

St. Patrick School Board Meeting
August 5, 2025

“We Pray! We Learn! We Achieve!”

Present: Jason Chamberlain, Melinda Fandel, Brenda Lenneman, Erin Pung-Caszatt, Scott Wieber, Christine Wilcox, Nancy Wohlscheid, Mrs. Casey Lenneman, Deacon Randy Hodge

I. Opening Prayer (Erin)

II. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes (Brenda)

Erin moved to approve the May 2025 school board notes; Jason seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

III. Old Business (Brenda)

Pictures of Pope Leo were purchased for classrooms and offices. Printer portal funds were discussed; \$1,325 in the fund.

IV. New Business (Brenda)

None.

V. Principals' Reports (Deacon Randy Hodge and Mrs. Casey Lenneman)

Deacon Randy Hodge reported 87 students enrolled in the high school. There is a sixth-grade math and religion opening in which no person has applied. The subjects may have to be divided among some high school teachers. There are two good candidates for the art teacher vacancy. Interviews will be conducted on Thursday, August 7. Regarding professional development, *Education in Virtue* will replace *Capturing Kids' Hearts*. Different virtues will be taught every two weeks. Saints will also be studied. Go Guardian will monitor student computer activity. Classrooms look good. Floors are polished and teachers are back in their classrooms to prepare for the new school year. High school Fall sports including cross country, football and volleyball will begin on Monday, August 11.

VI. Committee Discussion

A) Development, Admissions and Enrollment (Deacon Randy Hodge, Erin, Krysten)

Deacon Randy Hodge reported a change in software; One Cause will be implemented. MegaRock raffle tickets will be distributed soon. Three thousand people are on the mailing list. Three tickets will be mailed to non-school families; school families will receive four tickets. If school families sell all four tickets, an out-of-dress code day will be earned by the family. The MegaRock goal is to sell 1,000 tickets, netting \$220,000. Proceeds from the raffle are as follows: 40% school, 20% parish, 40% athletics. The Port will be offering a candle fundraiser through the PTO. The school open house will take place on the first day of school. Homecoming is September 27. The Class of 1975 will celebrate their 50th reunion on September 6.

B) Mission Effectiveness (Christine)

This school year there will be a retreat for every grade. In September the high school women will attend a retreat together and the high school men will also attend a retreat together.

C) Policy and Strategic Planning (Melinda and Jason)

The Strategic Plan will be developed once the Meitler Report is ready. The Strategic Plan is a 5-7 year plan. Meitler Group hopes to have the report ready by the end of August. Father Weber will decide who implements what. The diocese and all Catholic schools need an AI policy. The school Emergency Plan was updated two years ago and is still relevant. The Emergency Plan is updated every three years.

D) Marketing and Communication (Ashley)

The diocese has hired a videographer. The school board needs more people on this committee because there is more work than one person can handle. Deacon Randy Hodge met with Ashley to help lay out a plan. Sarah Toepfer is willing to help.

E) Finance, Buildings and Grounds (Scott)

Budget was set at 315 students of which 306 are enrolled. Scott does not have the

diocese's June report from Marie at Nienhuis Financial Group. There will be a more formal report at the next school board meeting. Most of the budget is healthy. Teresa Knoop, preschool lead teacher, is teaching some of the preschool classes. Aaron Thelenn is the preschool and daycare director. Bus drivers are recertified except for one driver who will recertify in mid-August.

E) Executive (Brenda, Krysten, Nancy)

The committee met last week. Congratulations to Mrs. Casey Lenneman for accepting the position of DK-5 principal and to Sarah Grey in her new role as superintendent of the Grand Rapids diocese. Sarah Grey will be attending the October 14 school board meeting. Deacon Randy Hodge will be meeting with students regarding handbook changes. One of the changes is there are no backpacks allowed in the classroom. Brenda is working on a new school board member onboarding plan. The diocesan orientation for new school board members is August 27.

VII. Review of Tasks and Assignments (Nancy)

- 1) Brenda will reach out to parishioners to fill school board positions.

Adjournment: 7:28 pm

Next meeting: October 14, 2025

Notes provided by Nancy Wohlscheid