



Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 16, 2024
Administration Office

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

Via Conference Call: Rhonda Bridges

Absent Members: Fr. David Hemann

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

Guest: Mandy Wright – parent with academics and teacher qualifications

1. Opening Prayer – 5:00 p.m. Fr. Tim Friedrichsen
2. Approval of March Board Meeting Minutes with Campus Ministry modification and meeting end time added.
 - Motion by: Nick Hegarty
 - Seconded by: Melissa Uhl
 - All in Favor: Aye
3. Guest – Mandy Wright
 - Parent of three children.
 - Mandy stated that her children are enrolled at BHCS because of safety and academics.
 - We should promote excellence in all we do.
 - Online courses
 - Due to an issue with new software at WITCC, some BHCS students were unable to login to take classes. This caused some students to be two to three weeks behind.
 - Expressed concerns over hiring qualified staff to provide high level education to set our students up for academic success.
 - Reiterated importance of teaching confirmation curriculum in schools along with the parishes.
 - Consider offering a Sophomore meeting with school counselors to review college online classes, BHCS class schedules, and other opportunities available to our students.
 - Communication is always the key. There was a concern that not all entities are doing it as well as we should.
4. Committee Reports
 - a. Academics – Nick Hegarty
 - New Student Checklist
 - Recommended enrollment procedures for new families and transfer students from public schools to verify we can serve all the needs of our students, especially in our resource department.
 - Contact Director of Enrollment, Laurie Dougherty.
 - Get student cumulative file.

- Conduct a student shadow day.
 - Registration can be completed when it is determined that the student will be permitted to enroll in our school system.
 - If a family did the Online Registration on their own, Yvette Sitzmann will get principal approval.
 - Principals will work with their leadership teams to make sure more than one person can make enrollment decisions. Benchmarks will be reviewed to ensure schools are consistent.
 - Discussed how many 504 or IEP plans are in each school and how many caseloads per resource teacher in each building.
 - IEPs are serviced at public schools not within our schools.
 - Principals can bring in a new student from public schools on contract. This will give the student an opportunity, but if issues arise, the student can be dismissed.
 - Enrollment procedures need to be posted on our website.
 - Director of Student Services
 - Currently we have 4 candidates.
- b. Catholic Identity – Jacki Kelly
 - No meeting
 - Lexi and Jacki met with teachers to work on a proposal for the Board of Education reflecting how they would suggest Campus Ministry be developed further.
 - If the salary is appropriate, would like to look for an experienced individual for Director of Campus Ministry.
- c. Enrollment and Marketing – Jennifer Rose-Bass – see attachment.
 - Website was reviewed and discovered areas that need attention.
 - Contact Jennifer with any website issues or discrepancies.
 - Applied for Sparklight Grant.
 - ESA ads are online.
- d. Finance – Nick Hegarty and Kelsey Schomaker - see attachments
 - Tuition receivables
 - \$430,576 reduction in A/R
 - Students on hold – 300
 - Several seniors are in jeopardy of not receiving transcripts on time.
 - June 2023 uncollected tuition was approximately \$1,821,000
 - Parish Receivables – see attachment
 - 2024-25 School Year Budget
 - Reviewed the first draft of the 2024-25 budget.
 - EANS
 - Federal funding allocated for supplies is expiring during the current fiscal year.
 - Maintenance and technology supply expense integrated back into the budget.
 - Busing expenses are built into the budget for activities/athletics, but not for school route transportation.
 - Potentially use endowment drawdown for back-filling of busing expenses. This may depend on the status of state funds.
 - Fire Foundation \$30,000 grant was received to help offset the addition of the Director of Student Services position
 - Para Numbers
 - Adding one dedicated para per middle school.
 - Elementary school has enough paras.
 - Teacher Contracts
 - Number of contracted positions open at this time
 - High school – 2
 - Sacred Heart - 1
 - CDLA – 2

- Holy Cross – 5
 - Mater Dei – 4
- Froehlich Farm Sale

Lots 48 and 49 in the Northeast Quarter (NE ¼) of Section 8, Township 9, Range 5, 6th PM, Lancaster County, NE containing 64.7 acres more or less.

Tax parcel #03-08-200-001-000

- 2018 Appraisal - \$385,000
 - 2022 Appraisal - \$475,000
 - Received an offer of \$520,000 - good until April 18, 2024
 - Motion to approve and accept offer. Dr. John Flanery, President or Dan Kriener, Board Chairman shall be authorized to sign paperwork on behalf of Bishop Heelan Catholic Schools for the sale of the farm.
 - Motion to approve – Rick Bertrand
 - Seconded – Ben Uhl
 - All in favor – Aye Motion Carried
 - Proceeds pledged to Pride III campaign
- e. Leadership & Governance - Melissa Uhl
 - No meeting held.

5. President's Report

a. Advancement

- LiBunts and Sibunts for the annual fund increased funds raised from \$159,000 to \$189,000
- Auction Fund-a-Cause
 - Funds received - \$28,000 (\$40,000 short of goal)
 - Women's college basketball game affected Fund-a-cause results.
 - Advancement team successfully developed a plan to recoup those funds.
 - Preliminary Auction results - \$600,000
- Guenther Endowment – 40 days of Lenten push to raise \$40,000 for Campus Ministry was successful.
- Enrollment - 1162 students enrolled with 34 to process in the queue.
 - ESA application opened with state approved funds at \$7,826
 - Approved and designated ESA applications – 163
 - Laure sent email with schools and times where parents can go to complete the ESA application.
- Sacred Heart and CDLA Principal positions
 - Sacred Heart Principal – Erin Chute
 - Held meeting with Sacred Heart teachers.
 - CDLA Principal – Jody Ferris
 - John will forward additional information regarding candidates to board members.
- School safety update
 - Safety radios in all schools except CDLA and Admin building
 - Kelsey and John are still working on safety grant funds to put towards cameras and other building security items. Sacred Heart will allocate their grant funds to door fobs and other security measures.
- Busing Update
 - Kelsey and John are working with BSI out of South Dakota, Students First and Sioux City Public Schools (buses only).
 - No proposals from vendors at this time.

- BHCS does have one white bus that holds 44 people.
 - Buses do not have to be yellow if used for activities.
 - BHCS currently has two bus drivers.
 - Parents will have to apply for State reimbursement to ride on the bus.
 - BHCS is currently exploring South Dakota and Nebraska busing routes.
 - Will need a letter from South Dakota school district granting us permission to have buses through their district.
 - Have discussed with principals the idea of aligning school start times. Sioux City school busing times determined our school start times.
 - BHCS will gather information to forward to parents in May regarding busing process.
 - Technology Services
 - Currently working with Thompson, Catalyst IT in Sioux Falls, Sterling regarding contracted services.
 - Will be hiring a third BHCS employee instead of having a third-party vendor employee.
6. Other Business
- a. Student letter shared by Laurie Dougherty
7. Move to Executive Session – 6:55 p.m.
- Motion by: Ben Uhl
 - Seconded by: Jacki Kelly
 - All in favor – Aye
8. Motion to move out of Executive Session – 7:28 p.m.
- Motion by: Fr. Tim Friedrichsen
 - Seconded by: Nick Hegarty
 - All in Favor: Aye
9. Motion to Adjourn – 7:28 p.m.
- Motion by: Fr. Tim Friedrichsen
 - Seconded by: Fr. Brad Pelzel
 - All in Favor: Aye

Next meeting Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.