



School Advisory Board

Minutes: Submitted by Melanie Hoffmann

Meeting Date: Wednesday, January 11, 2023

Present at meeting: Kami Landenberger, Tawnya Mann, Candace Thompson, Ty Christensen, Ryan McWilliams, Brad Peal, Melanie Hoffmann, Ashley Carlisle, Abbi Gowen, Jim Ridder, and Brian Krejci

Minutes from November Meeting: Approved

President's Report:

- *Coffee and Conversation:* Second Coffee and Conversation for school year was held on December 8th. There was a better turn out than previous event. PowerPoint was shared regarding fall survey results. Positive conversations were had. Suggested that minutes from the Coffee and Conversations be taken and added to Landenberger's Latest.
- *SAB Election:* Election will take place in April. Brian will follow up with voting suggestions at next Parish Council meeting (ex: QR codes). Brad P. and Jim R.'s terms are up. Jim R. will not seek a consecutive term, Brad P. will. If Brad stays committed to running, there would be 1 opening, 2 openings if Brad has a change of heart.
- *SAB December Meeting:* Discussion was held to whether or not have an SAB meeting scheduled in December. Ashley suggested touch base with Board via email. Kami didn't think Father Tom would be on board with being such a busy time of year.
- *Committee Reports:*
 - I. Home and School: Most recent meeting was Monday, January 9th. Financials were discussed. Justin Vossen attended H&S meeting on behalf of finance committee in attempt to streamline clubs' budgets. Kami mentioned possibly asking for funds to be earmarked for curriculum/textbook updates if we choose not use Elkhorn Public's curriculum. Kami will follow up with Vicki P. in parish office to see what "freedom" to make requests to H&S. Ruth Mumm requested support to offset cost of Courage Retreat. Suggestion made to add Kindness

Retreat for 4th and 5th grades. Food Committee discussed PT conference dinner and considering raising budget as food costs have risen. Elf campaign raised over \$14,000 among over 270 school families. We are at a stand still with playground installation. Waiting on excavation from school/parish business commit. Kami possibly looking to find another company for excavation as that is needed before installation can take place. No tree removal is needed for playground installation.

- II. Finance Committee: Kami met with small group via Zoom(Steve I., Jim G., and Linda M.) * Corey W. was unable to attend but sent notes on his thoughts. Meeting was to discuss where school is at in regards to budget. Where might school be able to decrease or increase aspects of the school budget? Kami emphasized being good stewards with the budget. Base salary increase for teachers up to 5% depending on scale and education. Support staff will get an increase in pay as well. Tuition has not been determined yet but CW mentioned wanting to be committed to tuition increase being minimal, possibly 3%. School registration was pushed back a couple of weeks in order for parents to have better information on tuition fees for the upcoming school year. It was noted that parishioner giving was down from covid giving, where giving to parish was very generous.
- III. School Operations Committee: Jim Ridder shared draft of 2023-2024 school calendar. One noted change included a week long Thanksgiving break. Part of staff Faith Formation in service time is included as part of breaks either beginning or end of them. West Omaha Catholic schools communicated via email on each's respective 2023-24 school calendars. Calendars were similar for the most part. Spring break is the same among Catholic high schools and St. Patrick's. PT conferences for spring pushed a week back to overlap with President's Day and to not interfere with SPIRIT, scheduled for February 10th.
- IV. Parish Pastoral Council: No meeting until February. Brian will bring forth voting process for upcoming parish and school advisory board elections.
- V. School Improvement Team: No updates since last SAB meeting. Next meeting scheduled for February 14th.
- VI. Wellness: Some student council members have participated in "taste testing" with Debbie Street for additions to school lunch menu. The focus of the committee is the green initiative. Wellness committee and student council representatives, including Tawnya, will take a field trip to Duchesne this upcoming week, to take a closer look at their recycling, composting, and overall Going Green Initiatives.

Unfinished Business:

- I. STEM Program: Candace shared some information on "wish" or plans for a STEM lab in future. The biggest need is space and looking at library

remodel to create a lab. Candace shared Marty's initial number was around \$100,000 for a project like this. Ty shared that he has approximately \$15,000 committed from "Friends of St Pat's", and that he needs to circle back with them now that holidays are over. As a school, we do not want to fall further behind with STEM program. Jim asked if we could add certain apps on the current student devices to support STEM as well. Candace confirmed that we could and that lots were available, but lab space is what is needed!

- II. Shamrock Stride: Shamrock Stride will be returning in September as a fundraiser. We need to schedule around other "asks" for school and parish. Funds raised would go towards our STEM goals. Shamrock Stride will look different, not as big production (t-shirts, etc.).

Principal's Remarks:

- I. Enrollment Update: Looking at if we need to set a student number enrollment goal. Current enrollment is 752 with 451 families.
- II. Textbook Loan: There is an increase in textbook allocation dollars which will cover the K-3 Amplify Science curriculum. We will pay for shipping and teachers' manuals will be included. PD will also be provided for the new curriculum. Strategic Planning will be held off until representative, Shannon Vogler, and team visit and provide feedback, possibly Fall of 2025 with visit planned for spring of 2024. School goals will still be made on what we can get feedback and data results sooner.
- III. Leadership Roles: Administration looking to move Shannon Watkins into a more leadership role as TEAMS and SAT coordinator as she already sits on a state board as non-public school representative. Kami also threw out thoughts of utilizing Candace and Tawnya's technology strengths, in place of the part time technology teacher for the upcoming school year. This would be in addition to their AP roles. They would be compensated accordingly.
- IV. Teacher Openings 2023-2024: Kindergarten (replacement for Bemis this semester was on a semester contract and new hire is able to apply for full time position. 2nd Grade (* not advertised yet as other positions were, due to more recent changes in personnel, after other jobs had already been posted.) TEAMS 2nd-4th and TEAMS 5th-8th, as well as a part time PE and Technology teacher have been advertised.

Pastor's Remarks: Father Tom not in attendance, so no remarks from him.

Executive Session was held

Next SAB Meeting scheduled for February 8th, 2023

