

School Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 4/5/2023

6-730pm in person

Minutes by Heather Bradford

Action items in bold

Present: David Burroughs (Principal), Carlos Gonzalez (Chair), Charlie Herb (Facilities), Kelly Surapaneni (Catholic Identity), Heather Bradford (Vice Chair and Secretary), Bridget Darrow (Pastoral Assistant for Administration), Lisa Mallory (Incoming Parent Club President), Father Nagel, Merrill Behnke (Parent Club President)

Guests: Katy Gregg, Sarah Hanley

Absent: Kelly Bach (Health & Safety), Orville McDonald (Technology), Katie Goodrich (Legal)

1. 30 minute strategic planning discussion on raising funds for the endowment with Sarah Hanley and Katy Gregg
2. Follow up on action items from prior minutes (Carlos):
 - a. Do we need to collect different information on registration that would help inform parish engagement? **Need to follow up with Orville**
 - b. Idea of making opportunity for field day points if you wear school colors to mass on 5/20 and 5/21 mass weekend.
 - c. Recommendation to move sacrament preparation back to classroom. Defer to new faith formation hire and Father Nagel
 - d. Idea of having SHS students attend adoration, Bridget shared idea of students there 130-2pm, then open to adults at 2pm
3. Principal's Update (David)
 - a. Spurred by recent private school shooting in TN, discussion of whether there are any opportunities to increase safety at SHS
4. Technology report received via email from 1/12/2023 registration and data breakout meeting (Orville not present)
 - a. Survey the needs of people who attend the school
 - b. Discuss how we think about parish participation in the context of school subsidies
 - A. Can we decouple parish registration and church participation
 - c. What makes SHS attractive
 - A. The size. Other schools are all single class grades. We are also able to have specialists
 - B. Also how we have planned and managed things. For example, COVID response

- C. Policies and procedures adjust to needs of kids. For example, adjustments to the middle school program.
 - D. High school readiness. People antidotally have said positive things. Consider maybe surveying the first years in high school on how formative the experience was.
 - E. Talk with Laura on why we people come here
 - d. Think about diversity of teachers. Gender, racial/ethnic, socio-economic
 - A. Even when aid is provided, being able to do activities and participate could be a real problem. Families that are doing well still have problems with some activities like the DC trip (\$3000)
 - B. What can we do for more teachers (male, racial diversity)
 - e. We should not do a guest log in
 - f. For baptism
 - A. Think about some things we can provide (e.g. letters to the family, a SHS bib).
 - B. For people new to the parish is there a letter we can send to develop a connection and bring people in to the school.
 - g. Timeline
 - A. Do about 2x per year
 - B. One out soon
 - C. Follow up in June
5. Health and Safety (Kelly B not present, report submitted via email)
- a. Mental Health/Devices/Social Media - Nikki Morton (school psychologist) and I met last week and are meeting again about long term plan for education on this as well as some short term ideas. This overlaps a bit with Orlando and the tech group. Lindsey Steer is offering a teams meeting tomorrow for families on how to safeguard devices (as of last week 28 families had signed up). After the offering of IRL during Lent, Nikki and I have worked on a follow-up questionnaire as well as resources on social media as related to Mental Health. Our current conversation is geared at offering a sip and chat (or something to that effect) to talk about "how to slow the roll" for families considering cell phones for their kids and another offering for "course correction" for re-thinking social media that kids already have. We are still in the "storming" stage of putting this together. Ultimately there are considerations for a speaker (what are the needs of the parents/most effective) to come in but we think that is a fall option. Nikki is looking into a group currently, a parent had an idea, and Holy Family Kirkland recently had a speaker so there are options.
 - b. Health room: As we have been able to again offer our DC trip there is also an increased demand on Ann Marie in the health room for accurate paperwork, medications etc.... I know she is feeling stretched and will chat with her on better support in the health room so that we can take care of the kids and she can get this work done (not sure if this is a hiccup year, sick calls for health room or reduced coverage as a service job).

- c. Safety: I think that the physical safety of our students in light of the recent shooting in TN is worth re-evaluating. I know that many measures are already in place to keep our staff and kids safe.
- d. Staff Satisfaction - I wonder if we can create in advance a "mental health day" for our staff. For example, 2 parents would sign up to be available for a middle school teacher on March 23 (random). The teachers could decide who wants to take that day. Lesson plans are drawn up for them as subs (but get to work in pairs so feels "easier" to the parent) OR if the parent pair has a talent or skill that they can teach the class (whether it is work related or a hobby and the teacher has to ok it).
- e. Housing for teachers- this would be more of apartments than anything. My husband works in commercial real estate and he suggested talking with the management companies about a long term rate deduced lease. Could there be opportunity if they aren't renting at capacity (which many aren't) to have a long term relationship with SHS?