



Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 22, 2023
Administration Office

Members Present: Fr. Brad Pelzel, Jennifer Rose-Bass, Rhonda Bridges, Teresa Fitch, Fr. Tim Friedrichsen, Rick Bertrand, Dan Kriener, Jacki Kelly, Ben Uhl, Teresa Fitch

Via Conference Call: Melissa Uhl

Members Absent: Fr. David Hemann, Nick Hegarty, Fr. David Esquiliano

Staff Present: John Flanery, Kelsey Schomaker, Marisa O'Connell

1. Opening Prayer – 5:00 p.m. Fr. Tim Friedrichsen
2. Introductions
3. Approval of July 18, 2023 board meeting minutes
Motion by Fr. Tim Friedrichsen, Seconded by Fr. Brad Pelzel
All in favor: Aye
4. Committee Reports
 - a. Academics – Nick Hegarty
 - No meeting held.
 - b. Catholic Identity – Jacki Kelly
 - Fr. Crotty and Lexi presents Selena Thompson to staff.
 - c. Enrollment and Marketing – Jennifer Rose-Bass – see attachment.
 - Hoopla night – August 30th
 - 75th Anniversary logo decided – will email apparel vendors for order.
 - Current family survey still needs distributed.
 - d. Finance – Kelsey - see attachments
 - July tuition receivables - \$149,567.21
 - Blackbaud agreed to put a hold on contract for 1 year with no fees or penalties.
 - Per email, Board of Education members approved \$40 late fee per student per month if applicable tuition payment plan is not paid by end of month.
 - Parish receivables
 - Holy Cross payment went from \$84,649.67 to \$75,000.
 - Should this stay at original amount until priests and Diocese meet to discuss assessment guidelines?
 - Fr. Tim Friedrichsen would like it to be noted in meeting minutes that he objects to the reduction of Holy Cross parish assessment.
 - Parish Investment meetings scheduled for September 26 and November 7 at 4:00 pm
 - BHCS will provide a letter requesting parish financials prior to the meeting.
 - Discussion about “asking” parishioners for additional giving vs ESA funds

- Rick Bertrand suggested that a solid plan for next couple of years should be put together regarding ESA's before making an impact on parish assessments.
 - Melissa Uhl made a motion to keep Holy Cross parish assessment at \$84,649.67 and amend the 2023-24 budget.
 - Motion dies with no second.
 - Diocesan Fixed Interest Rate Promissory Note
 - Establish/transfer \$2 million from variable rate note to fixed rate of 4.5% interest.
 - Monthly payments will pay down variable rate principal first along with interest on both notes.
 - See attached note for further details.
 - Motion to accept the Diocesan fixed interest rate note.
 - Motion – Fr. Brad Pelzel
 - Seconded – Teresa Fitch
 - Prime Bank Money Market
 - With additional funding from ESA's, BHCS would like to pursue a money market with Prime Bank.
 - Interest rate is variable around roughly 5.29% (Treasury rate minus .25%)
 - \$1,977,465 received from Odyssey year-to-date in ESA funding.
 - ESA update
 - 640-650 approved ESA's
 - 518 ESAs paid (others have not accepted tuition to receive funds)
 - Odyssey
 - We have 3 days to notify Odyssey when student is disenrolled.
 - Currently there is no option to disenroll a student in Odyssey.
 - If student has disenrolled after September 15th, Bishop Heelan will retain the first semester ESA funds per our approved withdraw policy.
 - ESA families that disenrolled at Sacred Heart
 - Some new families thought that it would be free to attend. BHCS will work next year for clearer communication.
- e. Leadership & Governance - Melissa Uhl
 - No meeting held.

5. President's Report

- a. Advancement
 - Gold Club golf outing was one team short of being full. Relocating the event to the Country Club was a positive move.
 - CYO weight room ribbon cutting event went well.
 - Boji Bash in Okoboji had approximately 40 people in attendance and was a good start to the "friendraiser" event.
 - Fall formal Legacy Campaign event scheduled for November 9th – endowment for teacher's salaries and building fund.
- b. Teachers returned to work on August 16th
 - Board members greeted teachers and staff prior to mass on August 18th
 - Transgender presentation from Patty Lansink and Fr. Jones.
- c. Enrollment
 - Current enrollment - 1548
 - Budget enrollment - 1560
 - Not likely to hit goal enrollment number – 1600
 - Students on hold – 46
 - Hoopla – Wednesday, August 30 at 5:30 at Crusader Courtyard

6. Other Business

- Monday September 18th Bishop Heelan High School will host 500-550 teachers/staff for all Diocesan Schools professional development session.
- Bill Drexel purchased Freshman and new staff copies of Fr. Robert Barron scripture books.
- Rick Bertrand and Bobby Michaelson have been discussing building safety preparation in our schools. Here are some areas that have been discussed.
 - Safety around windows and doors
 - Panic buttons for all buildings and voice alert activation option
 - There is an app for the voice alert activation option (we have an active shooter)
 - Perhaps having both options would be beneficial.
 - Doors
 - Looking to replace specific glass doors with metal doors.
 - Facility Fencing
 - 8' fences – will receive a bid from Cardis
 - Cost could be as much as a quarter of a million dollars to do this project.

7. Motion to Adjourn 6:15 p.m.

- a. Motion – Fr. Brad Pelzel
- b. Seconded – Fr. Tim Friedrichsen
- c. All in favor – Aye

Next meeting Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.