

Lasallian Mission Council Charter of Responsibilities

Approved January 14, 2016

Preamble:

In this document, the term Midwest District refers to the group of ministries listed in the Midwest District Directory and the Lasallians, some of whom are Brothers of the Christian Schools, commonly known as Christian Brothers, who serve in those ministries. The Midwest District is led by the Brother Visitor, who is assisted by the Lasallian Mission Council and the Superintendent of Lasallian Education.

The Midwest Province is the canonical entity whose membership is the Brothers of the Christian Schools. The Brother Provincial (Visitor), who is assisted by his Provincial Council (District Council), leads the Midwest Province. The Midwest Province is part of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools. The Institute, a Catholic religious congregation of men, is a canonical entity which is led by the Brother Superior General and his General Council. The Institute has a presence in over 80 countries around the world and has its headquarters (Generalate) in Rome, Italy. The Brother Provincial (Visitor) is appointed by the Brother Superior General.

Christian Brothers of the Midwest, Inc. is the not-for-profit civil corporation that controls certain Midwest District ministries as the Member of the Corporation. It holds reserve powers over the corporate boards of those ministries. The Member of the Corporation has assigned some of its reserve powers to Lasallian Mission Council.

Purpose:

The purpose of the Lasallian Mission Council (LMC) is to ensure that the Midwest District fulfills its mission of providing a human and Christian education of the young, especially the poor. The LMC guarantees and adds value to the vitality and unity of the mission at all ministries of the Midwest District.

Those who serve on the LMC are representative of the District. They assist, guide, and direct the Superintendent of Lasallian Education on mission-related District policies and major initiatives. They determine how best to promote and ensure the quality of the Lasallian mission at each District ministry.

The LMC will appoint ad hoc committees to address specific projects or needs within the Midwest District relating to mission at the ministries. In addition, the LMC administers certain reserve powers for the boards of ministries controlled by Christian Brothers of the Midwest, Inc., guides all of the boards of District ministries, and assists with board development and formation.

Duties and Responsibilities of the Lasallian Mission Council

1. Maintain oversight of the ministries controlled by Christian Brothers of the Midwest, Inc., in cooperation and collaboration with the Visitor and the District Council, and exercise significant influence on the other ministries within the Lasallian network.
2. Exercise the reserve powers of the Christian Brothers of the Midwest, Inc. outlined herein.
 - a. Amend the Bylaws of any Controlled Entity.
 - b. Approve the long range strategic plan of any Controlled Entity.
 - c. Approve the directors of any Controlled Entity.
 - d. Approve the Chief Administrator of any Controlled Entity.
3. Provide support for formation at the ministries of the Midwest District, for accompaniment of those ministries and their employees, and for the Young Lasallians.
4. Assure the presence of the charism in the ministries of the Midwest District and assure the work of the ministries with the poor.
5. Communicate regularly with the ministries of the Midwest District about the work of the Lasallian Mission Council and assist with collaboration and networking among the ministries.

Membership

The membership of the LMC shall be representative of the ministries of District and the Lasallians who work in and serve those ministries. For this purpose, names are surfaced in consultation with the LMC members, Mission Congress, Lasallian associative groups, and ministry leaders. The Brother Visitor appoints and removes the members of the LMC.

The LMC consists of no more than 15 members. The membership includes the Brother Visitor and the Superintendent of Lasallian Education as ex officio, nonvoting members. Generally, there is one representative from each university, five representatives of high schools, one representative of middle and elementary schools, one representative of other ministries, and three representatives chosen to balance the LMC membership (gender, geographic representation, needed skills or expertise, etc.).

Members begin their service at the September meeting of the LMC. They serve terms of four years. They are eligible for appointment to a second four-year term once.

Officers

The LMC elects three officers: chair, vice chair, and secretary. The chair works with the Superintendent of Lasallian Education to develop the agenda for LMC meetings and chairs the meetings. The vice chair substitutes for the chair when the chair is not available for meetings. The secretary ensures the accuracy and quality of the minutes of the meetings.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of the LMC is composed of the chair, vice chair, and secretary. The committee is convened by the Brother Visitor to address issues that require action and/or decisions between meetings of the LMC. The Executive Committee shall have such duties and authority as may be delegated to it by the Lasallian Mission Council. It also shall have the full powers of the LMC to take such action as may be necessary or appropriate in the event of emergency or other exigent circumstances, as determined by either the Brother Visitor or the Chair.

Reports

The LMC is kept informed by means of reports from appropriate offices and committees at the District level. The LMC may request representatives of any ministry to report to them to assist the LMC in the proper oversight as required by its reserve powers.

Budget

The Superintendent of Lasallian Education will provide the LMC with a proposed operating budget for the LMC for approval at its first meeting of each year. The budget will be approved by the LMC at that meeting and then sent to the Brother Visitor for his approval.

Meetings

Regular meetings of the Lasallian Mission Council shall be held at least three (3) times a year at such times as may be designated by the Chair after consultation with the Brother Visitor and the Superintendent of Lasallian Education. The Chair shall designate one such meeting as the annual meeting.

Special meetings of the Lasallian Mission Council shall be called by the secretary upon the request of the Chair or the Brother Visitor or upon the written request of any five (5) members of the Lasallian Mission Council. The date of the meeting and the purpose of the meeting shall be stated in the request.

Voting

All members of the Lasallian Mission Council may vote on all matters coming before the Council for consideration. No member may vote by proxy.

Action Without Meeting

Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Lasallian Mission Council or by any committee thereof may be taken without a formal meeting. Meetings may be conducted by mail, conference call or in any other manner determined by the Chair. In addition, the Board may act by a written unanimous consent setting forth the action so taken and signed by all members of the Board. Such written consents shall be filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the Board and shall be effective on the date signed by the last of the members of the Board to sign unless a different date is specified in the consent. The Board also may act by written ballot.