

**SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
MONDAY, AUGUST 11TH, 2014
6:30PM CONFERENCE ROOM**

Board Members:

Christina Diers
Carrie Kubicek
Ann Monday
John Morrow
Kevin Ortmeier
Derick Strohman
Bill Pulte

Others in attendance:

Fr. Gary Ostrander
Dr. Don Ridder
Nick Mumm
Jennifer Jodlowski
RF Rep - not present
PAC Rep Deb Brown

1. **Opening Prayer** - The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Bill Pulte. The meeting began with prayer.

2. **Roll Call/Welcome** – Attendance was recorded as outlined in the minutes for board members and representatives of the school and parish. Introductions were made for everyone present.

3. **Approval of Minutes** - Ann requested a change to the minutes. Kevin motioned to approve the minutes pending the change be made for May, and Derick seconded. The minutes were approved pending the change Ann requested.

4. **President's Report – School Board President – Bill**

Review Bylaws:

Article 5 section 1: Carrie suggested adding a line about grandfathering people already on the board in if their spouse works for the parish or school.

Don sent Patrick Slattery our School Board by-laws, and he wants to show them to other schools to model.

Discussion of election of officers:

President - Derick nominated Bill for President, and Ann seconded.

Vice President - Kevin nominated by John, and Bill seconded.

Secretary - Bill nominated Christina, and Carrie seconded.

Discussion on filling committee positions:

Last year:

Ann and Kevin were on the finance committee.

Rich was on the safety and facilities committee.

John and Carrie were on calendar committee

Kevin was on the athletic committee.

Kevin was on the Parish Council committee.

Bill and Don were on the school improvement committee.

Carrie and Nick were on the recruitment committee.

Bill suggested Derick for school improvement for this year because he is a teacher. Bill was recommended for the safety and facilities committee to replace Rich. We will vote in September.

5. Home and School Report – H & S Vice Pres. – Jennifer Jodlowski

Get Set for School went very well. The Used Uniform sale made the most money to date. Home and School will donate 3 iPads to school. The next Family Food night will be at LePeep on August 16th. All Family Food Night proceeds will go to the activity center this year. The next Home & School meeting will be at Tanner's on August 17th.

6. Religious Formation Report

We are close to 50/50 split between school and Religious Formation children. There are 600 in RF now, but more will sign up. They always need volunteers to help with RF.

7. Pastor Report – Fr. Gary

So far, 300 people have responded to the financial drive for the activity center. Father Gary is hoping more will respond. As of right now, 90% of the architectural designs are complete. Father Gary is hoping to be at 2 million next June in order to start digging. The debt is at 5.6 million and by 2016 should be down to 4 million. Father Gary is signing new parishioners in every day, and school enrollment is up also.

8. Parish Pastoral Council Report – Fr. Gary and Kevin

Parish Pastoral Council will meet this thursday. There is not a lot on the agenda other than elections and security for the parish side of the building.

9. Principal Advisory Report – PAC Rep – Deb Brown

It has been a great start to the year. School of faith starts tomorrow. This is 30 hours of catechism required for each school in the archdiocese. The teachers feel it is time well spent. We are selling Uganda shirts. They have already sold 740 t-shirts. That makes \$6600 to send for lunches for students in Uganda. The staff is using curriculum maps for driving instruction and to make sure they are hitting outcomes as well as exceeding them. They will turn them in 3 times a year and work hard to stay current on progress. They will work on what types of tools they use to get kids to learn. The staff has talked about Miss Leela being reassigned to California. They are planning special activities to say goodbye to her on Aug. 28th goodbye with a special mass. Kelly Murnan and Jen Maher are working on a book to give her of a collection of the best written notes to her. The staff also wants to collect money to give her to help her as well as give her a gift to help remember us by. Look for information on that in Principal notes and in the bulletins. Kelly Gibson is collecting for the gifts for Miss Leela. If you want to donate, make checks payable to St. Patrick's. She will likely use donations to help her ill mother. The staff would also like to find a photo of her for the showcase.

