

St Nicholas Total Board of Education

Minutes

Dec. 6, 2016

7:30pm

Members Present: Leah VanHandel, Mark Vander Linden, Kathy Brennan, Bob Schommer, Jeremy Kater, Jessica Vanden Huevel, Jill Cropsey, Father Walter Stumpf, Travis Gerritts, and Chris Schmidt

Excused Members: N/A

Approval of the Agenda: Jill Cropsey makes the motion to approve the agenda. Mark Vander Linden Seconds. All in favor motion passes.

Open Floor: N/A

Approval of the Minutes: Bob Schommer make the motion to approve the minutes. Jill Cropsey Seconds. All in favor motion passes.

Pastors Comments:

1. Stewardship goals:
 - a. Financial
 - i. Attain a generosity level that each family contributes 2.5% of household income to Saint Nicholas. (1/40 of income; or roughly the first hour of a 40 hour work week) US census figures show 2014 average household income in Freedom was \$77,211. A giving rate of 2.5% would yield \$1,930 per year. Multiplied by 1,115 registered households would yield \$2,151,950. This year (2015-2016) we budgeted \$634,736.
 - ii. Increase Automatic Bank transfers as a mode of giving
 - iii. See pie charts for per pupil costs and parish fund distribution.
 - b. Prayer: Each family attends Saint Nicholas Church 40 Sundays each year. That leaves twelve Sundays to attend Mass at other locations for vacations, First Communions, tournaments, etc.
 - c. Service: Each family serve in at least one ministry or volunteer for one event.
 - d. Building for the Future, continued updates are in the bulletin
 - e. Bishop's Appeal.
 - i. Who will chair the sub-committee? Hoping someone from finance council
 - ii. Crozier member party held December 3, Great parade, esp. Saint Nicholas school
 - iii. Puzzle for 2017 campaign
2. Worship
 - a. All Saints and All Souls Nov. 1
 - b. Father Rickert's funeral, Nov. 11
 - c. Blue Mass Tuesday November 15
 - d. Lector refresher class, one done, one to go!
 - e. Server enrichment class, two done recently

- f. Holy Communion incident
 - g. Penance services, First reconciliation
 - h. Rolf Rohn consultant looking at our worship space
 - i. Jacob Koepke; Dec.31/Jan.1
3. Education:
- a. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
 - b. Mission trip- Love Begins Here
 - c. Future retreat teams
 - d. Saint Nicholas Day movie (Travis Gerritts)
 - e. School Christmas Concert, 12/15 dress rehearsal 1pm, concert 6pm
 - f. New Evangelization Christmas play, Sunday Dec. 18. 5:30pm
 - g. Xavier orchestra concert, Thursday Dec. 22 at 1:30 in church
4. Living Justice
- a. Hat and mitten collection
 - b. Turkey and groceries
 - c. Reverse collection for Freedom Food Pantry
 - d. Angel tree
5. Cemetery- looks great.
6. Holy, Engaged, Alive:
- a. Teach My People to Pray Holy Hour third Tuesdays at 4:45 PM
 - b. Alpha has begun

Financial Reports:

We discussed the copier contract because it is a little higher than what was expected, but Mr. Gerritts and the teachers are working through it the best they can

Administrative Report:

1. New Evangelization-
 - a. Deacon Gary and I continue to receive training for the Alpha program.
 - b. We have registered St. Nicholas with the Alpha youth program and Jennifer and I are now studying how best to implement this program.
 - c. We have scheduled Mass on December 7th at 6PM with Father Dan Schuster presiding. Classes have been cancelled so that families and catechists have the opportunity to attend the vigil Mass for the feast of the Immaculate Conception.
 - d. There are no New Evangelization classes on December 21st or 29th because of the Christmas holiday.

- e. Linda Borneman has taken half of the tenth grade girls so that we have two smaller classes of grade 10 girls.
 - f. The Spiritus team led a retreat for grades 6-8 on November 16th and the feedback from the students was overwhelmingly positive. The middle school catechists provided support for this event and they felt the retreat was very successful.
 - g. Our Parish First Reconciliation retreat was on November 3rd. Attendance was very good and the feedback from those attending was positive.
 - h. First Reconciliation will take place on Thursday, December 1st. We have 52 students who will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time.
 - j. Ellen Wilson is continuing to work on the New Evangelization Christmas Play which will take place on Sunday, December 18th. A number of volunteers have come forward to help
- *Bob Schommer asked if we can fit reconciliation into the New Evangelization classes and Father is scheduling the best he can. Mr. Gerritts is also working with Father's schedule to get the school children.

School-

- a. Katie Jansen resigned her position as after care coordinator and it is filled temporarily.
- b. Mike Mauthe is coming Friday to do a leadership retreat Friday December 9 with 7th and 8th grade.
- c. Student leadership just finished Food Drive
- d. We have the Holiday post office going on right now and a Penny war and with the proceeds they are purchasing a water fountain for the school
- e. School store will be again on December 16
- f. Application is sent in for accreditation
- g. Wreath sales was new this year made about \$1700
- h. Thank you to Bruce Meulemans for heading up the float and this was his last year so we will be looking for someone new to head this up

Old Business:

Mark Vander Linden handed out some bullet points to try and have them hand out to families. Maybe have some people talk to get more people excited about it. Kathy Brennan is not comfortable with doing this and doesn't feel it is appropriate for her to support she feels she needs to stay neutral. If a committee writes something up she is willing to send that home with the students. Hoping to do this in January. Father Walter will look to see when the Bishops appeal starts so it happens before that.

New Business:

- a. St Nicholas School Budget 2017-18 – A proposed budget with a tuition increase of \$150 and a script requirement of \$250. You have to buy \$5000.00 in script that kicks back 5% to hit your \$250 requirement.

- b. Mark Vander Linden handed out a diagram explaining this a little better and explained it a little further. There was a lot of discussion.
- c. This needs to be communicated very well.

Chris Schmidt makes the motion for a \$150.00 tuition increase with a subsidy increase to \$245,000 which is just under 3%, and we will implement a \$250 script requirement with families receiving 100% kick back instead of 50/50. Bob Schommer seconds it. All in favor. Motion passes and will go to finance council next week.

Executive Session 10:05pm

Out of Executive session at 10:16pm

Closing Prayer

Leah Van Handel makes the motion to adjourn the meeting. Jeremy Kater seconds it. All in favor. Motion Passes.