**ST. JOSEPH’S SCHOOL**

School Board Minutes

Tuesday, January 19th, 2021

4:30 pm

1. Call to order and opening prayer
   1. In attendance: Father Kovash, Julie Quamme, Aaron Schmit, Father Luger, Vanessa Njos, Erin Vournas, Kelsey Lee, Heidi Coughlin, Abbey Dahlberg, & Samantha Mendis.
   2. Absent: Brandon Johnson
2. Previous Meeting Minutes
   1. Motion to approve previous meeting minutes by Heidi Coughlin, 2nd by Kelsey Lee
3. Financial Report
   1. None
4. Principal’s Report given by Julie Quamme
   1. Enrollment is same as when we met in December. Enrollment has been opened for the 2021 school year. As of today, 47 families have already re-enrolled. The school is trying to track families who may need tuition assistance for next year.
   2. The school does not anticipate needing more than one 1st grade at this time but are still watching the numbers closer. The school is hoping for 200 students again for next year.
   3. Gov Burgum allowed the mask mandate to expire as of January 18th at 8am. Mayor Klug has extended the mask mandate in the city of Williston. At this time, St. Joes will continue with the mask mandate but have discussed not having the children wear masks in the classroom when the mask mandate expires. The students will still be required to wear them in the hallways and in music and will continue to stay in their classroom cohorts throughout the day.
   4. Currently 1 student and 1 staff member are quarantined due to close contacts. There are currently zero positive cases at the school.
   5. They are currently 2 students learning virtually.
   6. The school is doing an optional Conscious Discipline training. So far 10 staff members have signed up to participate. Each staff member who signs up with receive a $250 stipend that is coming from some federal monies that were granted. The ones that did not do it this year will receive training on this next year.
   7. The reading curriculum the school is using is about 7 years old. The newer teacher coming in are struggling with the curriculum as it misses some key pieces to what they feel the kids should be learning. The staff is looking at new curriculum and have been using some of their early out/professional development days to compare what the state standards are and what is lacking in the curriculum.
   8. Catholic school’s week starts on January 31st, 2021. The students will receive their annual t-shirt. Erin Vournas will take the school picture this year. Some of the activities include collecting items and goodies for the police department, the students will have an art day where they are hoping to have an art teacher give lessons over zoom, a vocation day including a video of the different vocations, play bingo and beach volleyball, coffee and snack cart for the teachers, etc.
   9. First time in Julie’s time as principal that she has heard teachers talk about data. The school could see what is called the “Covid slide” but there were significant improvements overall for the winter assessment.
   10. Parents will not be required to complete service hours for this school year. Any hours earned by selling chocolate will be credited to next year.
5. PTO Update
   1. There has been some reluctance on the Mrs. Fields Cookie Dough fundraiser from some parents. PTO has decided to move forward with the World’s Finest Chocolates this spring. The $2 boxes are not available but there are some $8 boxes and some Easter themed candy.
6. Old Business
   1. None
7. New Business
   1. None
8. Pastors Report given by Father Kovash
   1. There will be a 5% increase in tuition for next year. The finance manager suggested between a 5-7% increase but Father was hopeful that the numbers would be around 200 students for next year and so he chose to stay at the 5%.
   2. The tuition assistance that was received for this school year was a once in a lifetime gift. The school will have tuition assistance as they have in the past years but are not sure how much additional assistance will be available.
   3. The bathrooms were supposed to be renovated last summer but there were delays last year and then ultimately, it was decided to hold off on the project. The project was originally projected to cost around $70,000 but is looking like it will cost more like $100,000. This project should be starting within a week of school being out for the summer and is slated to take about 6 weeks.
9. The next school board meeting will be Tuesday 16th, 2021 at 4:30pm in O’Neill Hall.
10. Closing Prayer & Meeting Adjourned