



Meeting Minutes

St. Patrick's Home & School Association

January 8th, 2018 Boland Hall

Attendance:

Paula Blackledge

Amy Cook

Alyson Demman

Ann Rasmussen

Stacie Osborn

Carrie Kubicek

Melissa Krejci

Ann Moeller

Kami Landenberger

Melissa Cupich

Angela Istars

Alexis Beller

Rachelle Durbin

Desri Gocken

Carrie McLaughlin

Meeting called to order at 2:00 pm by Paula Blackledge.

Home & School Prayer led by Paula Blackledge.

Justin Vossen, Kami Landenberger, Nick Mumm and Vicki Payton presented information on the school's budgeting process.

Questions and discussion ensued, including the following:

Question from the group: How are expenses forecasted year-to-year? Answer: Finance committee works with Kami and school to determine what is needed.

Strategic planning is going to be done by a small committee headed by Father.

Math curriculum was presented. If the school is not presented with money, it will have to find it in other places – possibly use dollars that aren't being used well in other areas.

Budget hasn't been finalized for next year.

Question was asked: Has there been a consideration of hiring another assistant principal? This would allow Kami to focus on more strategic-level issues.

Kami mentioned doing a “State of the School” meeting to talk about how dollars are allocated and what tuition is bringing in versus what the cost of the student is. She wants to be more transparent and have a discussion this spring or fall.

H&S currently provides money on an as-needed basis, we are not directly included in the operations budget right now.

Question was asked: Is there a percentage that the school would like to see from H&S (basically a tithe to the parish)? Justin said no, they wouldn’t ask for a specific amount of money every year. Rather they would like to be able to come to H&S with specific items from the budget.

The archdiocese is requesting that there is more control in place to track funds available in different accounts throughout the parish.

Mrs. Landenberger – she approached the school board with new math curriculum she’d like to adopt. She passed out information to the H&S group, explaining why we need it now. Currently, we are using a variety of tools b/c different series use different vocabulary terms and approaches. Online tools are different, and we have to re-train kids and parents every year. Teachers were given the choice in the past, which is why there’s such variation in programs being used.

She wants to be a good steward of money, so they looked at Elkhorn Public Schools and the Diocesan to see what they’re using. Sadlier is hands down the best one recommended by the teachers. The teachers wanted to wait for this, rather than Pearson, which is the program used by EPS and the one we would get money from the public schools to supplement the cost. Some of the benefits of the Sadlier curriculum include: the Sadlier team works on reviewing the whole program, so there is consistency from grade-to-grade. The company would come out in the spring and do a more enhanced program with the teachers. She said some H&S members could join them as well. They also will do some additional training in the fall. The curriculum is more story-problem based and could be correlated with science as well. It incorporates enrichment activities so material can be differentiated for different students. Question arose about 7th and 8th grade, and they are involved in it as well.

Cost: \$35,000 initial investment (first year) that includes student books, consumables, the teacher materials and digital resources. \$15,000 estimate to continue each year. Currently, we’re spending \$12,000. She believes we’ll be able to manage it on a yearly basis. The on-going fee is for consumables.

The request is for \$20,000 because the money that already is being put toward math curriculum will also be contributed to the new curriculum.

Ann Rasmussen introduced herself to the H&S group, explaining that she was hired in July to work on technology within the buildings. She explained that the Parish is working to level the playing field in the classrooms, so each room has 6 iPads. The goal is to use them in PreK through 4th grade. She showed the group one of the new iPads that was purchased. There also is a classroom cart of iPads that can travel. Teachers requested 54 apps be downloaded onto the iPads, and all of them are identical throughout the building. She is anticipating technology changes that will occur in the future, and needs

to have a budget to replace 30 iPads every year. That would allow the school to not have an iPad that is over 4 years old. This summer, the 30 new ones purchased will replace all of the iPad 2s.

She is asking for help with some storage solutions/charging stations for the iPads. She shared examples of possible products that would meet the need. The total cost of the new stations would be \$1,080.

Treasurer Report - Alyson Demman

Alyson Demman shared that we have \$67,000 in the H&S budget right now. We will hold \$36,000 to carry the budget for the next year. There is still \$8,000 that is earmarked and waiting on invoices and \$7,400 that will still be spent this school year. That leaves us about \$15,000. We've spent \$24,000 already this year. If we take the account/budget down to zero, we won't be able to take any more requests this year.

Discussion ensued that we don't necessarily need to hold back money. SCRIP is separate, and it has not been touched because accounting-wise it's very difficult to know what we actually have. Alyson estimated we have about \$8,000 available to us.

A suggestion was made to hold another fundraiser event in the spring.

The conversation was brought back to the two requests for curriculum and technology.

Motions:

1. Carrie Kubicek motioned for \$20,000 from H&S funds to be donated to the school for the new math curriculum, payable on invoice. If we don't have money in the account, we should pull it from SCRIP or the reserve funds in the budget.

The motion was seconded by Melissa.

2. Ann Moeller motioned for \$1,080 for the technology carts, payable upon receipt.

The motion was seconded by Alexis Beller.

Committee Reports

Catholic Schools Week: Alexis Beller shared that CSW is January 28th – February 3rd. She shared that the activities planned are fun and focused on celebrating Catholic schools. We do a lot compared to some schools. She thanked Mrs. Landenberger and the staff for all their help. She was looking for prizes for school-wide bingo.

Spirit Wear: We are able to leave the online store open all the time with uniform-approved items, and orders will be filled on a monthly basis. The 150-year t-shirt also will be available. We were provided with a set of those shirts in all sizes, so people can see them before ordering.

There will be a spring garage sale, along with the used uniform committee.

All Committees: Stacie Osborn asked for confirmation of committee chairs for next year and requests for changing or adding people to committees.

Paula Blackledge closed the meeting with a Glory Be.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:04pm.

Next meeting February 12th, 2018 7:00pm Media Center