**ST. JOSEPH’S SCHOOL**

School Board Minutes

Tuesday, June 8th, 2021

4:30 pm

1. Call to order and opening prayer
   1. In attendance: Father Kovash, Ryan Martire (Seminarian), Father Luger, Aaron Schmit, Vanessa Njos, Heidi Coughlin, Brandon Johnson, Abbey Dahlberg, & Samantha Mendis.
   2. Absent: Julie Quamme, Kelsey Lee, & Erin Vournas
2. Previous Meeting Minutes
   1. Motion to approve previous meeting minutes by Brandon Johnson, 2nd by Heidi Coughlin
3. Financial Report
   1. The budget for the upcoming school year has been approved by the finance council. The budget was presented to the school board today for acceptance.
      1. The school board reviewed the budget and motioned to accept the budget. Motion to accept by Brandon Johnson, 2nd by Heidi Coughlin.
   2. Donation’s line is donations given specifically to the school. This is based on previous years totals.
   3. Under Fundraising line, items are subdivided into categories such as PTO, Telethon, Scrip, etc. so that the funds can be allocated to the correct areas. The Diocese now requires us to track out expenses as well as the income in this category.
   4. Instead of spending large amounts of money on updated curriculum the school is switching to supplementing curriculums and/or buying parts of curriculum to devise our own curriculum.
   5. The Bishop did not want the diocese applying for a 2nd round of the PPP loans.
      1. Brandon suggested looking the Employee Retention Credit to see if there are monies available in this area.
4. Principal’s Report given by Father Kovash
   1. Enrollment is at 192 with a projected enrollment of 200. Tuition was increased 2.5% for next year.
   2. The school was notified that there was grant money available for our school from District 1. The grant is for things to help our students “catch up” from the impacts of Covid. The school was awarded $124,000!!
      1. This grant will be used for subscriptions, new Chromebooks, Daily 5, etc. This can be used over 3 years.
   3. A 1st Grade teacher has been hired; her name is Brianna Ritter.
      1. We are still in need of a 6th grade teacher.
   4. The new personnel policy has been completed and distributed.
   5. The school ended the year with a concert and there was a lot of positive feedback on this event. The year also concluded with 6th Grade graduation and Step-Up Mass.
5. PTO Update
   1. None
6. Old Business
   1. The school is looking to see if it will be possible for the school to open up at 7:30a next year. Hopefully if it is not able to be implemented in the fall, then hopefully soon after.
      1. This most likely will not happen next year but hopefully in the future.
   2. Parking with the cones has made things better. The cones will be extended starting tomorrow all the way down to the gym door.
      1. The teachers and parents felt like this made a huge improvement and will be implemented next year as well.
7. New Business
   1. Discuss electing a new member in Heidi Coughlin’s place. Heidi’s term will expire after the September meeting.
      1. The School Board appreciates Heidi’s dedication and service to the board over the past 6 years!
      2. The school board suggested Priscilla Morris, Kristina Haugen, Kim or Shawn Wenko. These people will be called to see if they are interested, and the board can email any additional names to Father or Julie.
         1. Nominees cannot be on the school board if they have family employed with the school.
8. Pastors Report given by Father Kovash
   1. Over the past 3 years the Parish has acquired the 2 lots next to the Rectory. The school is continuing to grow in numbers and is looking for solutions. The school anticipates that by Fall of 2022, the school will be needing additional classrooms.
      1. About 5 weeks ago, Father met with the city to discuss the possibilities for these lots. Father foresees an early childhood center that would include daycare and preschool. The building would be 46’x80’ 2-story building. There would be a small playground on the East end of the building.
   2. Mrs. Mendis and brother were talking about the dilemma with the school wanting to get 7th & 8th grade back in the school. They started drawing up ways to make this happen. They came up with a 2-story building option that would be located on the north side on the playground and would enclose the playground into a “courtyard” like space. The school would only loose 4 parking spots with this option.
      1. The school is looking at options that would help provide similar options for our “middle school” aged students that they would have at the Middle School.
   3. These two options together would be substantially less money than the previous option of buying an additional building. The early childhood center would cost around 2M and the 2nd wing of the school would be 3-3.5M. Father would like an additional 3M for emergencies and such.
      1. Father would like to have a good portion of this funded before presenting it to the Parish.
      2. Father has gotten Bishop Kagan’s blessing on these projects. The Bishop has given permission to higher an architect, civil engineer, and surveyor.
      3. There is a good chance of also receiving Economic Development funds.
      4. Heidi mentioned having a more centralized office that is more accessible to parents.
9. The next school board meeting will be Tuesday July 6th, 2021 at 4:30pm in O’Neill Hall.
10. Closing Prayer & Meeting Adjourned