

**St. Patrick School Board Meeting
August 16, 2022**

“We Pray! We Learn! We Achieve!”

Present: Cheryl Baker, Brandi Bengel, Jeff Fedewa, Dana Hengesbach, Brenda Lenneman, Krysten Rosendall, Connie Vallier, Nancy Wohlscheid, Cortney Smith, Randy Hodge

I. Opening Prayer (Connie)

II. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Jeff moved to approve April 2022 school board notes; Dana seconded the motion and the motion passed.

III. New Business

A) New School Board Member Training

The Grand Rapids Diocese will conduct new school board member training on August 30, 2022 from 6-8 pm.

IV. Principals' Report

High school enrollment is 74 students. The high school lost three incoming freshmen and may lose one more. Mr. Hodge said there is a possibility of receiving an exchange student. A fourth grader transferred out to seek a non-religious school and friendships. There are currently 33 preschoolers and 10 daycare children enrolled. There is a change in the exit policy; school records for exiting students will be transferred upon request whether or not the exit survey has been completed.

The school has hired Mary Wernet as the new school counselor. Mary has worked as a probation officer and will be taking classes to become a certified school counselor. James Tavadze has been officially hired as the K-5 music teacher as well as the middle school and high school choir director. Kayla Livingston has been hired as the academic support teacher assistant.

Regarding professional development, staff are finishing bloodborne pathogen training, Theology of the Body training will take place at a later date, and the CPR/First Aid presenters canceled so the principals hope to complete this training online. Basketball Jones kicked off professional development and staff finished with Capture Kids Hearts. A half-day kickoff was spent at the diocese with Mass, a speaker and lunch. Also included in professional development was restorative practices. The first day of school is Tuesday, August 23rd. The school open house is scheduled for Wednesday, August 31st from 5:30 to 7 pm. High school orientation is scheduled for Thursday, August 18th. High school students will receive Chromebooks and have their pictures taken.

MAPs testing will take place in September, January and May. School board marketing photos will take place in September. The MANS conference for all staff will take place in Lansing on November 3rd and 4th. Two elementary and two high school classrooms received new flooring and boards. The boards were purchased with the PTO budget. The Catholic Identity Survey scores increased. Student spiritual development will not include a campus minister at the start of the school year. A high school NET retreat is scheduled in December and will be planned by Carolyn Heckman, Mary Wernet, Mr. Hodge and Dan Rockey.

A school improvement goal is to start a new curriculum for math. Rocket math will be used. Phonics will have a new curriculum this year. The school will be launching personal learning communities (PLCs). Kindergarten and first grade teachers participated in guided reading training through the summer. All shared time will be handled through Portland Public Schools. The eighth-grade class has thirty students. To help with the social and learning challenges of the class, the students will break into two classes for four subjects. They will be split 50/50 for science and English. They will be split male/female for math and social studies. The students will remain one class for theology, specials and lunch. The eighth-grade arrangement was a collaborative agreement with students.

The middle school and high school are MHSAA participants for 2022-23. Football will include a 5th/6th grade team this year along with a 7th/8th grade team and a varsity team. Middle school and high school football will participate in the Mid-State Activities Conference (MSAC) league. The varsity football team has 22 students. Most away games will take place on Saturday nights due to a lack of officials. There will not be a cheer team this year due to a lack of participants. Varsity volleyball has 12 students and JV volleyball has 8 students. Cross country has 5 female participants and 5 male participants, enough for two teams. Homecoming is scheduled for Saturday, September 24th.

V. Subcommittee Discussion

A) Policy and Strategic Planning (Brenda)

The student cell phone policy has been added. Student make-up work and make-up testing has been clarified. The school-approved sweatshirt and chewing gum permission has been added to the handbook. Brenda and Mrs. Smith will edit the Emergency Operations Plan according to diocesan guidelines. Mr. Hodge and Mrs. Smith have done what they can to update the Technology Plan.

B) Mission Effectiveness (Brandi)

The committee will meet on August 30th. Richelle may bring an additional committee member. Richelle is working to gain a new board member on the committee.

C) Marketing and Communication (Ashley and Dana)

The committee would like some guidance and the committee needs more members. Committee goals include direction and focus for short-term and long-term projects. Joshua

Snitgen is gathering video content and will send the material to Sarah Toepfer who is from the diocese and serving on the committee. Sarah will help scope and sequence some of the marketing goals. Popsicles in the Park was a great way for preschool families to meet each other and make connections which works positively to keep families enrolled.

D) Advancement and Development (Mr. Hodge and Krysten Rosendall)

The Shamrock Mega Raffle will kick off after Labor Day. The first drawing will take place October 15 during Fall Fest. One thousand tickets will be sold for \$500 each. The profit will be approximately \$450,000 with \$200,000 going to the school, \$200,000 going to athletics and \$50,000 going to the Parish. Students will be selling tickets along with other sellers. The bathroom renovation is almost done. Mr. Hodge is working with Father Mike to open the school after all masses homecoming weekend. Mr. Hodge hopes to form an alumni committee soon. The Father Flohe Foundation Class of 1972 50th reunion will take place September 10th. Sue VanLente and Jane Klein will be taking pictures September 14th and 15th for marketing. Discussed busing.

E) Finance Committee (Jeff and Cheryl)

The 2022-23 final budget was approved by the Finance Committee. The parish subsidy was 41% of the five-year average offertory. The official student count will take place early September and the committee will review actual vs projected. The committee is waiting for the July summary report. The June report is done and end-of-the year income has been reviewed.

F) Executive Committee (Connie, Jeff and Nancy)

The committee is working on short-term goals with the strategic plan. The school board has co-chair seats to fill. Connie will submit outreach articles for the school newsletter and church bulletin.

Plants and Grounds: Bathroom remodel is on schedule.

VII. Review of Tasks and Assignments (Nancy)

- 1) School board members will let Jeff or Cheryl know if they want budget information.
- 2) Connie will change the exit survey language.
- 3) Connie will send out requests to serve on the school board.
- 4) Brenda and Connie will meet to set short-term goals for the Strategic Plan and look over long-term goals.
- 5) Brenda and Mrs. Smith will edit the EOP according to diocesan guidelines.

Closing Prayer (Brandi)
Adjournment at 8:45 pm

Next school board meeting will be held October 11, 2022.

Notes provided by Nancy Wohlscheid

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