

May 19, 2016

Dear Ironton Catholic Community:

As you are aware, Father Huffman, with the support of the Diocese of Steubenville, formed a FOCUS Committee two years ago. This committee represents each of the three parishes (St. Joseph, St. Lawrence, and St. Mary's) and our Catholic schools (St. Joseph High School and St. Lawrence Elementary School). The purpose of the FOCUS Committee was to study, evaluate, and propose a long-term strategic plan for capital improvements in the Ironton Catholic Community. The committee thanks, all who returned surveys, visited and toured our facilities for the scheduled walk-throughs, and planned, facilitated, and attended the open - community meetings.

Two years ago, the FOCUS Committee has gathered input from surveys, discussions, and questions which have been valuable tools in formulating the proposed plan. Although this strategic capital- improvements- plan effort has taken longer than expected, we are proud to report that two of the more immediate identified needs have been met. The committee paused its action to accommodate the purchase of the St. Lawrence Elementary School building, a critical step allowing forward movement in planning and improvements. Also, a tremendous amount of work has been done on our athletic fields with the building of dugouts and a press box, fencing, and ground work. Both projects have been dedicated for use by our school and community. With these components met, the FOCUS Committee is now shifting its attention to the preliminary planning stage of the strategic, long-term process. Inherent to this much larger task is the opportunity for feedback from you, the community. Your comments will be taken under advisement by the committee in formulating our final Strategic Plan recommendations.

Consequently, the FOCUS Committee will have an informational booth available this weekend at the Charity Fair this upcoming Memorial Day weekend. The purpose of the booth is to make available the results presents the results gathered through the planning process (survey results) and visual graphic displays and drawings of some of the main recommendations being considered by the Committee for the Capital Plan. As you will see, these recommendations directly reflect the priorities expressed to the Committee by the Ironton Catholic Community for its various school and parish facilities.

A representative from the FOCUS Committee will be present will be present to walk visitors through the displays and recommendations being considered from the hours of 11 – AM to 6 PM on Saturday and Sunday; and 9 AM – 1 PM on Monday. We hope to answer any questions that you may have concerning the process or the plan, providing you an opportunity for comments and recommendations. The committee values your input as we embrace opportunities for growth in faith development, academics, technology, and athletic and artistic endeavors for our youth as well as our faith community

We look forward to seeing you this Charity Fair weekend!

Respectfully,
Ironton Catholic Community
FOCUS Committee

Committee Members: Ralph Kline, Chairman; Mack Anderson, Bobby Ackerman, Lou Mains, Paul Mollett, Maria Whaley, Ben Roach, Larry Anderson Mike Haas, Shawn Walker