

St Nicholas Board of Ed

Minutes

April 4, 2017

Members Present: Mark VanderLinden, Jessica Vanden Heuvel, Kathy Brennan, Father Walter, Bob Schommer, Travis Gerritts, Leah VanHandel, Jill Cropsey, Chris Schmidt

Members Absent: Jeremy Kater

Open Floor: N/A

Valley Area Special Needs: N/A

Approval of the Agenda: Bob Schommer makes the motion to approve the Agenda. Jill Cropsey seconds. All in favor motion passes

Approval of February Minutes: Bob Schommer makes the motion to approve the February minutes. Jessica Vanden Heuvel seconds. All in favor motion passes

Pastor's Report:

1. Worship
 - a. Sanctuary lamp is being cleaned
 - b. Stations of the Cross, Palm Sunday 1pm following the reflections and prayers from Saint Alphonsus Liguori
 - c. Mass with Anointing, Thursday April 20, 8:15 (no school that day)
2. Education:
 - a. Blessing of seeds at Mass Thursday April 27 at Mass
 - b. Teaching the psalms in Spanish, begins April 27, 7th and 8th grade
 - c. Meitler Study
 - i. Pay attention to the key findings
 1. Page 4, for example Sherwood St. John-Sacred Heart enrollment down 46% since 2011 (down 62% since 2004)
 2. Page 63, #6 Bright inviting environment through the use of paint.
 3. Page 69, Observations about parish subsidy
 4. What is the sustainable student/teacher ratio?
 - ii. Workshop Friday, September 22 at St. Norbert
 - d. Love Begins Here
 - e. Vacation Bible School
 - f. Music and choral academy- I presented the need for the academy to the pastoral councils, finance councils, worship committees, boards of education at both Saint Nicholas and Saint Edward. All councils gave a positive feedback for continued pursuit. We can add this objective to our five-year strategic plan and pull that into the one-year plan for 2017-2018.
 - g. ACRE- I am reviewing the test questions
 - h. Adult education is finishing "33 Days to Merciful Love."
3. Living Justice
 - a. Rice Bowl giving for Lent
 - b. Deacon Gary has shared with us testimony from his mission to Haiti

- c. Rural Life Days
 - i. March 28, Saint Mary in Black Creek
 - ii. March 30, Holy Family in Brillion
 - iii. I was asked to be on the Diocesan Rural Life committee
- 4. Cemetery- Nothing new this month
- 5. Holy, Engaged, Alive:
 - a. Teach My People to Pray Holy Hour third Tuesdays at 4:45 PM (April 18)
 - b. Sacrificial prayer members of the Friends of Jesus Christ, High Priest
 - c. Consecration to Merciful Love, Thursday April 6, 8:15AM and 6:30pm. (during Glory Choir?)
- 6. Building for the Future
 - a. Follow up letter has been sent out.
 - b. The Baptism of our Lord window, Saint Francis and Saint Anthony window, Jesus with the woman at the well window and Jesus with Saint Peter window, have been re-installed. Their old storm windows are still in place and will be getting their new storm windows in April or when weather permits since it requires painting the window frames. Three windows are being worked on at the Staige studio; “The Holy Mass,” “Let the Children Come to Me,” and “The Wedding Feast at Cana.”
- 7. Bishop’s Appeal
 - a. We are at \$52,291 of the \$62,139 goal, or 84%.
 - b. Let’s finish by June 11 Golf Outing
- 8. Finance council
 - a. An incident of outdoor vandalism spray paint is being investigated on the south side of the school building. (3/16/17)
 - b. Lights are installed on the Honor Window
 - c. Lighted Rosary is now on the front of the parish office building
 - d. Bell Tower
- 9. Cursillo
 - a. Women’s Cursillo, March 16-19, Saint John the Baptist, Howard. A blessed event!
 - b. Fall Cursillos TBD

Financial Reports: Reviewed and Father Walter had a question on the computer service fees line and Tuition Assistance. Mr. Gerritts will talk to Cortney

Administrative Reports:

A. NEW EVANGELIZATION-

1. Dr. Warren Johnson spoke to adults and grade 11 students on Science and Religion. Dave Everson live cast the presentation onto the NE Facebook page—first time we did this and Dave did a great job. Dr. Johnson’s talk was very informative.
2. The Star of Bethlehem movie was offered on March 22nd was positively received by those in attendance.
3. Joe Tremblay and Corrie Christenson from the Diocese spoke on the Jewish Roots of the Mass on March 29th. This presentation was for adults and grade 9 students and was excellent.
4. First Eucharist Retreat on Thursday, March 23rd was well attended and received positive feedback.
5. ACRE testing is complete.
6. NE received 3 grants from the Catholic Foundation.

* Vacation Bible School grant * Story Telling grant * Spiritus Retreats grant

7. We reviewed budget for next year and Bob Schommer made a motion to approve the New Evangelization budget and send it to finance council. Jessica VandenHeuvel seconds. All in favor motion passes.

B. St Nicholas School-

1. Mr. Gerritts and Patti Kuehn traveled to Kiel on March 25th to observe a “personalized learning” classroom model. It was energizing for both of us and we took a lot away from our experience. The information we have gathered will be analyzed and a determination will be made as to if, how, and when this model, or something similar, could be implemented at St. Nicholas.

2. The Home and School Committee will be holding an Easter Extravaganza on Friday, April 7th. The night will consist of games, an Easter Egg Hunt, crafts for the family and more.

3. The Home and School Committee will be hosting Culver’s Night at the Little Chute store on April 24th.

4. Robotics will be running the concessions for Jim and Carrie Tryba as a fundraiser for their program on Saturday, April 22nd. They will be selling concessions for an auction that they will be holding at their barn.

5. Spring MAPS testing is underway. Mr. Gerritts has set up a new database to track the progress of all students. The students will also begin a new reading leveling program called Reading A-Z to track student progress.

6. Most of the students have completed confessions with Fr. Walter. The students that have yet to go will be finishing up with Father on April 6th. A special thanks to Fr. Walter for taking the time to meet with the students.

7. “Step Up” Day has been scheduled for May 12th. “Step Up” Day is a day for the incoming 3K students and their parents to come in and spend some time in the 3K classroom. Mr. Gerritts will meet with the incoming families as a group to discuss such things as pick-up and drop off procedures, SCRIP, and anything else that may come up. The 4K students and the kindergarten students will move up to the grade they will be in next year in an effort to get them a bit more acclimated.

8. Mr. Gerritts applied for a grant through Catholic Foundations earlier this school year and received notice this past week that we will receive \$5000 to put towards tuition assistance and/or staff development.

9. We reviewed the budget and Mark VanderLinden made the motion to approve the school budget and send it to finance council. Jill Cropsey seconds. All in favor motion passes

Old Business:

1. Door Update: Father talked with Mark Lange and there is an estimate coming from Tri-City Glass hopefully by Friday. It will be roughly \$1000 to add a key swipe to that door.
2. Building for the future: we are over 1,200,000, a marketing piece is being sent out, and they are calls being made to families
3. Winterfest Auction: Looking for people to chair this event

New Business: N/A

9:15 pm Executive Session

10:09 pm out of Executive session

Leah VanHandel makes the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mark VanderLinden seconds. All in favor Motion passes.

Meeting Adjourned 10:10pm

Next Meeting May 2nd , 2017