

## Great Plains Lutheran High School Association May 6, 2023 Meeting Summary

The Great Plains Lutheran High School Association delegate assembly met on Saturday, May 6, 2023. The meeting was held with in-person and virtual attendance options, with 42 delegates representing 18 congregations, as well as two individual members, in attendance.

### Elections

Elections are held each May. Seth Hansen, Rob Busch, Zak Fick, Brian Gephart, Rev. Gerhard Juergens, Michael Lendt, and Rev. Ryan Wolfe were thanked for their service to the Endowment Committee and Board of Directors.

Seth Hansen was elected to the Endowment Committee, and Rev. Tim Berg, Rev. Albert Meier, Matthew Behm, Paul Kelm, Ben Duns Moor, Zak Fick, and Todd Tucker were elected to the Board of Directors. All those nominated and elected were thanked for their willingness to serve.

### Report Highlights

- Treasurer Zak Fick noted that our financial status is not unusual for this time of year. Numerous income and expense categories are on track with the budget. However, some encouragement and effort will be needed to meet our goals for Individual and Congregational income by June 30. The efforts of our association congregations and members are greatly appreciated.
- President David Maertz noted that we currently have 30 freshman applications as we look forward to graduating 33 seniors. He asked that everyone pray for current and future students, tell the GPL story, and encourage families regarding enrollment of students at all grade levels.
- President Maertz also noted that we will be working with a Principal vacancy in the coming year, and are thankful that Alex Mielke has accepted the call to be our next Spanish teacher. He also thanked Carina Rahn, Kristin Uher, and Gene Jaeger for their service. Mr. Jaeger will be retiring at the end of the school year. We look forward to welcoming Emily Cantwell as our first Learning Resource Coordinator and expanding how we offer educational support to our students.

- In addition to noting student and staff activities in his report, Principal Matt Bauer highlighted how God has blessed us with a very good school year; we haven't had any significant discipline issues and our students are confident letting their light shine. Between new activities and increased facility use, God is blessing us with positive connections with our community which will hopefully lead to increased awareness and maybe even new students down the line.
- Campus Pastor Karl Schauland noted that the end of the school year has a heavy focus on the seniors and their future plans after graduation. Many of the deep spiritual discussions in class recently have revolved around the book of Revelation and World Religions. No matter the path and no matter the challenges that these young adults will face, they have been encouraged to remain in the Truth of God's Love.
- Director of Mission Advancement Jeff Roloff encouraged congregational and individual support of our ministry; he also encouraged consideration of regular monthly giving and increased use of the Scrip program. The mission advancement office is ready to help in any of these areas, as well as helping individuals create deferred and estate giving plans that support gospel ministry.
- Each of our five standing committees reported on the tasks accomplished during the previous six months and noted efforts planned for the months ahead.

### 2023-2024 Proposed Budget

A budget of \$2,238,377 (8.8% increase) was approved for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. This budget looks for support of \$187,200 from association congregations, a 4% increase compared to the current year. Association congregations and members are asked to consider how they can support this increase.

### United in Praise

The formal portion of our *United in Praise* capital campaign has come to an end. While we continue to receive some pledges and gifts, we praise God for all the generous gifts that have made our facility expansion possible.

Thank you for your prayers and support!