10. Committee Representatives

- a. Finances – Ann & Kevin
 There was a meeting the other night. The school fiscal year runs through June, and the budget was perfect. There was a little bit of money left over, so a good chunk will be used to make a principle payment on the debt. Some money will be kept for emergencies. We are working with a negative budget; however, collections for June were a little ahead of where they thought they would be.
 The committee might send a piece out about how much it costs to educate students in Nebraska, and how our costs are lower at St. Patrick's. The Parish provides a portion of the tuition to help keep the costs down. Parents need to know that when they pay tuition that it costs more, but the Parish covers the difference. Students get a gift from the parish to help cover the cost of tuition.
- b. Facilities/Safety Minutes – Nick & Bill
 The committee met last week. They are moving meeting times to Thursdays at 4pm once a month. They reviewed the policies and talked about the parking lot. Safety patrol will wear orange vests to help make them more visible and official. The parking lot is ready for the new school year.
- c. Policy/Calendar/Communication – John & Carrie
 – Two policies were approved over the summer. They involved class size and Anti-bullying. See May minutes for details.
 There has been good feedback from parents about the noon dismissals.
- d. School Improvement – Bill & Don – SIP Report was moved to the Principal's report portion of the meeting.
- e. Recruitment – Carrie and Nick
 There will be a meeting Sept. 4th. Paula Anderson came to the new parishioner meeting and showed families around the school. These families signed up for the preschool following the tour. The new parishioner meetings have been well attended.
- f. Other discussion Items you have – Kevin/Nick – Athletic Committee
 Nick will now attend meetings to get the school more involved in Athletic committee. They are working on an athletic director job description, but it hasn't been finalized. Athletic committee needs involvement from the school. There were some changes in the by-laws. There used to be a rotation of officers every year, and now you have the choice to move up or stay in the same position for no more than 2 years. Father Gary suggested that there be an RF representative now that we have a representative (Nick Mumm) from school. Athletic committee needs more volunteers. They have discussed how to keep current students in their sports rather than lose them to select or club sports. Fourth grade basketball will now be PAL, so they can wear st. pats uniform. Athletic committee needs to get kids to stay, so they can compete in tournaments as a St. Patrick's team. An Athletic director may be able to help with these things. The Athletic director position will be paid. They are considering \$1500 year for the position. Athletic committee communication needs to be improved. Kevin will distribute notes from the meetings to help with communication & feedback with the school board.

11. Principal's Report – Don/Nick

- a. Enrollment numbers - The school is now enrolling 803 students. There may even more Preschool & PreK signing up in the next few days.

This year's first and seventh grade are in low 60's. The other grades are full. Fourth grade is full with waiting list.

- b. Shamrock Stride Update – They have \$2000 sponsors already. There will be t-shirts again. They have a permit from the city to use streets instead of walking on the sidewalks. The money raised will go towards off-setting acuity and will pay for a warming table for the dual lunch room as well as technology needs. If we raise \$35,000, students will get a day off from school. If we raise \$40,000, Mr. Mumm will shave his head. There will be an obstacle course for morning activities, and Annabel, the milking cow from dairy association, will be there. They are selling t-shirts for family & friends to buy.
- c. Activity Center Update - The architectural plans are 90% completed. They have been working on cross for the outside of the building. When the plans are done, it will go out for bids. Some people in the parish with businesses in construction may donate time or supplies to help. The work will be prioritized so that what needs to be done first gets done.
- d. Others - School Improvement - There is a team is involved in academics, staff development; technology, etc. They are adding writing to goals this year. They are taking the 6 traits of writing from preschool - 8th grade. They will create a separate system just for writing to improve continuity and consistency. They are going to strive for AdvancEd accreditation for Catholic Identity this year.
- e. In-service calendar was handed out to board members.
- f. Volunteering - Some schools are starting to collect money from people who don't have time to volunteer at school. The board needs to talk about this option for next year with a decision by December. The board will create an ad-hoc committee to discuss. Kevin, Carrie, and Bill volunteered to be on the ad-hoc committee. They will formulate ideas and bring them to next meeting. The board need to discuss what constitutes volunteering.

12. Other items

Coleen Starman's father passed away.

13. Audience Petitions (at discretion of the President)

None

14. Executive session – School Board Only

None

15. Adjournment –

Kevin motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Carrie seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:16pm. The next meeting will be September 8th, 2014 at 6:30pm. The meeting closed with an Our Father.