



DIOCESE OF SAGINAW

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

June 18, 2026

Dear All Saints Catholic School Families,

On Tuesday night (June 16), we held a Listening Session with a group of parents who have been requesting a meeting to address concerns at All Saints Catholic Schools. The meeting took place at the Center for Ministry and included members of the All Saints Catholic Schools Leadership Team, diocesan leadership, and members of the newly formed Advisory Council.

The purpose of this gathering was simple: to listen. Some families expressed concerns about communication, school leadership, and the direction of the school. Others simply shared their passion for All Saints Schools.

In addition, several ASCS staff members, including President and Middle/High School Principal Ms. Sarah Dowling-Anderson, shared personal experiences of cruel behavior on the part of some individuals from the school community. Quite honestly, this is inexcusable in a Christian community. These experiences over time have taken a toll on the staff, who need to plan for the 2026-2027 academic school year rather than being berated.

We also took the time to share “how we got here.” I assumed governance of All Saints Catholic Schools earlier this year, largely due to financial reasons. Diocesan Chief Financial Officer Michael Beaudoin shared that the Diocese has provided more than \$2.5 million in financial support to help keep the school open in the past five years. My decision, as I have stated in video and in previous letters, was made from a commitment to preserving Catholic education in our community.

We recognize that parents have questions, concerns, and hopes for the future of All Saints Catholic Schools. We also recognize that trust is built through communication, transparency, and ongoing dialogue. For that reason, I am committed to strengthening communication between school leadership, diocesan leadership, and parents.

Let me be clear once again: I am determined, through the grace of God and the work of Holy Spirit, to find a viable path forward not only to keep All Saints Catholic Schools open, but to see it thrive.

If you were at the meeting, there was a reason I asked Sarah and her leadership team to sit with me. It was to show a united front. While some parents may not agree with my decisions, Sarah and her team are the ones to lead us forward. My staff and I support them.

Elementary School Principal Ms. Lisa Rhodus is no longer employed by the school. We thank her for her dedication over these past years, and we wish her the best in her future endeavors.

We also want to let you know that Dr. Cormac Lynn has stepped down as Superintendent at the Office of Catholic Schools to accept a position outside the diocese. We also wish him the best in his career.

One important step in our effort is the formation of the All Saints Advisory Council. Its purpose is to provide advice, perspective, and feedback to me and school leadership as they make decisions that support the mission and sustainability of All Saints Catholic School.

For families who were unaware of this Listening Session or were unable to make a comment during the meeting and want an opportunity to share their thoughts – we invite you to submit questions, concerns, recommendations or reflections to ascquestions@diosag.org.

What is received will be shared with the Advisory Council for discussion and consideration at its upcoming meetings. Following those discussions, we will provide updates to the school community regarding themes, questions, and areas of focus that emerge. It will take some time to study and address the issues.

All Saints Catholic School - the community of parents, students, faculty, staff, alumni, parishioners, and supporters must share in one common desire: to provide an outstanding Catholic education rooted in our Catholic faith, academic excellence, and service. To make this a reality, we must work together, take time to heal, and most importantly, find the path to reconciliation and forgiveness among one another. It must begin with reconciliation.

While there may be differing opinions about the path forward, we remain united in our commitment to our students and to the mission entrusted to us by Christ and His Church.

Thank you for your continued prayers, support, and dedication to All Saints Catholic School.

Peace and joy in Christ,

+ Robert D. Gruss

Most Rev. Robert D. Gruss
Bishop of Saginaw