

2017–2018

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

To the Members | May 24, 2018



ST. BONAVENTURE'S
COLLEGE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I AM GRATEFUL and pleased to present to you, my fifth annual President's Report for St. Bonaventure's College. The 2017-2018 school year continues a long tradition of a rewarding year, filled with academic achievement, athletic, music and extra-curricular accomplishment. These successes only happen because of the love and support of teachers, staff, parents, volunteers and benefactors.

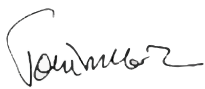
The investigation continues into financial irregularities. This has caused our administration to redirect limited time and resources to the documentation and investigation of the fraudulent behavior. With the support of the Board of Governors, we have prepared a comprehensive plan to weather this setback. I must recognize the exceptional outpouring of support and encouragement from parents, alumni and benefactors. God bless each of you.

I am inspired each day by our students. I witness their desire to strive to be the best they can be in order to become men and women for and with others. I see it in our youngest students as they share and care for each other. Our older students have embraced service learning and are studying and addressing global issues. Each of them are mindful of the need to service others, whilst being prepared for the challenges of the future. I believe our community and all that we do is filled by the spirit of St. Ignatius Loyola.

I wish to acknowledge and sincerely thank the following for their kind and generous support this year:

- The Board of Governors, Administrators, Teachers and Staff of St. Bonaventure's College,
- His Grace, Archbishop Martin Currie, Priests and Staff of the Archdiocese,
- Parents, Alumni and Volunteers,
- Very Rev. Peter Bisson, S.J., Provincial Superior, The Jesuits of English Canada,
- Jesuit Fathers & Brothers of St. John's,
- Sisters of Mercy & the Presentation Sisters and the Christian Brothers, and
- All generous Benefactors.

God Bless,



Tom McGrath
President

I. CATHOLIC IDENTITY/ IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY

This year our Campus Ministry office grew to include two co-directors. The highlights of the Campus Ministry year are:

- Fr. Earl Smith SJ, led our Holland Hall classes in Teaching Masses throughout the year. The Masses offer children an opportunity to learn and ask questions about what happens during a Mass.
- We have 3 new faculty members completing the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius throughout this school year. This will bring the total number of faculty members that have completed the exercises to 18.
- A group of Senior High students have met for prayer and conversation after school on Tuesdays to support their spiritual growth.
- Students from Kindergarten to Gr. 12 now participate in the Examen prayer for 5-10 minutes over the P.A. once a week.
- The Mullock Hall Social Justice committee led a Hunger Banquet for over 60 students and faculty in January. The event gives people the opportunity to understand the inequality that exists with regards to food access in the world.
- Our Christian Service Program has had consistent periods of communal reflection for students who participate in the program. Five times throughout the year, students had the opportunity to join together and share about their experiences working in the CSP.
- To celebrate the work of our students in the Christian Service Program we will have committed to host two parent evenings. The first evening took place in January and the second evening is scheduled for June. These events allow students to offer reflections on the work they've done and to be acknowledged for the consistent effort they've put forth in ministering to the marginalized.
- The Campus Ministry department is in the process of transitioning to having overnight retreats for all classes in Mullock Hall, with the hope they will provide deeper opportunities for prayer, reflection, and community.
- 2018 Arrupe Lecture featured Father Greg Boyle, S.J. Fr. Boyle is a New York Times #1 Bestselling author and founder of Homeboy Industries - the largest and most successful gang rehabilitation program in the world.

II. ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

During the summer, the leadership team began conversations regarding a curriculum review. A curriculum review will allow us to look at our practices, strategies, learning styles and differences, methods of teaching and how we respond to the needs of our students. We have been consulting with Dr. Lorriane Ozar, from Loyola University Chicago (a Jesuit university) as she lends her expertise in curriculum review to ensure we are thorough in our process.

A critical piece of our review is curriculum mapping. Curriculum mapping is a process for collecting and recording curriculum-related data that identifies core skills and content taught, processes employed, and assessments used for each subject area and grade level. In-servicing was provided to our teachers on this process and has been the main priority of our curriculum review this year.

The process of curriculum mapping, dynamic instruction, and 21st century strategic planning have made us ask “What year are we teaching to? Are we preparing our students for 2018 or 2031 and beyond?” Through the curriculum review we are hoping to improve how and why we teach and ensure the resources we use are the best to suit the needs of our students.

