

St Nicholas Total Board of Education

Minutes

October 4, 2016

Members Present: Chris Schmidt, Mark Vander Linden, Jill Cropsey, Leah VanHandel, Mr. Gerritts, Jeremy Katar, Bob Schommer, Jessica Vanden Heuvel, Kathy Brennan

Members Excused: Father Walter Stumpf

Open Floor: N/A

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

Valley Area Special Needs: N/A

Approval of the Minutes: Mark VanderLinden makes the motion to approve the minutes. Jessica VandenHeuvel Seconds. All in favor motion passes.

Pastors Comments:

1. Auction will be held at the Marq with a dinner
2. Bishop's Appeal has been met
3. Window Proxy was changed and presented at mass this weekend. Windows in tower were added and the windows around the sacristy
4. Lynn Vanden Bosch has resigned and her position is posted
5. Father Walter went to school kick off and Mr. Gerritts will touch on this in his report
6. Father Walter asked that people do not park by the dumpsters in the back of school during the school week so it easier to see the children palying on the playground.
7. Father Walter feels adoration is going well

Financials- Reviewed and there are no questions. Country Fest made \$64,601.04 and is budgeted for \$76,500 but we thank the Country Fest team for their efforts and goals will be reevaluated. We will also look at how to get people more involved.

Administrative Reports-

New Evangelization:

1. Sept. 7 began our year with Catechist In-Service
  - a. 37 Catechists for grades 1-11
  - b. 2 Catechists for grade 10 boys class have been found
2. New Evangelization classes began on Wednesday Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>
  - a. 350 students currently enrolled
  - b. 6 home school students
  - c. We have a number of students needing catch up catechesis and these students are working with a couple volunteers.

3. Sacramental Prep classes
  - a. 54 First Reconciliation/ First Holy Communion
  - b. 53 Confirmation
  - c. First Reconciliation Meeting was well attended on September 29<sup>th</sup>
4. Eucharistic Adoration
  - a. Classes at all levels spend 15 minutes of each class in Eucharistic Adoration
  - b. Parents are encouraged to attend and response has been favorable
  - c. Thank you to Father Walter and Deacon Gary for helping with this
  - d. Jennifer Jochman is providing the music, Thank you Jennifer
5. Adult Education Fall program has begun: Catholicism by Father Robert Barron. Karen Court reports that attendance is good and that this program is being favorably received.
6. Kathy has met with the HOTV Adult education group and will be meeting with Deacon George from St. John's at a future date to look into the Alpha program. This is a program to bring people back to the church. Getting people together for a meal and seeing if we can take it further.

#### School-

1. Morning announcements have begun and the kids look forward to them everyday. They include what is for lunch, birthdays, "this day in history", a riddle, a school sports update, and a school prayer.
2. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade class attended the Bishop's Mass at St Mary's Parish in Depere on Tuesday September 27<sup>th</sup>. It was a wonderful mass and it had a great message. Students enjoyed themselves and they were accompanied by Mr. Gerritts
3. We hired a high school helper for the aftercare program. She has been assisting Katie Jansen and helping the students with homework.
4. The class of 2016 came back and built a Ga Ga Pit on the school playground area. It was agreed that the 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders will be allowed to use the pit. So far the students have used it at every recess and have even taken a day of Phy. Ed to learn the official rules of the game.
5. MAP Testing has begun and we are looking to have them completed by October 14<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to Mrs. Preston for all the work she puts into MAP tests.
6. Pizza sales are out in family envelopes
7. Mr. Gerritts has assembled a committee to build or improve safety protocols throughout the school. Primary on the list is creating a clear plan for an evacuation and reunification situation that is tailored to St Nicholas
8. Mr. Gerritts made goals to add to the St. Nicholas strategic plan and submitted them to the Pastoral Council.
9. Mr. Gerritts will be having his initial evaluation with Sr. Kay Klackner, the superintendent of schools in the diocese, and Father Walter on October 6<sup>th</sup>
10. The Green Bay Diocese is participating in the "Meitler" study. Consultants will be coming to St. Nicholas during the first week of November to review our school. They will come up with a plan tailored to schools in our area of our size.

11. On a whole, Mr. Gerritts feels like things are running smoothly in the school and this transition has been very positive. Mr. Gerritts enjoying his time and look forward to working to move the school forward.

#### Old Business-

1. Chris Schmidt sent out a packet to compare schools script requirement, service requirement, fundraising. He explained we need to educate and get people more involved. He asked the question do we need to make it a requirement. Mark said give people a suggested selling goal. Do we put a \$250 script requirement on and freeze tuition. We need to make a decision by December or before because that is when tuition is set.
2. Chris is interested to see if the Meitler study will show more in this area.
3. Maybe we can just set some guidelines, but will it reach everyone that we need to.
4. Bob Schommer said we need to have a good meeting and have the right people to get people fired up we can't just use fliers.
5. Have a mandatory parent meeting- one parent from every family has to attend. It is set for October 30, 2016 at 6:00
6. Bob Schommer commented this isn't a St. Nicholas Problem Matthew Kelly's firm did a study and only 8% of people help out, but you may not get 100% but if you take 8% to 20% that is great. Kathy Brennan said we are starting in the wrong place we need to reengage people in the parish and the church before putting all these requirements on them.
7. Mark said if we reward instead of penalize them maybe they will reengage.
8. Kathy Brennan said get a witness speaker

#### New Business-

Mr. Gerritts presented a new fundraising idea

#### Closing Prayer

Bob Schommer makes the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mark VanderLinden second. All in favor motion passes.

Time 9:05