

## **FAQ's for the Bethany community regarding the new Bethany School Board (BOT) of Trustees**

The Sisters started Bethany School as one of their ministries and have been actively involved in its administration. Historically, they served as teachers and administrators. Through the school's history, the Sisters provided significant financial support. As the Sister's population is aging, their level of involvement in the day to day operations of the school has decreased. They recognized that a Board of Trustees would be essential to ensure that the school will continue to grow in their vision.

What is the BOT?

It is an oversight body responsible for ensuring the mission set forth by the Sisters. The Head of School reports to the Board. The Board will oversee the operations of the school, while the administration will retain the school's day to day management.

Why was a BOT established?

In 2014, an advisory panel developed a long range strategic plan for Bethany School. The strategic plan included the master site plan, alumni outreach and a development fundraising function among others. In order to achieve the vision of the plan, the Sister Superior recognized that a BOT was necessary.

What will it do for current Bethany families?

It will add a level of accountability for the school administration, including financial oversight. The members of the BOT will provide the school with a diverse skill set and expertise when making decisions regarding the school.

What are the roles and responsibilities of the Board?

- Ensure that the School fulfills the mission and strategic plan
- Financial oversight
- Evaluate, develop and implement long range plans for the School
- Ensure that equal opportunity and non discriminatory methods are used in hiring and enrollment as well as in administering financial aid

How is this related to the building project?

The building project is another element of the strategic plan. The Board will have various committees including a Buildings and Grounds committee that will be involved in decisions regarding current and future construction as well as maintenance.

Does the BOT get involved in the day to day operations of the school?

The Board will provide oversight and guidance to the head of school and administration in their day to day management of the school.

How were the current Board members selected?

Since this is the inaugural board, the Sisters made the selection of the initial members.

How can I get on the board /get involved?

Trustees are elected by existing board members. Those interested in serving on the Board may be nominated for future open positions by various stakeholders, e.g., the Sisters, faculty, families, administration and current trustees.

In addition to future open positions on the Board, the Board will have a variety of committees requiring participation from the community. This will be an opportunity for deeper engagement with the school.

What role will the Sisters play on the Board?

The Sisters will have 3 seats on the Board.

How many members will be on this Board?

13 - 15 members will serve on the Board, comprised of people with diverse expertise and backgrounds to benefit the School.

Is the BOT a new voice for parents?

While the BOT will have current and alumni parents as members, the purpose of the BOT is to execute the mission of Bethany School.

The input of the members of the Bethany Community will always be welcome. In addition, we will need participation on the various Board committees.

Will we be informed about decisions made at Board meetings?

Yes, information about BOT decisions will be communicated to the Bethany community.