2017 – 18 New Initiatives

Curricular Program

- Dr. Jan Buley from the Education Faculty at Memorial University is working on a project about writing in schools. She has collaborated with us a number of times this year. The project involves her interviewing (and filming the interview) students and teachers from grades K, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 about writing.
- Writing 2203 are making and producing their own documentary. They have chosen to focus on the effects and impacts of social media on youth.
- In Grade 7-9 Math and Math 2201, the way notes are presented have been adjusted to best fit the students.
- Two units in Math 1201 were restructured to incorporate the injustice related to the way the world is misrepresented on maps.
- In Chemistry 3202 the thermochemistry unit was extended to include energy produced via nuclear reactors.
- Kindergarten to Grade 6 had a Robert Munsch themed literacy week that included guest readers such as Paul Raines of VOCM and Cst. Stephen FitzGerald. The week concluded with the launch of the Frankie Reading Challenge for Grade's 1-3 and all family groups doing a skit or tableau for a Robert Munsch book.

- The Nickel Film Festival has invited six Grade 10 girls to participate in a 1-day intensive workshop through which they will create a 5-minute documentary. The documentary will be premiered at the Nickel Film Festival.
- The Grade 3 students are completing a novel study on Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. The novel study will end with a Charlie theme day complete with costumes, games and surprises galore!

Athletic Program

- In addition to the many teams we already have, for the first time in a number of years, the school had a badminton team. The team attended a tournament in Mount Pearl and the students won gold and silver medals.

Music Program

- Our Elementary Chamber Choir established a new partnership with Memorial to host the “Lab Choir” for all pre-service Music Education teachers.
- The Elementary Chamber Choir partnered with Theatre St. John’s to perform in their “Broadway on the Rock” fundraising concert.
- Holland Hall Choral Music program established a relationship with 2 new places for our Christmas caroling outings- The Rooms and the Miller Centre.
- The Elementary Chamber Choir received an invitation to perform at Podium 2018 (Bi-annual National Choral Conference). This performance will include an opportunity to perform with 12 other local choirs, Throat Singers and Traditional Inuit Drummers while singing in English, French and Inuktitut.

Admissions

This year saw the creation of the Dean (Admissions) position. The Dean (Admissions) coordinates all aspects of the admission of students. This includes initial meetings with families, receipt of applications, school tours, academic evaluations and placement of students.

New Initiatives for 2017-18

- Creation of Student Ambassadors Club – 10 students recruited for Open House Tour and Kids Expo 2018
- Visits to Pre-schools began this year with a plan to expand for 2018-19
- A new Parent/Student Handbook is under development to assist new families coming into the school community
- Established a protocol to monitor new students over a school year
- Revisions were made to the Admissions protocol and process
- Information Session for new parents

III. ADVANCEMENT, COMMUNICA- TIONS, & ALUMNI

Advancement

Highlights of the year in development include:

- The membership of the Ignatius Society (members pledge to donate \$5000 to the Bursary Program over 5 years) has increased from 42 members in 2016-17 to 48 members in 2017-2018.
- The membership of the Xavier Society (members are 35 or under and pledge to donate \$1000 to the Bursary Program over 5 years) has increased from 2 members to 5 members.
- This year the Annual Giving Appeal saw a 129% increase in funds raised with 94 donors raising over \$72,000.
- To date, our events-based fundraising has seen an increase in revenue.

Communications

Highlights of the year in marketing and communications include:

Materials Produced

- 2016-2017 President's Report
- 17 information cards on a variety of aspects of the school and folder
- St. Bon's Hockey Skills Academy (SBHSA) Brochure
- A new school brochure
- 2016-2017 Report of Appreciation
- Easter Plus Camp brochure
- 2017-18 Annual Giving Brochure
- Gerald Squires' Stoneware Wall-reliefs for the Canadian Martyrs brochure
- Update to the landing page of our website to allow photos to appear with news articles
- 2018 Arrupe Lecture with Fr. Greg Boyle, SJ poster
- 2nd Edition of MAGIS (December 2017)
- 3rd Edition of MAGIS magazine (June 2018)

Video Production

- Completed: 2017 Fall Gala Sponsors Thank You video
- Completed: 2018 Ignatian Spirit Award video

