

Saint Katharine Drexel Parish School
School Advisory Commission Minutes
7/11/2023
6:15 pm

Attendees:

Father Will, Principal Tina Ellefson, Mark Roedl (Chair), Adam White (Vice Chair), Sarah Bindl (Secretary), Sara Beecher, John Bowser, Carolina Ganske, Marybeth Schessow, Melanie Budde, Kirsten Reader



Call to Order:

Mark Roedl called the meeting to order at 6:21 p.m.

Opening Prayer:

Opening prayer was led by Father Will.

Introduction of Guests:

None

Approval of Minutes:

Adam White made a motion to approve the June minutes followed by Sara Beecher. All approved.

Celebrations! Good News!

- The SKDS band looked great marching in the 4th of July parade! There were about 35 students who were able to attend and represent our school!

Officers for SAC - nominations, discussions, voting

- Adam White nominated Mark Roedl for another term as the Chair of SAC. Sarah Bindl made a second motion to nominate Mark Roedl. All approved.
- Sarah Bindl nominated Adam White for the position of Vice Chair of the SAC. Melanie Budde made a second motion to nominate Adam White. All approved.
- Adam White nominated Sarah Bindl for the Secretary role of the SAC. Mark Roedl made a second motion to nominate Sarah Bindl. All approved.

Pastor's Report - Father Will

- Father Will shared the Long Range Planning committee had been looking into a mural for the side of the school but they will be holding off on this for now. However, the Building and Grounds committee was not opposed to adding more signage for the building. Father is looking into something that is timeless and a possible statute of St. Katharine Drexel.
- Father shared we are not maximizing our SCRIP funds and that this should be an upcoming goal and priority for our parish and school.
- There was recently an Endowment fund meeting. Father feels optimistic about the goal the committee has to grow the funds and for alumni outreach.

Principal's Report - Tina Ellefson

- I met with Tiffany Sponholz, the Director of Student Services for the BDUSD about unused title funds she found from years past. She suggested purchasing items to build a resource library for the teachers. The items would include things such as wobble stools, slant boards for writing, spacing guides, pencil grips, and other items. She is hoping to have these items to us before the start of the school year.
- I have hired Clark Crombie to fill the open middle school ELA/ 1st -8th grade Spanish position. He is very excited and looking forward to the start of the year.
- I have submitted our self study report to the Archdiocese and WRISA. This needed to be completed by June 30, 2023. Our Accreditation visit is scheduled for October 25 and 26.
- Our enrollment numbers have not changed since the June meeting:

Current enrollment numbers for the 2023-2024 school year: **182**

- Preschool 9
- 4K 19
- 5K 11
- 1st 20
- 2nd 12
- 3rd 16
- 4th 14
- 5th 17
- 6th 21
- 7th 23
- 8th 20

We have 52 students that have accepted their Choice voucher for the 2023-2024 school year.

- We have the following positions open for the 2023-2024 school year

- 3rd grade Teacher
 - 4K-8 grade Vocal Music
 - School Counselor
- Students who qualify for School Choice should not be paying for the yearly band fee. However they are required to pay for their instruments.

Pastoral Council - Liaison update - John Bowser

- No meeting in July

Finance Council - Liaison update - John Bowser

- Saint Katharine Drexel Parish Finance Council met on June 20th.
- Final budget numbers were discussed and deficit budget was approved. This is due to a one-time adjustment arising from updating Endowment bylaws.
- Approved replacement/installation of two new bubblers in the school
- Looking into the potential of acquiring the [FACTS Tuition Management](#) program/system to allow for more streamlined and online bills/dues/fees payment. This will also allow for more real-time understanding of what is owed and when (and to whom).

Stewardship Committee - Liaison update - Sara Beecher

- Sara shared they are currently working on the July parish newsletter. Articles for this newsletter will include Endowment and Scrip. If you have any future topics you would like to see in our quarterly newsletter, please let Sara know.
- Parish Directory - it has been roughly 9 years since our last parish directory. Scheduling for photo sessions will begin in July. Photos and directory should be available for Christmas.

Committee Reports

The goal should be for each of our sub committees to be fully staffed by next year. Mark Roedl reviewed the organizational chart and structure for our new SAC members.

Marketing

Currently very little focus on marketing. We are in need of leadership in this area. We need a plan that is realistic to our situation. Parents are the best salespeople for our school. We need a five-year plan and vision and how we are going to meet our goals.

Fundraising

Fall into Fun:

- Next planning meeting is July 15th 8:30 in the parish garden. Final schedule is almost complete, look for postcards and flyers soon! Volunteer sign up begins the first week of August in the northex.

Scrip:

- Scrip renewal/information weekend will be August 26 and 27 after each Mass. Information sessions along with Scrip gift card giveaways are being planned. Our hope is to kickoff the school year with a good number of new Scrip users. If you have interest in helping this weekend, please let Sara Beecher know. We need a couple people available to answer questions on how to use and buy Scrip.

Home & School

No update

Band Guild

- Allison Wells has replaced Jack Hanks as the treasurer of the Band Guild.

Safety

No update

Closing Prayer:

Father Will led us in closing prayer.

Adjournment:

Kirsten Reader made a motion to adjourn the meeting followed by Melanie Budde.

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