

**Saint Katharine Drexel School
Committee Minutes
3/9
7:00 pm via zoom**

Attendees:

Principal Jennifer Crombie, Angela Zwald (President), Mark Roedl (Vice-President), Sarah Bindl (Secretary), Jennifer Wendorf, John Bowser Danielle Paul, Marybeth Schessow, Greg Steil, Jennifer Nampel, Estella Calvo-Gil

Absent: Father Mike

Call to Order:

Angela Zwald, Committee President, called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Opening Prayer:

Opening prayer was led by Sarah Bindl.

Introduction of Guests:

Tricia Cargen

Approval of Minutes:

Greg Steil made a motion to approve the November minutes followed by John Bowser.

Roundtable - Share something positive:

- Jenny Wendorf and Jenny Nampel shared that many SKDS kids were on the BDUSD HS honor roll last week.
- Estella Calvo-Gil thanked Ms. Crombie and staff for the amazing 8th grade retreat. Ms. Crombie shared the kids had amazing reflections about their day at the retreat and their growth in spirituality.
- Marybeth Schessow shared that a gentleman from the parish was excited the SKDS kids were able to go back to mass! He also shared he has been

watching the kids grow up over the years. This is a great indication of the connection between the parish and school.

Administrator's Report:

The first week of our 5-day in-person schedule went well. We had to make some minor adjustments here and there, but so far, so good!

For Friday morning school Masses, one cohort will attend Mass in-person at a time. The other students will have Mass streamed into the classroom. Last Friday, grades 1-3 attended and it was so great to be back in church with students, music, servers, etc.

This week the students are visiting the St. Joseph Table with their class. The tradition of the "St. Joseph Table" of food ("la tavola di San Giuseppe") has its origins in Sicily. Legends from the Middle-Ages attributed the end of a devastating drought to a prayer-devotion that the Sicilian people made to St. Joseph. This celebration is a symbolic "thank you" and renewal of the Sicilian people's devotion to Saint Joseph. It is a shared celebration with the entire community where the riches of food are given as alms to the poor: Traditional etiquette is that no one can be turned away from this table. (National Catholic Registry)

This year we have two celebrations: the year of St. Joseph and the one-year anniversary of God guiding us through the COVID 19 pandemic.

St. Katharine Drexel Parish is setting up a St. Joseph Table in the narthex of the church.

People are invited to bring non-perishable food items to contribute to the altar.

All are invited to take a gift away from our local Secular Franciscans.

Prayer cards will be present to say a prayer for our families and communities through the intercession of St. Joseph.

When: March 10 through March 21, 2021 (St. Joseph's feast day is March 19).

On March 25 and 26, the students in grades 3-8 will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The Alumni postcards were sent out last week. I have received more than 40 emails from alumni updating their information!

The Wisconsin Parental School Choice application period continues through April 15. To date we have 30 choice students who have applied for next year, 9 of those students are new to the Choice program. I am waiting on 7 of our current Choice students to apply. I anticipate at least 37 Choice students for next year. We still have a month left of the application period.

I am very excited to announce that Joe Wendorf has agreed to be our Athletic Director. He is looking to find others who will form an Athletic Association to aid him in this venture.

Staff will receive the COVID-19 Vaccine on Wednesday, March 10, and March 31. We will have an early release on both days.

Church Health Services is back and providing us with counseling services again. There are two counselors that will be working with our students. One will be working with small groups and the other will be working with individual students.

Calendar for 2021-22: I've attached the link to the first draft of the calendar for next year. [SKD 21-22 Calendar](#) Not all dates on this calendar

have been officially set. Please do not share this calendar with other parents because it is not finished and dates will change, thank you!

I would like your input/thoughts on the start of school. Would it work to have our Open House on a Sunday afternoon? Also, we need to decide which days of the week we will hold our 3K Preschool program.

Traditionally it has been a M-W-F schedule, however, we usually miss an average of 5 Fridays throughout the year. It has been suggested that we go to a M-Tu-Th schedule. This will help accommodate those who use daycare on a Wednesday-Friday schedule.

Security Cameras: I would like to get security cameras on the upper floor by the 4th-8th grade classrooms, similar to the cameras on the first floor; in addition to the cafeteria. There have been a number of situations where having a camera would have helped provide information to address a problem.

Here is the link to an update on the Gifts Grant that we received last year and how the money is being spent. [Gifts Grand at SKDS](#)

Band Guild Spaghetti Drive-thru: Discussions continue and no decisions have been made at this time. They are in search of a lead person to head this event.

Taher Lunch Program - We are making a small profit but next year could be different. The plan is to contract with Taher once again. Jenny is looking into possibly paying a part-time person for next year to aid with meal prep. It is a crucial part of our day that is partly run by volunteers.

Pastor's Report:

Father Mike was absent

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee - John Bowser shared the budgeting process is ongoing and they are continuously working on balancing the budget.

Parish Council Liaison Report - Greg Steil shared there will be three openings on the pastoral council. The house across the street has been sold. Currently there is no priest assigned to replace Father this summer. Barb Heinzen's position is still vacant. Father is in the process of interviewing for the position.

Unfinished Business:

Subcommittee updates

SCRIP - Marybeth met with Alison. We are currently at about half of the amount of sales we have had in the past. We went from 98 to 38 standing orders. Many people have not started up their standing orders since COVID. No date has been decided to have the SCRIP office open again. Alison is thinking of selling every other week after the 10:00 and 12:30 masses. Several people have indicated they are ready to come back to help with sales at mass. We would like to have more school families involved in sales.

ALUMNI COMMITTEE - Sarah shared that we are receiving requests for our facebook page and alumni are updating their information on the SKDS site. We would like to find additional ways to engage our alumni and eventually propose volunteer opportunities.

New Business:

-School Calendar 2021-2022

Jenny Crombie will propose having an all school mass and open house on the Sunday before school starts for the 2021-2022 school year.

-Fundraising

We are hoping to transition to a new format for our main fundraiser to take place in August 2022. Glitz will be our fundraiser for one last year. Ms. Crombie suggested looking into what other parish-schools are doing and possibly use those ideas for a template. Tricia shared the new contract

for Old Hickory. She has not yet reserved to have Glitz there due to wanting to review the contract closer. Greg Steil made a motion to hold the Glitz event at the same time and location as in the past with the intention of it being the last event of its kind. Jenny Wendorf made a second motion to approve this.

-SAC Meeting Format

We will begin meeting in-person next month for the next three months with the option to join via zoom for those who would still like to be virtual. We will re-evaluate in June. Mark made a motion to move forward with this followed by Jenny Wendorf.

-SAC Committee Members

Sarah Bindl & Estella Gil will continue serving on the SAC for a second term. Jenny Nampel's term is up in June.

Mark Roedl shared the Men of Christ event taking place on the 20th of March and is asking that we spread the word.

Closing Prayer:

Closing prayer was led by Angela Zwald.

Adjournment:

Greg Steil made a motion to adjourn the meeting followed by Jenny Wendorf.

