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Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 21, 2021

Administration Office

Members Present: Nick Hegarty, Tim Swedean, Doug Skinner, Fr. Brad Pelzel, Rick Bertrand, Jacki Kelly, Dan Kriener, Fr. David Esquiliano, Jennifer Rose-Bass, Melissa Uhl

\*via phone conference: Luis Villalobos

Members Absent: Fr. David Hemann, Bridget Breen, Fr. Terry Roder

Staff Present: John Flanery, Jeanette Frey, Laurie Dougherty, Marisa O’Connell

Business

1. Opening Prayer – 5:00 p.m. led by Fr. Brad Pelzel

Note following corrections to the August 17,2021 Board of Education Meeting Minutes

* Jeanette Frey did not attend August 17,2021 Board of Education meeting
* Approval of board meeting minutes should state for July 15,2021 meeting instead of

June 15, 2021

* Diocesan Corporate Resolution – Board chair, Nick Hegarty, made a motion to amend August board meeting minutes to note Diocesan Corporate Resolution was voted on and unanimously approved

1. Approval of August 17,2021 board meeting minutes

Motion by Dan Kriener; Seconded by Melissa Uhl

All in favor: Aye

1. Laurie Dougherty – Enrollment Report
   * 20-21 beginning enrollment - 1504
   * 20-21 end of year enrollment - 1518
   * 20-21 students withdrew - 242
   * 21-22 beginning enrollment - 1560
   * 21-22 students withdrew (primarily due to financial reasons) – 283
   * Largest Freshman class in several years
   * 17 states have started utilizing “voucher systems”
   * Affordability:
     + $55,000 median family income
     + Suggested a good lobbyist to represent our needs at the state level – lobby for state to issue funds to our school system from taxes, roads etc. that public schools receive
   * Rick Bertrand felt that ESA’s would be a topic in the Iowa Legislature again this year
   * Superintendents will go to Des Moines in January, suggested that Laurie be in attendance
2. President’s Report
   1. Covid Update
   * District court voted to allow mask mandates
   * Diocesan press release stated that we will not be changing our current procedures regarding masks. We do not fall under the judges ruling
   * Averaging 4 new Covid cases a week system wide
   1. Advancement
   * Staffing
     + Director of Annual Giving, Patty Considine, will begin October 25th
   * Siouxland Big Give
     + Big Give will be for the Crusader Courtyard, picnic tables and benches. We purchased 29 tables, 8 benches. We are getting trash receptacles and 4 handicapped accessible tables.
   * MLTF
     + Goal has not been met since 2018
     + Increase tax credits up 75% - 18.1% sold so far
   * Gold Club
     + 9/16/2021 - $147,308 – Goal is $160,000 (need for chartered buses)
   1. EANS Funds
   * Reimbursement begins in October (Thompson contract, Best Buy, cleaning supplies)
   * Second round most likely available in January 2022
   1. FIRE Update
   * Fundraising event held – good success
   * BVU professor, Karen Shromeyer, met with teachers; IEP meeting at Holy Cross
   * Sioux City schools working better with us regarding students with IEP’s
   1. Personnel Updates
   * Short 1 PE teacher position at Holy Cross
   * Volunteers or substitute teachers cannot fill position
   1. Hispanic Heritage Event
   * Kermesse festival to be held on Sunday, September 26th, 11:00 – 3:00
   * Encourage more participation from Hispanic community
   * Fundraiser involving Hispanic families
3. Sub-Committee Reports
   1. Academics
   * Per Luis Villalobos, no report at this time
   1. Catholic Identity
   * Reviewed and approved Catholicism 101
   * 75 students went to Rochester for Steubenville conference
   * Rekindle Retreat – October 17th in Carroll
   1. Enrollment & Marketing
   * Parent/Ambassador program is having great success
   * Representative from Holy Cross will be joining committee
   * Push for utilizing “Win/Win Referral Program” this fall
   1. Finance
   * 1/10th of tuition balance is required to be paid each month (August-May)
     + Jeanette to provide budgeted vs actual tuition received
     + Jeanette to provide number of families with children in school with a prior year balance and no payment plan in place
   * Central Bank line of credit expired; need new line of credit with $500,000 limit, 3.75% variable rate
     + Motion to Approve new line of credit outlined above by Dan Kriener
     + Seconded by Tim Swedean
     + All in favor: Aye
   * Pride III Loan Refinance; 5 years at 3.5 fixed rate
     + Motion to Approve refinance by Tim Swedean
     + Seconded by Fr. Brad Pelzel
     + All in favor: Aye
   * Director of Lunch Program position
     + Motion to Approve position; Nick Hegarty Motion to Approve position at $45,000 with benefits, go back to Holy Cross to backfill at $20,000
     + Seconded by Rick Bertrand
     + All in favor: Aye
   1. Leadership & Governance
   * Melissa requested more time during October 19th board meeting to review items committee has covered
   * Student to teacher ratios was mentioned – what would be the minimum & maximum numbers?
4. Other Business
   * Diocesan meeting on Thursday, September 23rd
   * Rick Bertrand comments
     + Good transition at Holy Cross schools – kids are happy and things are looking very positive!
     + Coach Foster has been doing a great job! The golf tournament with donors was a success and Coach Foster really stepped up his game especially with players at the gate checking into the event
     + The Olympus half-time show was concerning to some parents due to content
   * John shared that approximately 500 students attended the Mary’s place dedication and conducted themselves politely and respectfully. It was a proud moment for our school.
   * Sacred Heart school received a glowing email from a family that has seen an incredible difference with their child since attending Sacred Heart school! Kudos to Sacred Heart – keep up the great job!!

**Next meeting Tuesday, October 19, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.**