

**Sacred Heart School Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**February 7, 2024**  
**6:30pm – 7:30pm**

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Approval of Minutes (December 6, 2023 & January 3, 2024)

Parish Updates

- Partners in the Gospel Parish Families Announced (Feb. 3)
- Ash Wednesday (Feb. 14 8:45am, 12:00pm, and 6:30pm)
- Bible Study: Revelation (Feb.6 to May 14: Tuesday's 8:30am-10:00am)
- Whole-Life Confession (Feb. 15 prep; Feb. 18 begins)
- Encounter Lenten Mission (Feb. 26, 27 & 28 6:30pm)

Principal's Update / New Business

School Commission 2023-24

- Discussion topics
  - Auction
  - Enrollment
  - High School Preparation (Health & Safety)
  - Birthdays and Lockers
- Open positions
  - Finance (TBD)
  - Marketing (TBD)
- Objectives for the year
  - Strategic Plan Review
  - Staff Compensation
  - Catholic Identity
  - Parish Engagement
  - Partners in the Gospel

Committee Reports Questions

- Health & Safety (Kelly Bach)
- Parent's Club (Lisa Mallory)
- Technology (Orville McDonald)
- Catholic Identity (Kelly Surapaneni)
- Legal (Katherine Goodrich)

Next Meeting: March 13, 2024

## Notes:

### Partners

- Its official, st. monica and Sacred Heart are partners
- Still waiting on the pastor for each partnership

### Whole life

- Opportunity for a 30 day retreat on how to pray and do a whole life confession. Participants will write a letter to Jesus and cover whole life. There is then a penance service that is specific for this journey.

### Encounter Lenten

- Group of women who provide spiritual guidance to college students and also go to different parish's to do talks. They will be coming to Sacred Heart to talk about virtues.

### Principal update

- Auction is coming up and excited about
- Trying new approach to class projects. School is doing memory books this year to help eliminate the competition that come with class projects.
- 3 new teachers have been hired
  - o 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher hired on to help support the remainder of the year.
  - o New pre-k aid
  - o New aid for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade, so now 4<sup>th</sup> grade has their own aide and same with 5<sup>th</sup> grade. New aide will also help out with the Youth Ministry program.
- School now has a subscription to hallow app which is a Christian prayer app. Daily meditations, bet time stories, stations of the cross activities for both elementary and middle school.
- Open house had great turnout
- Kinder and pre-k assessments also went well and strong numbers for both classes.

### Discussion topics

- High school
  - o Last year school did a talk about phones and social media. Trying to get ahead of the social problems at school.
  - o Thinking about having some resources parents can use to help prepare students for high school. To discuss the amount of drinking, vaping, dating, etc.

### Committee Reports

- Health & Safety (Kelly Bach)

- Ann Marie is working on Islandwood forms for the 6th graders.
- I met with Niki Morton about an idea I had when David was out. We have improved our conversation and education to families around social media and phones this year. I am wondering about providing the same in regards to some of the things that will be more visible as students move to HS. I don't think this looks like a speaker but maybe something a little more hands off like a pamphlet with resources.
- Last year we did a meeting for 5th grade parents about decision making for cell phones and social media. I asked Niki if there would be a push to do this again and reportedly this years 5th grade class is much different and majority of students already have phones.
- Discussion requested on Birthdays and Lockers
- Parent's Club (Lisa Mallory)
  - Father Daughter dance was a success on the 26th with a sell out crowd
  - Parents Club hosted the teacher/staff appreciation lunch during Catholics Schools week on 2/1. We brought in soups, salads and desserts. Thank you to those that participated from school commission, the teachers always love this event!
- Technology (Orville McDonald)
  - The committee reviewed the Family Survey results and discussed next steps for presenting the results.
  - Some key statistics include:
  - 70% of surveyed parents would like more information on parental controls. This was the biggest request for a future session.
  - 75% of surveyed parents feel there is a need as a school community to have more conversations around mental health.
  - Top concerns communicated in the survey:
    - Too much time spent on devices
    - Bullying/exclusion/socialization
    - Anxiety
    - Self-esteem
    - Social media usage
- Catholic Identity (Kelly Surapaneni)
  - Catholic Schools Week January 28th-February 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - Open House on Sunday, January 28th
  - The Partners in the Gospel parish families were announced on February 3rd
- Legal (Katherine Goodrich)
  - Nothing to report