

The Founding of Cristo Rey Jesuit Milwaukee High School A Timeline of Events

August 2012: Marquette University, through its College of Education becomes the first institution of higher education to sponsor a feasibility study for a potential Cristo Rey model high school in Milwaukee. Dr. Bill Henk, Dean of the College of Education, and Dr. Jeff Snell, Founder of Marquette University Midwest Consortium of Social Innovation are named Co-Principal Investigators on the study. Andy Stith is named the Feasibility Study Director.

September 2012: First meeting of the Feasibility Study Executive Committee (FSEC), a group of 40 educators, Jesuits, and business and community leaders were charged with the task of demonstrating both the need and support for a Cristo Rey model high school in Milwaukee. Anne Zizzo, CEO of Zizzo Group Marketing + PR + New Media, and Fr. Jim Flaherty, SJ, Marquette University Lecturer, are charged with co-chairing the study. Feasibility Study work begins.

April 2013: Local education leaders complete an evaluation and offer endorsement of Cristo Rey's curriculum, assessment, and professional development offerings for teachers and principals.

December 2013: The FSEC completes gathering demographic data targeting the youth population in Milwaukee as well its need for quality, secondary educational schools. Interviews with 100 community leaders and surveys of 92 parents and 460 middle school students are completed demonstrating the need for Cristo Rey.

December 2013: A subcommittee of the FSEC charged with introducing Milwaukee area businesses to the opportunity of supporting students of a potential Cristo Rey school through the school's Corporate Work Study Program receives letters of intent for enough jobs for the freshman class of 100 students.

January 2014: Archbishop Jerome ListECKI offers his approval and enthusiastic support for the proposed school.

February 2014: Very Rev. Thomas Lawler, SJ, and Fr. Walter Deye commit to making Cristo Rey in Milwaukee the first new ministry and Jesuit high school of the combined Wisconsin and Chicago-Detroit Provinces of Jesuits, contingent on the approval of Very Rev. Adolfo Nicolas, SJ, Superior General of the Society of Jesus.

March 2014: The Cristo Rey Network's \$4.1M minimum school start-up requirement for the Milwaukee effort is met and surpassed.

March 2014: Very Rev. Adolfo Nicolas, SJ, Superior General of the Society of Jesus, approves the foundation of the new Jesuit high school.

April 2014: St. Florian's Parish commits to leasing the school site to Cristo Rey as of August 2014.

April 2014: The Cristo Rey Network Governance Board approves the launch of Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in Milwaukee.

April 2014: At an April 23rd press conference and community celebration, Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in Milwaukee is officially announced by the Wisconsin and Chicago-Detroit Province Jesuits and the Cristo Rey Network with the support of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. After a national president search, Andy Stith is hired to be founding president of Cristo Rey Jesuit.

Spring - Summer 2014: Fr. Bill Johnson, SJ is hired and missioned to the school as its Vice President for Strategic Growth. Key leadership staff – including the Principal, Corporate Work Study Director, Development Director, Business Manager, and Admissions Director will be hired.

September 2014 – June 2015: First class of students will be enrolled at Cristo Rey. Staff will continue to acquire additional job placement in businesses for Cristo Rey students. Fundraising efforts will proceed to build on the Cristo Rey minimum start-up requirement. Academic and Corporate Work Study Programs will be developed and implemented. Teachers will be hired.

August 2015: Doors of the school will open to its first class of students, the Class of 2019.