

Saint Katharine Drexel Parish School
School Advisory Commission Minutes
12/12/2023
6:15 pm

Attendees:

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

Absent:

Sarah Bindl (Secretary), Carolina Ganske

Call to Order:

Mark Roedl called the meeting to order at 6:17 p.m.

Opening Prayer:

Opening prayer was led by Father Will

Introduction of Guests:

None

Celebrations! Good News!

- Looking forward to the Christmas concert Thursday, December 14th 1:30pm and 6:30pm
- Cookies and Carols by Home & School was a success

Pastor's Report - Father Will

- Fr. Will & Fr. Carlos are in the process of reconciliation with students
- Discussion of the impacts of the Dodge County restructuring over the next 2 years. Parish group involved in the transition to meet in the New Year.

Principal's Report - Tina Ellefson

- Accreditation Update: I met with John Soper from the Arch on Monday, December 4 to go over our report from the visit in October. We currently have 9 benchmarks below the minimum required level. Some of those benchmarks the staff and I will be able to submit additional evidence to the Arch before June 1, 2023 to raise our benchmark score. For others we just don't have things in place to achieve the minimum required level. For those benchmarks we will need to write action plans. These action plans are also due by June 1, 2023. All this information was shared with the faculty on Tuesday, December 5 during our December faculty meeting.

Discussion Notes:

Accreditation takes place every seven years. Staff and committees to start building evidence years prior to the year of accreditation.

- Advent is full swing at school and there is so much happening in all the different classrooms. Here is a full list of everything going on in the school. Advent
- On December 13th our Preschoolers and 4K students will have their Christmas programs in the morning. Then on December 14th our Kindergarten-Eighth graders will have their Christmas program. They will have two programs again this year, our daytime program is at 1:30 and our evening program is at 6:30

Middle School Music and School Counselor positions are posted on Handshake.

In January the staff will begin to work on updates to the behavior policy. Broken down by primary and elementary to work within grade levels in regards to consequences.

Stewardship Committee - Liaison update - Sara Beecher

- Two special Advent events:
 - Home and School and Stewardship are hosting Cookies and Carols on Sunday December 10th. SKDS Band students will perform after 8:00 Mass and Joyful Noise children's choir will perform after 10:00 Mass. Home and School is providing the cookies.
 - Join us for Art as Prayer on Sunday December 17th, 2:00 pm. \$35 to attend and to make a Christmas wreath.

Pastoral Council - Liaison update - John Bowser

- No December meeting

Finance Council - Liaison update - John Bowser

- Saint Katharine Drexel Parish Finance Council met on November 21st
- Discussion regarding visibility into classrooms from the hallway and how this gels with safety recommendations
- Glitz funds for end-of-night auction: Recommended that funds go to restricted school safety fund. Buildings and Grounds working on identifying areas of need and getting quotes. Hope is that by winter/spring, actionable items will be identified and funds can be used for this.
 - If there is a desire for something else, this can be taken back to Finance in December.
- Discussion of school families with delinquent fees and policies related to that. While an area that is the responsibility of Finance Council, it does point to the need to not forget about the Tuition Assistance Fund as a place for donations *[Editorial statement from John]*

Unfinished Business

Marketing - Fr wishes to hold off temporarily on decisions until the parishes are brought together in the restructuring process.

Possible need to revamp the Parish/School website. Check out eCatholic for high quality websites.

Committee Reports

Fundraising - Sara Beecher

Glitz - next meeting Monday, Dec. 18th at 6:15pm in St. Cecelia's Room
They could use additional volunteers to run the event.

Long Range Planning

Next meeting date to be determined

Home & School - Sara Beecher

January meeting held. No known events coming up.

Home & School would like to provide financial assistance to teacher needs. SAC to assist with the process.

Christmas Parade was well attended.

Band Guild

December meeting minutes to be approved and distributed.

Donated five Christmas trees for the Christmas Concert.

Closing Prayer:

Father Will led us in closing prayer.

Adjournment:

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