



Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 20, 2024
Administration Office

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

Absent Members: Fr. David Hemann

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

Guest: Laurie Dougherty, Director of Enrollment

1. Opening Prayer – 5:00 p.m. Fr. David Esquiliano
2. Approval of January Board Meeting Minutes
 - Motion by: Fr. Brad Pelzel
 - Seconded by: Nick Hegarty
 - Abstained: Melissa Uhl, Fr. David Esquiliano, Fr. Tim Friedrichsen
 - All in Favor: Aye
3. Laurie Dougherty, Director of Enrollment
 - September enrollment number – 1614
 - February 20, 2024 enrollment number – 1643
 - Increase in ESA marketing planned.
 - 3 phases of enrollment/registration
 - February 1 – March 15
 - Existing families can register.
 - Currently 550 families or 48% of existing families have registered.
 - March 16 – April 15
 - New Catholic families can register.
 - April 16 going forward.
 - All other families can register.
 - ESA events are being planned. ESA application will open on April 16.
 - Enrollment caps for each grade will be in place.
 - Some classroom enrollment might close and waiting lists might be needed.
 - Student/Teacher ratios are in place for all grades.
 - Reviewed Laurie Dougherty's enrollment process with new families.
 - Cumulative transcript is requested and needs to be approved to accept student.
 - Students that are not approved are encouraged to work on improvement area and try again the following year.
 - Review tuition with family.
 - Nick handed out notes from the Academic Committee meeting and will also email notes to board members. Notes include a page discussing "New Student Enrollment Protocol" and "Enrollment Procedures".
 - Laurie will send reminder notices to current families to register as soon as possible in case classes fill up.

4. Committee Reports

- a. Academics – Nick Hegarty – see attachment.
 - If IEP resources are not available at one school, we do look at availability at another school in our system.
 - Will there be a potential issue with class numbers in the future as St. Mikes, South Sioux City, NE students enroll in our system?
 - How does class size look for DLA students transitioning from 5th grade into 6th, 7th, and 8th grade?
 - Empowering principals for next 3 years to academic excellence and will be held accountable for any disciplinary measures. Check to see where we are a year from now.
 - Concern brought up about whether all middle schools are consistent regarding academic preparation for high school.
 - High school state test scores do reflect results and consistency regarding this issue. Average scores have consistently been high.
 - Each building uses different augmented resource material (computer vs workbook). All take the same state-wide tests.
 - Nick will reach out to Chris Bork to see if there are any noticeable academic differences with 8th grade students coming from different middle school buildings.
- b. Catholic Identity – Jacki Kelly
 - Diocesan curriculum meeting held to discuss replacing religious textbooks.
 - Proposal for a working document to be used as a guideline for teachers.
- c. Enrollment and Marketing – Jennifer Rose-Bass – see attachment.
 - New website rollout in March.
 - OTT ads will be used.
- d. Finance – Kelsey - see attachments
 - Tuition receivables
 - \$375,354 payments received.
 - Students on hold - 430
 - 72 students taken off hold as of 2/1/2024.
 - Parish Receivables – see attached
 - Received 1 year commitment from Holy Cross
 - Received 3-year commitment from other parishes
 - Parish investments will decrease by \$202,000 next year.
 - Diocese will no longer have “Together as One” and “Parent Partnership” - BHCS will need to backfill approximately \$100,000 in tuition assistance funds.
 - We have requested the Diocese to stack MLTF and ESA funds.
 - ESA update
 - Confirmed ESA's – 659
 - Payment received from State of Iowa - 518
- e. Budget
 - Wage model – 8-12% compression raise scale for 2024-2025 school year.
 - John checking with Diocese regarding any potential incentive to bring non-Catholic teachers to BHCS.
 - Raises are on base income only; this does not include any stipends.
 - Stipends are determined by President, Finance Director and Principals.
 - Merit pay vs hard to find teacher pay was discussed.
 - Froehlich Farm
 - Appraised - \$475,000
 - Asking price - \$600,000
 - Will have auction in April if farm does not sell.
- f. Leadership & Governance - Melissa Uhl

- No meeting held.
5. President's Report
- a. Advancement – see documentation including MLTF received.
 - Fund-a-cause Memorial track resurfacing - \$68,000 needed.
 - b. Enrollment
 - High School enrollment projection – 560
 - John to check into risk of class numbers going up due to sports.
 - Sacred Heart/CDLA principal position has 3 candidates (1 withdrew).
 - CDLA has opening for lead teacher position.
 - c. School safety measures
 - Informacast, Zero Eyes, Sheriff Sheehan options for school safety were discussed.
6. Other Business
- John and Kelsey to work on \$50,000 grant per building for vulnerability assessments.
 - Priests to provide schools curriculum for sacramental preparation.
7. Motion to Adjourn –
- Motion by: Nick Hegarty
 - Seconded by: Jacki Kelly
 - All in Favor: Aye

Next meeting Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.