



**Accola Mission Education Committee
Monday, December 16, 2024; 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
In-Person**

Present: Kevin Berg; Susan Oeffling, CSJ; Angela Schreiber, CSJ; Andrea Pearson Tande; Kristine Smyth; Jill Underdahl, CSJ; Karen Zeleznak

Staff: Lacy Sietsema

Not Present: Matt Halley

The Accola Mission Education Committee meeting began on Monday, December 16, 2024 at 1:36 p.m.

DEI Statement: Read by Susan.

Prayer: The committee was led in prayer by Angela Schreiber, CSJ.

Minutes: The November minutes were presented for approval. It was suggested to make a change under the Justice Commission Subcommittee: Change the sentence to read “Marty initiates and has contact in...”. With this change, the minutes were approved by all present members.

Approval of Agenda: The December committee agenda was presented. Hearing no additional items to add to the agenda, the agenda passed unanimously.

Accola Update

Kevin presented a report on the programs provided by Matt. The Learning in Style staff continue to provide a comfortable learning environment and the Open House in November was wonderful. Learning In Style Staff continues to reach out to community partners and potential partners. Matt also reported that there was an incident involving a student who was recently robbed while on her way to school. Theft isn’t uncommon for the area and Learning In Style is working with the Province to establish ways to deter crime on its premises. Learning In Style continues to provide a strong sense of community and is currently sharing a case manager with Sarah’s... an Oasis for Women.

The Wisdom Ways project continues to move forward. The consultants provided good data and the Programs and Opportunities Committee continues to discuss ideas and recommendations for Wisdom Ways moving forward.

The Annual Fund for Accola has gone out and donations are coming in.

Reports from Subcommittees

Justice Commission & Office: Susan reported that Angela, Karen, and she met with Marty to finalize the presentation for the January Board Education Session. This meeting will take place on Zoom and will last an hour. Karen and Andrea will be sent invites to the session.

Marty will discuss the role justice and the Justice Office plays within the CSJ Community. He will discuss outreach and how community members can engage with its social justice initiatives. Board members are encouraged to ask questions. There was a discussion about how to connect justice to the Accola programs, particularly with regards to immigration.

There was a discussion about how to introduce the Mission Education Committee, explain its purpose, and how to provide the Board with context before the presentation begins. It was suggested that the Education Session should be opened up to the wider Accola staff.

Update on Bus Tour Planning

Kris provided an update on the May Bus Tour. She suggested that the tour begins at the CSJ Administration Center. A meeting room has been reserved at the Celeste Hotel for the last part of the tour. The hotel does not provide catering, but food can be provided outside sources.

A schedule and list of stops will be provided to the bus driver. The committee discussed parking logistics at various stops. Andrea suggested creating a document that has both photos and a summary of some of the locations. Matt suggested having a ritual or blessing at one of the stops.

Next Meeting: January 20, 2025

Adjournment: The Mission Education Committee adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lacy Sietsema, Accola