Most Sacred Heart School Board Meeting

Monday, December 14, 2020 at 6:30 PM

Zoom

Attendees: Jaime Brennan, Susan Wolk, Chris Cantu, Kristin Warren, Toph Lenger,

April Rombach, Monica Wilson, Fr. Joe,

Notes:

* Call to Order
* Opening Prayer by Kristin Warren
* Open Forum
* School Board Member Forum
* Pastors Report
  + Be safe, do what you can to keep yourself safe.
  + Very proud of, and grateful to, our task force, staff, and teachers; all have been phenomenal through this.
  + Christmas teachers fund is coming in very generously, feeling very grateful and inspired by this; watching everybody pitch in has been really beautiful
  + Confessions have been coming along
  + Thank you to ALL
* Principal's Report
  + We understand that the CDC has come out with new guidelines (10-day) on quarantine guidelines, but St. Louis County is not following this 10-day revised quarantine, and is insisting that 14-day quarantine is best
  + Anticipating starting the ‘21-’22 school year with similar restrictions that are currently in place; anticipating maximum capacity of 20 students. Will have to create a waitlist for any additional students. All classrooms, with the exception of 6th grade, will be at maximum capacity.
  + Quarantine for large group (teachers, 3rd grade class, and both Preschool classes) completed and no secondary transmissions of Covid-19 reported.
  + Our 2nd Graders received the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Tuesday, November 17, 2020. Adjustments were made due to Covid-19, and the celebration was wonderful.
  + The November Canned Good Drive donated more cans this year to Eureka Food Pantry than last year. Over 3400 cans were taken to Eureka Food Pantry. Hooray!
  + Thanksgiving Break was for the most part a very safe time. After the break we had only 8 students quarantined due to exposure.
  + Students in grades 3-8 received the sacrament of Reconciliation the week of November 30, 2020.
  + Toy Drive was also successful and the parish Rural Workers in Old Mines, MO came and took bags of toys donated from our students. Thank you for your generosity.
  + Gabby Visconti is willing to put together the video for January 2021 Open House. (One of the videographers contacted me with questions, I responded to her, but never heard back.) We plan to speak with families interested in our school following the final Mass on Sunday, January 31 and use the video to show them our school. If they want a tour, we will schedule those for weekday afternoons in the spring. (3:30 or later)
  + Presently we have 15 students in quarantine through the Christmas Break and one awaiting results.
  + Sunday we hosted the 2021-2022 Kindergarten Parent Informational Meeting. There were 9 families present and another 6-7 Zooming in. Most are present families and are hoping to register in January.
  + Catholic Schools’ Week will look different this year. We are still having Arts Day, but artists will be teachers in the building, no outsiders coming in. Open House will probably look similar to Kindergarten Parent Informational Meeting with just new families meeting to talk and hopefully see a virtual tour of the school. Grandparents Day will only be virtual and may be moved to Valentine’s Day.
* Business
  + Technology Committee Update to be sent at later date
    - With CARES money we were able to get 55 chromebooks, 4th - 8th have 1:1 currently. Now, we will have kindergarten – 8th with 1:1 chromebooks!
  + Finance Liaison Update by Chris Cantu
    - Tuition, from 206 to 214 students for the ‘21-’22 school year, looking at about 3% tuition increase, falls in-line with the ‘20-’21 3% tuition increase
      * K-8 1 child $5856 –> $6032
      * K-8 2 children $8160 -->$8405
      * K-8 3 children $9528 --> $9814
      * \*OLQP will have a 3% increase from what their tuition was at OLQP
      * Will continue to offer a 3-day & 5-day option for preschool
      * Archdioceses recommends a 3% increase in tuition, considering the economic climate, it could potentially be unfavorable to/for families to push the tuition increase to 4%, unanimous vote to increase tuition 3% for ‘21-’22.
      * Pam has been hired to backfill the finance manager position that Wayne most recently held, came from Maritz.
  + Marketing Committee Update
    - Kindergarten open house was yesterday, 10 families attended in person while another 5-7 joined through ZOOM. Phone calls coming in today regarding registration which will be open by January 15th for existing families through Gradelink and through the website for new families
    - Facebook postings are continuing daily
    - Catholic schools week open house should look similar to the Kindergarten open house; a day in the life, tour, zoom-in option, etc.
* Upcoming Meeting Dates
  + January 11, 2021 (zoom) Susan to do opening prayer
  + February 8th 2021 (zoom)
  + March 8th 2021 (begin thinking through nominations for discernment process)
  + no April meeting
  + May 10 2021 (zoom)
* Remarks for the Good of All
  + Aftercare cost comparison to include Creative Expressions & Crouthers Academy
  + Child at kindergarten open house asked Fr. Joe why MSHS v. Rockwood, very satisfied with the love, care and compassion shared by all
  + Tentative June date for VBS, but unknown due to CoVid
  + Blessings for the holidays, parish-wide email blasts, lower expectations for in-person mass this Christmas season.
* Prayer by Fr. Joe and Adjournment