Advertising

- Leadership Appointments announcement in The Telegram
- St. Bonaventure's College "A Great Place To Be" ad in the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra season program
- Mail out of thousands of invitations to Information Session
- Ignatius Society Ad in the Archbishop's Dinner & Auction program
- Alumnus of the Year & Magis Award Recipients Announcement in The Telegram
- Participation in the NL Kids Expo, June 2-3, 2018

Alumni

The 2017-18 year has been another busy year for the St. Bon's Alumni. The events that took place this year include:

- Plaque unveiling to commemorate Thomas Nangle, Class of 1909, who was named a Person of National Historic Significance.
- Fallen 51 Dinner – for the second year in a row this event was sold out.
- The Annual Alumni Dinner & Mass
- The Annual Alumni Christmas Social
- The Annual Alumni vs. Students hockey game
- The 1st Annual Alumni vs. Students basketball game

In the fall of 2017, in order to continue to strengthen our relationship with our Alumni, St. Bon's conducted an online survey that focused on how Alumni would like the school to better engage with them. Base on the response we instituted the following:

- Increased communication of current school and student activities to our alumni through our e-newsletter. The open rate of this newsletter has since increased by about 5%.
- The Annual Alumni Christmas Social sponsored a local charity for the first time in December 2017. Alumni were encouraged to donate at the door of this previously free event, with all collected monies going to The Gathering Place, a local not-for-profit service facility for the marginalized populations of St. John's. A \$700 donation was made to The Gathering Place on behalf of the St. Bon's Alumni.
- In March 2018, St. Bonaventure's College hosted a moderated panel discussion and networking event titled "Boom or Bust: The Changing Newfoundland Economy", featuring three local professionals: Carman Mullins, President of ExxonMobil Canada, Nancy Healey, CEO of the St. John's Board of Trade and Rob Blackie, co-CEO of Take the Shot Productions. Moderated by St. Bon's alumnus Jeremy Eaton of CBC, guests were able to ask meaningful questions about the direction of the Newfoundland economy and receive honest and well-thought answers from the panel. Development will go into providing similar opportunities in the future. A partnership was initiated with the Gardiner Centre of the Memorial University of Newfoundland's School of Business as a result of the panel.

Strategic Initiatives

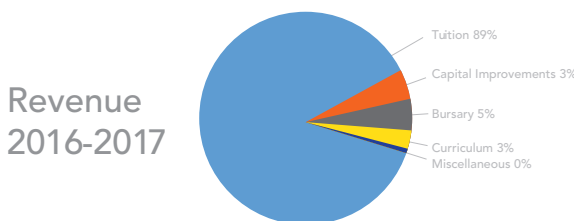
This year saw the creation of the position of Dean (Strategic Initiatives) as part of the leadership team at St. Bonaventure's College. The Dean (Strategic Initiatives) is responsible to coordinate all aspects of strategic initiatives as determined by the President and/or the Principal. During the 2017-18 school year their responsibility was to develop and implement an Easter camp and Summer camps and develop an after-school program to be launched in September 2018.

IV. FINANCE, FACILITIES & HUMAN RESOURCES

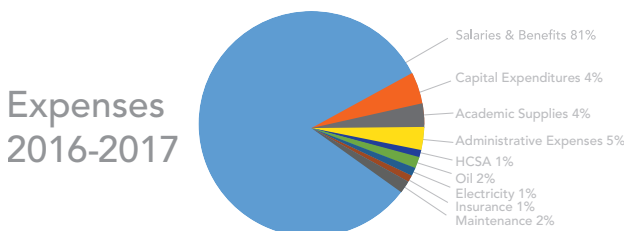
Finance

Fiscal Year 2016-2017 (AUGUST 1, 2016 – JULY 31, 2017)

Consistent with prior years, the primary source of revenue at St. Bonaventure's College was tuition, comprising 89% of total revenues. The remaining revenues were generated from other sources such fundraising and donations.



Salary remained the number one expense at 81% of the total expenses during the year. After paying staff salaries, the remaining funds generated through tuition were used for academic program supplies and operating expenses. As is the case most years, major capital improvements were funded through the hard work of our staff and students at fundraising events and by generous donors.



