

St. Nicholas Board of Education
Minutes
November 7, 2017

Members Present: Chris Schmidt, Father Walter, Leah VanHandel, Jodi Roskowski, Jill Cropsey, Terri Romitti, Jessica VandenHeuvel, Travis Gerritts, Mark VanderLinden, Kathy Brennan

Members Excused: None

Open Floor: No one present

Approval of the Agenda: Jill Cropsey makes a motion to approve the agenda. Terri Romitti seconds it. All in favor and motion passes.

Valley Area Special Needs: – Chris Schmidt

- a. St. Nicholas representative opening – Volunteer needed
 - i. Stephany Leurquin – VASNRE Director – 920-636-6580 or leurquins@holyspirit-parish.org
 - ii. Chris contacted Stephany and didn't hear back from her. He will call/email her to see if she can attend one of our meetings to educate our group about what they do.

Approval of the November Minutes: Jill Cropsey makes a motion to approve the agenda. Mark VanderLinden seconds it. All in favor and motion passes.

Pastors Report Saint Nicholas - Father Walter

1. Clergy Congress Monday October 9- 11. Discipleship seminar II
 - a. Deacon Keith Strohm
 - i. Our wounded culture
 - ii. What healing wounds looks like
 - b. Julianne Stanz and Kristin Bird
 - i. Accompanying our wounded staff
 - ii. Charisms
 - iii. Thresholds of conversion
 1. Trust
 2. Curiosity
 3. Openness
 4. Seeking
 5. Intentional disciple
 - c. Sister Marie Kolbe Zamora
 - i. Imago Dei
 - ii. Roles of laity and clerics
 - d. Bishop David Ricken: Disciples on the Way
 - i. Discover Jesus (Teach my people to pray 2014-2016)
 - ii. Follow Jesus (Discipleship formation, 2016-2018)
 - iii. Worship Jesus (Community formation, 2018-2020)
 - iv. Share Jesus (Missionary formation, 2020-2022)
2. Education
 - a. Let's target a minimum of twelve pupils per learning group (min. 12 students per teacher) at Saint Nicholas school

- b. Mr. Gerritts and I met with Jane Schuler, assistant superintendent of Catholic schools, Oct. 17 to refine goals and strategize
- c. Choir academy; this should be looked into for 2018-2019.
- 3. Worship
 - a. Blue Mass (for police, firefighters, first responders, etc.) Tuesday November 14 at Saint Nicholas
 - b. Altar servers and parish investment
- 4. Holy, Engaged, Alive:
 - a. Teach My People to Pray Holy Hour- Tuesday November 21, 4:45pm
 - b. 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation; Commemoration. Jayne Vosters will make a presentation November 9 at St. Edward, 6:30pm. Babysitting offered on-site.
- 5. Finance council
 - a. Joint Finance council and Pastoral council meeting Thursday November 16, 5:30pm

Financial Reports: Reviewed and looking good

Administrative Reports:

New Evangelization Board Report – Kathy Brennan

1. First Reconciliation parent meeting was held on Oct 5 with a makeup meeting held on Oct 10. Attendance was close to 100% and received positive feedback regarding use of an Alpha clip with discussion.
2. Presented Catechesis of the Good Shepherd information to Pastoral council and will be developing a plan for implementation within the Parish.
3. Catechists in-service on October 25 at St Bernard's provided 22 catechists, Jennifer and myself a night of wonderful fellowship and great insight. Joe Paprocki, catechetical leader and catechist is an author of a number of books on catechesis and spiritual growth was our presenter. Joe walked us through the Kerygma and provided great insight into how to bring this to life when working with others.
4. All students celebrated the feast of Our Lady of Fatima this month. Middle and High School students and catechists prayed an outdoor evening Rosary and the feedback we received from the students as well as catechists was very positive. Many of our students shared how peaceful they felt at the close of this evening and they would like more of this type of experience.
5. Adoration continues to provide all of our students with this time for quiet, peaceful prayer. After the in-service on Oct 25 and discussion with a number of catechists, we will continue the practice of processing into Adoration each week with only minor changes so that we more accurately mirror the processions which occur during the Mass.
6. October 30 Joe Tremblay gave a presentation on the Spirituality of Depression. Very difficult topic but Joe did a great job and was able to connect with people in attendance very well.
7. Adult book study on the Eucharist is under way.
8. Grade 10 students will be coordinating a book drive with donations going to Harbor House, the homeless shelter in Appleton as well as St. Elizabeth Hospital. Collection ends with the celebration of Mass on Dec 6th, the feast of our patron St. Nicholas. Distribution will take place before Christmas and will involve student volunteers.
9. Wednesday, Nov 1st Masses for All Saints Day. There was standing room only at St Edward for the 6:30 PM Mass. Celia (DRE) invited St. Nicholas NE students and families to participate in the All Saints Day Mass with the students and families from St Edwards. We had readers and a gift bearer from St. Nicholas participate in the Mass as well as a handful of younger students

who led the procession at the beginning of Mass. Attendance at Mass (whatever people chose) was excellent.

10. Looking ahead:

1. November 2 First Reconciliation Retreat
2. November 8 Catechist In Service
3. November 15 High School Evangelization Night

11. November 21 I will attend Alpha training at the Diocese.

St. Nicholas School Administrator Report – Travis Gerritts

1. Pizza making day is set for Friday, November 10th. School families sold a total of 3,540 pizzas. That is a just a bit less than last year, but it is significantly more pizzas per family.
2. The school and parish staff attended a conference at the KI convention center on October 24th. The school conference was highlighted by keynote speaker Kathy Vatterott, who spoke on “Rethinking Grading”.
3. We are well on our way in our self-study in the accreditation process. A group of teachers and Mr. Gerritts are leading the first Domain: Mission and Catholic Identity.
4. Jordan Cassiani, a St. Nicholas alum and now a junior in high school, has set up a toy drive to help relief efforts for those who have been affected by Hurricane Harvey. St. Nicholas collected a significant amount of toys for the drive. For our efforts, Jordan will be purchasing Mr. Reynebeau’s famous cookies to pass out on St. Nicholas Day.
5. St. Nicholas has received 88 hours of Title I Services for struggling readers at St. Nicholas. A Title I Reading Specialists visits the school from 12:30-1:15 every school day to work with some of our struggling readers.
6. St. Nicholas has received \$1736.63 in Title II funding from the Freedom School District. This money is to be used for staff development.

Old Business:

- a. Building for the Future update – Mark VanderLinden
 1. Construction company is going to start the bidding process and asking for local trades to offer their services.

New Business:

- a. Strategic Goals
 1. We talked about the accreditation.
- b. Country Fest
 1. Chris shared a budget formula for Country Fest.
 2. Each fundraising group is going to work on contacting certain businesses for certain events for sponsorships, instead of all of them for all the fundraising.
- c. Marketing
 1. We discussed different ways to increase enrollment by marketing the church and school programs. Jill Cropsey will put together a list of marketing strategies to share at the next meeting.
 2. Some ideas discussed included: Starting a Story Time program, cards to certain age children and coloring sheets handed out at Children's Liturgy.
 3. Chris provided a packet called “Creating a Marketing Plan” to help with ideas.

Closing Prayer

Jill Cropsey makes the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mark VanderLinden seconds it. Motion passes, meeting adjourned.