps in the Master Plan and Feasibility Study (MPFS), and were due to provide a written response. While we have not received this written response to date, additional activities have taken place that ultimately affect our efforts on the MPFS. As you may know, there is a new Archdiocesan Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Dr. Jim Rigg. There are many factors currently at play in the Archdiocese that have influenced Dr. Rigg's decision to develop a strategic vision for the future of Catholic education in the Archdiocese. Some highlights from a recent letter from Dr. Rigg to the school pastors of the Archdiocese that continues to encourage us in our efforts:

- *"Overall, I am convinced that our schools are vibrant and nurturing places for children to grow in the light of God"*
- *"...I have become even more familiar with the array of challenges facing our schools...I am aware that some pastors, principals, and boards are currently making key decisions regarding the future of their schools...."*
- *"Our vision will likely address centralized sources for financial aid to families as well as new directions in marketing, strategic planning and funding for capital improvements"*
- *"Thus I strongly encourage all pastors, principals, and boards...to delay their decisions until our vision has been constructed and implemented. By postponing such decisions, it is my hope that these individuals will be able to make critical decisions about their school with a full understanding of our comprehensive vision and how their school will be supported by the greater Catholic community. We fully expect to have key components of our vision in place before the start of the 2011-2012 school year."*

In addition to the above communication, in our most recent board meeting on November 22, the Pastors expressed their support of Dr. Rigg's efforts, and due to current financial challenges at some parishes, have recommended we wait to proceed with the recommended next steps until we have a fuller understanding of the new vision for Catholic education within the Archdiocese.

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In early November Dr. Rigg visited SGCS to meet with Mr. Epplen to continue this discussion of the future of Catholic education within the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. Based on Dr. Rigg's development of a strategic vision, and his visit here to our school, we remain encouraged for the future of the plan we have developed for SGCS. While it is too early to speculate on the new vision for Catholic education, we do know that the work we completed on the MPFS is grounded in data and holistic feedback from the SGCS community, and strategically focused on moving SGCS forward, and will provide a strong foundation for continued progress and success once this vision is articulated.

We will continue to communicate any additional updates as they become available to us. As always, if you have any questions regarding the MPFS, please do not hesitate to contact any of us:

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