

School Board Meeting: Tuesday, April 17, 2018

Attendees: Barb Haase, Jenny Crombie, Angela Davis, Tricia Cargen, Deb Hankes, Jill Kaufmann, Angela Zwald, Jenny Merrill, Fr. Mike Erwin

Meeting Called to Order: 7:03pm

Prayer: Lead by Barb Haase

Introduction of Guests: Jenny Merrill

Review and Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve by Tricia Cargen, all in favor

Eyes & Ears: Special Ops Day for SKDS Middle School students was a huge success, and highly impacted the students in a positive way. Some of the topics and special performances included: CPR lead by Deb Hankes, Karate demonstrations by Martial Arts of America, health and fitness by Beaver Dam's new gym Powerhouse Athletics, Drug Problem/Awareness discussion, Sheriff Dale Schmidt. Presentation on Sex Trafficking safety and precautions by 5 Stones ~ Due to the high success of the program Barb Haase hopes to make this an annual event.

ALICE program was discussed in regards to student and staff safety in the event of an intruder attack. As of now, the students are aware of some safety precautions and lessons in their homerooms. Currently, no routine drills are run, but will potentially be added in the near future. Currently there is a Protocol/Written Routine Safety Plan that is being reviewed and finalized.

Pastor's Report:

Church Renovation:

The church renovation fundraising is coming to an end. Due to the inclement weather they plan to schedule one more "Commitment Weekend" meeting to have supporters commit to an amount and donation plan. Currently Fr. Mike stated they are in the final stages of fundraising. Without having exact numbers in front of him he estimated to be around \$2.3 million raised thus far. Further donation efforts will be requested from community business. The idea is to ask for community support in some of the exterior renovations (steeple, steps). One board member questioned about the bells chiming again after renovation. Fr. Mike said this would be looked at toward the end of the renovation process.

Father Mike suggested that some more members be present at the Tuesday and Wednesday meeting. Suggested Representation: school staff, School Board Member, someone from the athletic department, and someone involved with Band to represent and answer questions. This was suggested because renovations will affect the locker room, the gym entrance, the band area, and the restrooms.

Also currently underway is clearing out of the houses purchased on James Street. The process of collecting tear down bids is underway.

Fundraiser Events Held by School:

The discussion continues on which fundraisers the school should continue to host and which to eliminate. This is based on whether or not there are too many, as well as weighing the required “manpower” against the amount of funds are raised.

Fr. Mike also mentioned that a decision making structure should be put in place to decide on how each event is run to avoid disagreements during the planning stage.

The “fundraiser list” has been created and shared with School Board, Marketing PR, and school staff. People have had the opportunity to add any events that were missing. The idea is to create this list as a means to weigh out the total fundraisers to more easily assess which are vital to the school and capable of being well organized. Also, the list will help separate Fundraisers (which bring in substantial funds) and School Family Events (which bring Home and School together, but either break even or have minimal cost/profit)

Administrator’s Report:

Good News: 3 SKDS teachers will be having babies within the next several months. Thus far Kathy Armstrong has agreed to be a long-term substitute helping out with the 3-year old preschool program and 4K. Other substitutes are to be determined. Congratulations Teachers!

Choice Update: 2018-2019 year has 10 applicants; the application process is open until April 20, 2018 so more could potentially come in. The selected individuals will be randomly chosen through a state level lottery.

Currently, of the 10 applications, 7 are returning from this school year to next, 2 are new students with siblings currently enrolled, and 1 is brand new.

Choice Audit: Choice is surely a blessing to our school and a blessing to the families who are able to give their children a Catholic education, but the process is highly complicated and heavily involved. There was a lot of work done by Ms. Haase, staff, and school board for the audit process and a follow-up appointment just occurred as well. A count-verification was also done in January to ensure that the choice students are currently enrolled and indeed attending SKDS. The attendance process was presented to the board and reviewed by each member at the meeting.

Current Enrollment: 2018-2019 school year:

Preschool: 17, 4K: waiting to get numbers from the state, 1st: 20, 2nd: 16, 3rd: 9 (possibly 10), 4th: 16, 5th: 26, 6th: 17, 7th: 21, 8th: 20

One board member questioned the process to become a student in next year’s fifth grade class since it’s currently at capacity. Currently, there is a waiting list to get into that class. The question was posed to see how many people would need to request becoming a student before the school would consider adding another teacher and dividing the class. This is unknown, as it would need to be thoroughly examined to determine if there is concrete interest in enough students to be able to add more staff. Also, it would need to be determined how to have staff changing grade levels each year to move with the large class.

Also discussed: Will there need to be additional support from parents or staff in the 5th grade class next year (due to the large class size) when the teacher returns from maternity leave?

Accreditation: The School Board needs to establish goals for being a supportive asset to the school. Ideas can be brought to the next school board meeting.

Suggestions from Barb:

- Invite people from school committees to attend a School Board Meeting (PR, Athletics Coordinators/Coaches, Band, Home and School)
- Visit the school as a board member, not as a parent. Look at the school from a professional standpoint to become a supportive resource, holding a professional opinion of our school

Al Arnold Reading Program: put into effect at SKDS to help students who struggle with reading due to a variety of circumstances

- The program has been shown to be effective and successful in helping several students at SKDS
- Students have been evaluated to determine where there is a need
- Any parents that feel their child could benefit from this program are welcome to mention their interest and bring their questions to Ms. Haase

School Board Positions and Terms:

Currently, all members of the school board are set to be “on” for another year. A term is a 3-year commitment and 2 terms can be served. One current member is entering into her 2nd term and can to decide to return for a 2nd term or discontinue.

However, the following school year (2019-2020) will have 4 open positions.

Finance Report:

- Finance report was distributed and reviewed.
- Tuition for the 2018-2019 school year had a 3% increase
- Teacher Contracts go out on May 5, 2018 and are due back on May 15, 2018
- There are 2 known Retirees: 1 classroom teacher, and 1 classroom aide
- The new shades have been installed thanks to the money generously donated at last year’s Evening of Glitz as well as an anonymous donor. The blinds were installed by Made in the Shade, Co., which was spoken very highly of. The staff and students are enjoying the new shades and noticing a difference in temperature comfort in the rooms!

Parish Report: none

New Business:

One member suggested meeting at the Parish Center for School Board meetings instead of in the school at the Catacombs. For now, the Catacombs will continue to be the location based on convenience for Barb in getting needed materials from the office.

Adjournment: 8:27pm Motion to Adjourn by Jill Kaufmann 2nd by Jenny Wendorf