

# School Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 1/4/2023

630-830pm in person

Minutes by Heather Bradford and Charlie Herb

Present: David Burroughs (Principal), Carlos Gonzalez (Chair), Charlie Herb via Teams (Facilities), Lisa Mallory (Incoming Parent Club President), Kelly Surapaneni (Catholic Identity), Heather Bradford via Teams (Vice Chair and Secretary), Merrill Behnke (Parent Club President), Kelly Bach (Health & Safety), Father Nagel, Orville McDonald (Technology), Paul Padilla (invited guest/Youth Minister for this meeting), Mrs. Padilla, Bridget Darrow (Pastoral Assistant for Administration)

Absent: Katie Goodrich (Legal)

1. Parents Club update:
  - a. Sock Hop planned for Jan 20th, no cap on attendees, registration will open in 2 days
  - b. Catholic Schools week – she will send out sign up genius for lunch for teachers (feb 3<sup>rd</sup>)
2. Legal (sent via email)
  - a. No legal issues
3. Health and Safety
  - a. Hearing Screenings went well
  - b. All encouraged to wash hands to decrease risk for illness
4. Part 2 session to increase school family involvement in the church. Brainstorm Session occurred within small groups (5) over the last month, and each group presented the ideas from their sessions to the larger group.
  - a. Suggestion to creating a top 3-4 from total list. Plan to make them actionable, and if accomplished, then go to next one on the list.
  - b. Plan to send a summary after this meeting for all to review, reflect, and pray about, with individuals making their top recommendations for 3-4 items in a ranked fashion. Will discuss at our next meeting.
  - c. Consider goal to develop a strategic plan as overarching document which will guide our work moving forward.

## Sacraments – Kelly Bach

- Service project for those going through first reconciliation/communion (with or without parents)
- Tour of church for those going through first reconciliation/communion
- Bringing the parish and school kids together to make the first Communion banners - Merrill

- How do we keep the momentum between the sacraments – Kelly
  - Service projects – kids need service hours anyway
  - Christian music in the home
- Who should teach first Communion (teachers, parents, parish staff)?
- Recommendation to do a service project for Confirmation
- Retreat or lock in to bring the kids together
- Do we bring an element of Confirmation preparation into the classroom?
- Increase the frequency of bringing Fr. Joseph to school for Confession – Fr. Nagel said the goal was once a month
- Could we incorporate Eucharistic Adoration into the school starting in Pre-K and extending through 8<sup>th</sup> grade and build up from something short in Pre-K (5 minutes) and build to a longer time by 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- Incorporate testimonials or witness talks into the school

#### Social/volunteering – Lisa Mallory

- What are the responsibilities from volunteer coordinator position (a new position this year)
- More opportunities for school families to be involved in masses (social events after)
- More social activities with mass – rosary making
- More involvement with ministries – ie Jubilee Reach – assign a classroom each month?

#### Mass Engagement – Carlos Gonzales and Heather Bradford

- Theme Masses
  - Grade level, Scout, CYO
  - Field Day with color groups and spirit points
  - Buddy Mass
  - Need schedule/calendar to map it out
  - Who is responsible for coordinating?
- Onboarding of new families to the parish or families that want to reengage with the parish
  - Might need to create a section on the parish website for engagement as it is not clear in current format
  - Need someone to volunteer to onboard new families to the parish
  - We have an onboarding process for new families to the school, but lacking something similar for the parish (e.g. buddy family)
  - Maybe have a new family Mass at the beginning of the school year – David
  - Maybe two masses per year at the Youth Mass time (Sunday 5pm) – David
  - Have 2<sup>nd</sup> graders preparing for First Communion sign up for bringing up the gifts to one of the Masses during the year – Kelly
  - Could Confirmation candidates sign up for ushering? – Kelly
  - Area for Confirmation candidates to sit together with the Youth leader at the youth mass - David

- Use this as positive peer pressure – Paul
- Celebrate anniversaries and birthdays on the first weekend of the month – Heather
- Have Fr. Joseph at pickup and/or drop off to make a stronger Parish/School connection – Carlos
- Have a teaching mass to instruct kids and adults on why things are happening during the Mass – Paul

#### Registration Data – Orville McDonald

- Deferring to next month
- Active parishioner registration – planning to have parents be responsible for applying for the parishioner rate each year
  - Default if full tuition
  - Parents have from February to end of June to get the paperwork submitted

#### Youth Ministry – Paul Padilla

- Variety of opportunities to attend youth activities
  - Add souls on fire – bonfire, hot chocolate, have priests present for kids to ask questions
  - Male and female night in April – celebrate both sexes
  - Partner in service – plan an activity at Jubilee Reach
  - 5<sup>th</sup> grade invited to youth group a month before school concludes
  - Opportunity for parent nights
  - Small groups on campus – goal would be to eventually have 8<sup>th</sup> grade leaders
  - Service opportunities
- Currently have 25-30 youth attending this year
- Goal next year is to have separate high school and middle school focused nights
  - Leverage graduating 8<sup>th</sup> graders to help lead middle school youth group
- Paul partnered with Gabby in the school for Advent and they are planning on doing something similar for Lent
- Ask a priest at the school – Father Nagel
- Introduction to adoration with songs – Father Nagel
- TAP prayer – give opportunities to walk kids through TAP – Father Nagel
- TAP is a good reminder for the students on how to grow in their relationship with Jesus – David