

# Saint Mary's University of Minnesota

## BYLAWS of the PARENTS COUNCIL

*[Approval pending Cabinet review as of June 1, 2019]*

### ARTICLE 1 – NAME

This organization shall be known as Saint Mary's University of Minnesota Parents Council, hereafter referred to as the Parents Council. Parents Council is an advisory board to the president. It is also the advisory board of the Saint Mary's Parents Association.

### ARTICLE II – GENERAL POWERS

The Parents Council, established by the president of Saint Mary's University of Minnesota and endorsed by the Saint Mary's University of Minnesota Board of Trustees, derives its powers solely from the president to whom it reports. The Parents Council does not have governance responsibilities or authority for the university. It has no legal status and functions under this set of bylaws.

### ARTICLE III – STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Parents Council works with the president, vice president for advancement and communication, and the Parents Council Leadership Team: to guide the members of the community of parents and guardians toward increased support, understanding, and enthusiasm for Saint Mary's University; to develop the parent/guardians community as a resource for the university; and to provide a vehicle for communication between the parent/guardians community, the university, and with other university constituencies.

### ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

The Parents Council will consist of 12 members. The initial twelve council members will be appointed directly by the president of the university. Thereafter council members will be appointed by the president of the university upon the recommendation of the Parents Council. Council members must have a current student enrolled at the college to be an eligible member, and may not be a current employee of the university.

The vice president for advancement and communication and the Parents Council leadership team (four-five staff members in total from admissions, student life and advancement/communication) are ex-officio non-voting members of the council.

The Parents Council shall endeavor to include members with a diverse set of talents, experience and competencies who will best fulfill the purpose of the council.

Council members will be eligible to serve one two-year term, with the option to extend into additional 1-year terms (6 additional terms is maximum, in the case of multiple children/students attending Saint Mary's). Terms begin immediately upon appointment by the president.

A council member may resign at any time by giving written notice to the president of the university, the vice president of advancement and communication, or the chair of the Parents Council. Council member(s) may be removed by the president of the university upon the vote of a majority of the Parents Council. Any such resignation or removal shall take effect at the time specified in the resignation communication or the removal vote.

New council members will be voted in at the spring meeting of each year. The slate will be developed by the Parents Council and the leadership team, and approved by the university president before final vote of the Parents Council membership.

## ARTICLE V –MEETINGS

The Parents Council will meet three times each year: spring, fall and winter (conference call). Special meetings may be called by the president of the university, the chair of the council, or the leadership team.

## ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND DUTIES

The Parents Council, at its spring meeting, shall elect from among its members a chair. The term of the Parents Council chair is 2-years.

The chair shall consult regularly with the leadership team on all matters pertaining to the business of the Parents Council and shall assist with the preparation of the agenda for all regular and special meetings. The chair, when present, will preside at all meetings of the Parents Council. The chair shall make periodic reports to the president of the university and to other constituents of the university as directed by the president of the university.

## ARTICLE VIII –AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended when necessary by a two-thirds majority vote of the Parents Council. Proposed bylaw amendments must be sent out with regular council announcements.