**ST. JOSEPH’S SCHOOL**

School Board Minutes

Tuesday, October 20th, 2020

4:30 pm

1. Call to order and opening prayer
	1. In attendance: Father Kovash, Julie Quamme, Brandon Johnson, Vanessa Njos, Erin Vournas, Kelsey Lee, Heidi Coughlin, Aaron Schmit, Abbey Dahlberg, & Samantha Mendez
	2. Absent: None
2. Previous Meeting Minutes
	1. Motion to approve previous meeting minutes by Brandon Johnson, 2nd by Kelsey Lee
3. Financial Report given by Father Kovash
	1. Tuition and tuition EFT are way ahead because of the gift for the tuition assistance. This money was paid upfront whereas regularly these families may had paid their tuition monthly.
	2. Expenses are up slightly but we are close to where we should be. We are up on things like sanitizer and cleaning supplies.
	3. The overall budget looks okay which is great given the extra expenses due to COVID-19.
4. Principal’s Report given by Julie Quamme
	1. Enrollment is at 202. We will be losing 5 students over the next few weeks. With the exception of 1, the families are moving out of the state.
	2. First 9-week reporting period just finished, and we are still in school!!
		1. Temperature checks are continuing, and parents are being extra vigilant. Less students and staff are sick this year.
		2. Students are making it to their classrooms in good time.
		3. Mrs. Quamme will change to a monthly email update.
		4. The school has had 2 positive cases and only 2 students that needed to quarantine. Current quarantined students for close contact is 6, but this number varies.
		5. Continuing our class cohorts. Children are wearing masks at prayer service and children’s mass. Masks are being worn a majority of the day, including teachers.
		6. Classes are rotating with one class in the lunchroom from upper and lower each day. Kids are so excited to be back in the lunchroom.
		7. Parent teacher conferences will be held next week via virtual zoom conferences.
		8. Month of October focused on “Our Lady of the Rosary” and each prayer service focused on the Rosary.
		9. USDA Food Program will continue through May 2021. Breakfast numbers have increased from 13 a day to around 60 a day.
	3. Would like to bring back:
		1. 2 classrooms at a time eating lunch in the cafeteria (ex. Grades 1 & 2, next week grades 3 & 1) for upper and lower.
		2. Students will go to the music room instead of the music teacher coming to them. Students will be expected to wear mask to and from music and during.
	4. What we know:
		1. At this time Gov Burgum and NDDPI are stating that:
			1. Students being in school is as essential as food access and behavioral health support.
			2. The decision on what learning model your school is in is a local decision. We encourage you to make risk-informed decisions and consider aspects such as county color; the educational, social-behavioral, and emotional risks.
			3. Instructional models are not tied to county color changes any longer.
			4. Health and Safety plans are living document that provides flexibility to mitigate the spread of the infection.
			5. The “game plan” to move forward, which was discussed at the Sept. meeting is no longer valid.
		2. It is expected that ND schools will:
			1. Create safe learning environments for students and staff with a focus on social emotional and physical health.
			2. A Health and Safety plan will be created and approved by our school board.
	5. School board members were in agreeance with having the students return to the music room and to have two classes in the lunchroom at a time. The board also reviewed the updated Health and Safety plan.
	6. Professional Learning Communities
		1. Focus on student success – the school will look at ND State Standards and prioritized standards, assessment results, and teacher instruction.
		2. How does data fit into this equation? Julie is working on the data and looking at how we are improving. Our teacher assistant Megan used to work a lot with data and has been tasked with helping to put it into graphs and charts so that it can be easily compared.
		3. Professional Development for teaching staff
		4. Beginning with English Language Arts/Writing
	7. New Teachers
		1. Coaching (Kathy Kalil), walk through observations (Mrs. Quamme), mid-year evaluations (Mrs. Quamme).
		2. New Teacher assistant has arrived – Gina Abfalter and Ms. Emily Richter will be starting after Christmas.
	8. Fall Festival – Mrs. Everson and Lacey Cote are coordinating this this year since parents are not allowed in the building.
	9. Candy Bar Sales – will be happening this year and are talking about how this can be carried out this year.
5. PTO Update
	1. None
6. Old Business
	1. None
7. New Business
	1. Electing a new Vice President will be voted on at the next meeting. Abbey nominated Brandon Johnson for vice president, Vanessa Njos 2nd the motion.
	2. The board motioned to keep Aaron Schmidt as President and Abbey Dahlberg as Secretary.
8. Pastors Report given by Father Kovash
	1. Father is pleased by the way the school year is going. Things are going well, and we will not change much at this time.
	2. Father feels like Julie Quamme and his staff have really stepped up to the plate and done amazing this school year.
	3. There is not yet a plan for what may happen if we have more returning Kindergarten students then room in the first grade.
9. The next school board meeting will be Tuesday November 17, at 4:30pm in O’Neill Hall.
10. Closing Prayer & Meeting Adjourned