

School of St. Joseph
2107 E. 33rd Street
Des Moines, IA 50317

Minutes of the Board of Education
Thursday, November 5, 2015 6:00 pm
St. Joseph Parish Center

Call to Order 6:12p
Prayer: Dave Dietrich

- I. **Roll Call** Carolyn Farrell, Dave Dietrich, Fr. Ross, Phyllis Konchar, Deb Ryan, Tracie Sehnert, Trish Jay, Aimee Lovan, Gary Steenblock

Absent: Dan Stamey, Steve Johns, Stacy Halbach

- II. **Acceptance of agenda:**
Motion – Dave Dietrich Second – Paul Jackson Passed

III. **Comments/In Service:**

IV. **Open Forum -**

- V. **Approval of Minutes**
Motion: Gary Steenblock Second: Dave Dietrich Passed

VI. **Reports:**

Pastor: Continually impressed by school and REP. We need to keep inviting students to increase mass attendance and make it our #1 priority. Eucharist needs to be center of our lives. Focus on raising behavior expectations of kids at school and REP. Kids need to meet the expectations and respect our volunteers. Respect other students as well. The Luke 10 Program at St. Albert had a Zero tolerance approach to bullying. Let's keep raising expectations.

Principal's report: Nice prayer service on Monday for All Saints led by 4th graders. Benchmarking is going on. Next week end of 1st trimester. Will lock grades the 18th. Continuing with reading professional development we've been focusing on comprehension skills and strategies. Continuing with Faith Journey program for the next in-service on Dec. 16th. Administrators meeting today and discussed 1st day of school will be Aug. 29, 2016. Grades 3-8 went to gospel choir and they enjoyed it. Thanksgiving coming up we'll have mass on the 24th and buddy activity. Return Nov. 30th

Director of Religious Education (Deb): Found Google translator and it's been so helpful with Spanish speaking families. Matt Halbach talked to catechists about Year of Mercy. Out of sequence class has begun going well and learning a lot. Reconciliation class beginning.

Youth Ministry (Stacy): We are doing the Rite of Enrollment this weekend for Year 2. The semester in Spiritual Warfare for Youth Group is going well. Little concerned with our Core Team and their lack of commitment. But the Youth Council teens have stepped up as leaders and are doing a great job leading small groups! We started monthly adoration on the 2nd Thurs

of the month, followed by optional dinner together out. The diocesan youth conference went well although we only had 2 boys attend. I plan on promoting it a lot better for next year.

President's report: Coffee and donuts 11/15 & 12/6

Buildings and Grounds : (Paul) 2 of the 4 basketball hoops are up. 3rd one for preschoolers will be shorter and installed later. No plans for 4th hoop yet. (Fr. Ross) Let's not keep so many things in storage that we don't need, keep things cleaned up. Elevator is still in progress.

Athletic Committee report: (Phyllis) Basketball team has moved to a church league due to endorsement costs. Saw low turnout for the girl's team. Stepping it up with the boy's team to get more participation.

Finance report: (Fr. Ross) Looks good now in the beginning of the year but need to be careful about spending money wisely and budget. Will send out report in 2 weeks from finance council

In-service Dinner report (formerly appreciation): Nothing to Report

Parish Council report: Nothing to Report

VII. Unfinished Business

- A. Basketball hoops (see above in bldg. and grounds)
- B. Preschool playground (Phyllis) trike track and equipment is up but Bill discovered that we are missing an entire box. Waiting for delivery. We need trike storage for next year. Will make it a garage to qualify for universal funding. Phyllis writing grant for preschool
- C. All school playground: (Phyllis) We need designated area for permanent playground for rest of school to use before we move forward on purchasing one. We have reserves from home and school and Phyllis will do some grant writing to fund the rest of the funds. Fr. Ross and Fr. Hurley working together to look for other funds. We're still looking at white house.

VIII. New Business

- A. Wrap around care Preschool: (Phyllis) Would like to start looking at offering this. We're struggling with enrollment because most parents work. This would be a good recruitment tool. Looking for feedback from Board and at other parochial schools. Will also need to look at space availability. Will have to be accredited thru DHS. More details coming to December meeting
- B. 1:1 Chromebook initiative: (Phyllis) Would like to look at getting 1:1 initiative with Chromebooks starting in 5th gr. they keep it and we would charge an amount over 4 yrs and then it would be paid for by 8th gr. we can actually lock sites with a Chromebook. We can also check browsing history. It would put technology in their hands. They are \$189 as opposed to an iPad. All the Android apps are better. Example: Google school.
- C. Bandwidth needs: (Phyllis) Internet is now thru Mediacom; currently it's free for school. It's 10 mbps and it's really slow. Only 6 iPads can work at a time. Frustrating for teachers. Looking at subscribing to 105 mbps thru Mediacom \$300/month would give us the speed and access we need.
- D. Advertising for recruitment: (Phyllis) Would like to start advertising for recruitment at ss. John and Paul, Our Lady's, All Saints and our parish. Need to increase awareness of preschool.

IX. Executive Session

X. **Questions of and by Board Members** Trish Jay following up on ALICE training, where a Deputy comes in and gives different lockdown scenarios.

XI. **Next Meeting:** Dec 3, 2015 6pm
Refreshments/Prayer/Treats: Dan Stamey

XII. **Closing Prayer** Dave Dietrich

XIII. **Adjournment** 7:18 pm