Facilities

We continue to complete upgrades and improvements to the school and the campus. During the past year the following work was completed:

- Holland Hall – drywall and windows,
- Holland Hall – repair steps,
- Mullock Hall – roof repairs,
- Mullock Hall – chapel cabinetry
- Mullock Hall – restoration of stations of the cross
- Mullock Hall – renovations President’s Office
- Painting and plumbing repairs in both Holland Hall & Mullock Hall,
- Replace 9 sections of fencing.

During the course of the summer of 2018 we anticipate completing:

- Holland Hall – renovations to cafeteria
- Replace 9 sections of fencing.

The cost of this work is approximately \$88,893, which has been and will be covered by the proceeds from the 2017 Fall Gala and the 2017 Lottery.

Human Resources

Through our membership in the Jesuit Schools Network we continue to access world class professional development. This year staff members attended 16 national and international professional development conferences, meetings or student events. We had representatives present at Jesuit Schools cohort meeting for:

- Seminars in Ignatian Leadership (Atlanta, San Francisco, Phoenix)
- Principals Conference & Professional Development Sessions (Denver)
- Leaders in the Middle Leadership Development Conference (Chicago)
- Education of Youth Meeting (St. John’s)
- Service Learning Experience with Loyola High School (Dominican Republic) ***
- Service Learning Experience with Canadian Jesuits International (Dominican Republic) ***

*** Paid for by a generous benefactor

Student leadership training (teacher/parent accompanied) and travel has included:

- Ignatian Leadership Program (Montreal)
- Ignatian Teach-In for Social Justice (Washington)
- Arrupe Leaders Summit (Maryland)
- Debating Championships (Halifax)
- El Salvador Service Learning Experience (El Salvador)

V. GOVERNANCE

The Board of Governors primary responsibility is to hold the Jesuit and Catholic mission and identity of the school in trust for the Society of Jesus by setting direction, establishing policies, and ensuring programs build and manifest the school's Jesuit and Catholic mission and identity. The Board mandate includes:

- Striving to represent the diversity of the community,
- Selection of trustees is mission driven and their understanding of the mission is strengthened through ongoing formation in Jesuit education, Ignatian spirituality, and good governance practices,
- With the President, maintaining a vibrant relationship with the Archbishop of St. John's, the Jesuit Provincial and the Assistant for Pre-secondary and secondary education (PASE).
- Engaging in presidential succession planning in collocation with the Jesuit Provincial, knowing the President is mandated by the Provincial as the "Director of the Work,"
- Actively participating in the Jesuit Schools Network,
- Ensuring professional growth opportunities for school personnel through the Jesuit Schools Network,
- Engaging in self-evaluation

These are accomplished through:

- Board retreats, discernments and examens.
- Laser focus on mission.
- Board composition.
- Good governance practice.
- Quarterly Board meetings.
- Board Orientation sessions.
- Yearly meeting with the English Canada Provincial and Provincial's Assistant for Secondary and Pre-Secondary Education (PASE).
- Participation by the local Jesuit Superior in service on the Board.
- Participation in the bi-annual Board Chairs Conference with the Jesuit Schools Network (JSN).
- Annual participation by Staff in a myriad of JSN cohort gatherings.

With Thanks

The Board of Governors of St. Bonaventure's College wish to express sincere thanks to outgoing Governors who have provided outstanding leadership and service:

- *Mr. Doug Bennett, Secretary*
- *Mrs. Elizabeth Whelan-Hollett*

2018-2019 THE YEAR AHEAD

Strategic Plan

We are now into the fourth year of the five year Strategic Plan. Evaluation of the plan is ongoing and we will begin very soon with the planning for a new strategic plan which we will launch in 2020.

Capital Campaign

Planning and preparation will continue around a capital campaign.

Service Learning

We will explore service learning and leadership opportunities for student and staff collaboration with other Jesuit institutions within the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States.

Fund Raising Plan

Our Annual Giving Campaign will become the cornerstone of our fundraising program. Our Fundraising strategy is maturing and we are beginning to see the emergence of new opportunities for events and activities.

Financial Management

A review of our internal financial controls will be undertaken by a newly appointed Finance Committee.

School Board Relations

We will continue to explore access to Newfoundland and Labrador English School Board sponsored professional development opportunities for our teachers.

Transformation of Curriculum

Working with the global Jesuit network of schools, we are beginning a comprehensive examination of teaching and learning in an Ignatian context. This will include a process to transform the design and delivery of curriculum in all grades and in all subject areas. This is an ambitious undertaking.

St. Bonaventure's College

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