



Accola Mission Education Committee
Monday, March 17, 2025; 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
In-Person & Zoom

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

Staff: Matt Halley; Lacy Sietsema

The Accola Mission Education Committee meeting began on Monday, March 17, 2025 at 1:35 p.m.

DEI Statement: Read by Andrea.

Spiritual Centering: The committee was led in spiritual centering by Susan Oeffling, CSJ.

Minutes: The February Minutes were presented for committee approval. Hearing no changes or corrections, the minutes were approved by all present members.

Approval of Agenda: The Mission Education Committee agenda was presented. Hearing no additional items to add to the agenda, the agenda passed unanimously.

Accola Update

Matt updated the committee on the activities of Accola. He recently visited Learning In Style School (LIS) and checked out some classes. He reported that students continue to feel safe. Classrooms have been labelled as “private” and a door buzzing system has been installed. LIS has a case manager to help with additional student needs.

Sarah’s... an Oasis for Women is full. Matt reported that some residents are asylum seekers and have to do mandatory check-ins with ICE. Staff and volunteers will now attend these meetings with residents.

The Board has been reviewing the recommendation from the Programs and Opportunities Committee regarding Wisdom Ways. There will be a special Board meeting at the end of March for the Board to approve the recommendation.

The committee discussed external agencies and if they continue to provide support to LIS and Sarah’s.

Bus Tour Update

Susan reported that the subcommittee has met and reviewed the plan for the tour. An outline has been drafted and contains who will speak at each site. The committee reviewed the route

and sites to be visited. There was a discussion about CSJ connections in Minneapolis. It was suggested that a list of Minneapolis sites be provided for members to visit at their leisure. The bus tour will end at the Celeste Hotel and there will be an opportunity for socializing. The hotel does provide bar snacks, and wine and soft beverages will be available.

The tour will consist of Board members, staff, and any additional committee members not on the Board. Lacy will develop a way to track RSVPs.

CSJ Founding Celebration

Susan reported that the Province will be celebrating the anniversary of the founding of the Sisters of St. Joseph. The US Federation is hosting the celebration in July in Kansas City. The St. Paul Province will provide opportunities to attend the event virtually.

Partnership between Accola & CSJ Justice Office

Matt would like to organize a partnership between Accola and the CSJ Justice Office after the new Advancement Director has been appointed.

Next Meeting: March 17, 2025

Adjournment: The Mission Education Committee adjourned at 2:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lacy Sietsema, Accola