

# REACH STRATEGIC GROWTH PLAN UPDATE

JOPLIN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

September 2019

## A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH

In June of 2019, the leaders of the Joplin Area Catholic Schools (St. Mary's Elementary School, St. Peter's Middle School and McAuley High School) began a collaborative strategic planning process in order to shape the future of our Catholic schools for years to come. Working with us on this Strategic Growth Plan process is the Institute for School and Parish Development (ISPD). ISPD, headquartered in the Greater New Orleans Area, is a national development consulting firm that works exclusively with Catholic schools, parishes and dioceses throughout the country. Ken Richard is the ISPD associate who is leading us through our planning and people engagement efforts. This Strategic Growth Plan *Update* is designed to keep everyone informed over the overall steps being taken.

With this Strategic Growth Plan process, the main principle that we will follow is: *In order to create the plans and strategic initiatives for the future of the Joplin Area Catholic Schools, we will plan to reach out and invite your input and best wisdom. Your recommendations will certainly be considered as we chart a new course for the future. We will seek meaningful involvement.*

## THEME

The theme picked for the strategic plan is **REACH** Renew, Educate, Achieve, Communicate, Honor.

## GETTING STARTED

The process began with an initial Assessment. ISPD worked with the schools to assess our present situation in several areas: governance, involvement of people, enrollment, communication, marketing, and others. ISPD personally interviewed 40 members of our school and parish communities and reviewed key materials and publications. A copy of that Assessment was shared with all administrators and the newly-formed Steering Committee.

## PLANNING AREAS

The planning process will be built around the planning areas used by the *National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools*.

Those planning areas are:

- Mission and Catholic Identity
- Governance and Leadership
- Academic Excellence
- Operational Vitality

## TEAMS LEADING THE PROCESS

The planning process is being led by an Executive Committee comprised of school and parish leaders.

Those members are:

- Emily Yoakam
- Father Chaz Dunn
- Father J. Friedel
- Father Joe Weidenbenner
- Georgiana McGriff
- Joanne Lown
- Marjorie Comer
- Sister Joan Schwager RSM

In addition to the Executive Committee, there is a Steering Committee comprised of members who represent all of the Catholic schools and parishes in Joplin. Those members are:

- |                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| ▪ Amy Teeter          | ▪ Lexi Maliszewski |
| ▪ Andy Ostmeyer       | ▪ Lyndee Staab     |
| ▪ Annette Taylor      | ▪ Marla Testerman  |
| ▪ Brian Cronenwett    | ▪ Mary Greenwood   |
| ▪ Debi Staton         | ▪ Randy Wheeler    |
| ▪ Emily Stanley       | ▪ Rhonda Wagner    |
| ▪ Frank Veer          | ▪ Richard Freitas  |
| ▪ Greg Kissel         | ▪ Tony Hulfeld     |
| ▪ Jeanette Stengel    | ▪ Tracy Borgmeyer  |
| ▪ Jeff Scheurich      | ▪ Patricia Moore   |
| ▪ Jennifer Longnecker | ▪ Sally Robinson   |
| ▪ Jim Kastler         | ▪ Mike LaFerla     |

## STEPS IN THE PROCESS

- Month 1: ISPD Assessment
- Month 2: ISPD Assessment
- Month 3: Formation of Steering Committee to guide the SGP + Education on SGP Process
- Month 4: Continued education on the SGP process and Preparation for Planning Teams
- Month 5: First Planning Area Team Workshop
- Month 6: Second Planning Area Team Workshop
- Month 7: Third Planning Area Team Workshop
- Month 8: Fourth Planning Area Team Workshop
- Month 9: Congress
- Month 10: Delivery of the final SGP with implementation recommendations