St. Paul's Board of Directors' Meeting
Tuesday, September 24, 2024
6:30 pm - Fireside Room
Minutes

Call to Order & Opening Remarks – Nick Seierup, President at 6:30 pm

Nick shared the overarching themes that were expressed at the September 23 Town Hall Meeting. He assured all in attendance that these items were heard and will be addressed by the Board. He expressed a desire for everyone to work together to move forward.

- Budget Transparency
- Parent Forum
- Clear Plan for Enrollment & Retention
- Restore the Heath Aide Position

Opening Prayer – Led by Gail Kanneg
F.R.O.G. Fully Relying on God

Non-Board Member Comments
Mr. Matt Wingert, church member, former St. Paul's student, current St. Paul's parent

Approval of Minutes
A motion was made to approve the July 2024 Board meeting minutes. The motion was seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Metrics Report – Facilities

Short Term Goals

- Reduce spending.
- More reliable network.
- Add asphalt to access road at the big school.
- Slurry and stripe the courts at the big school.
- Add drinking fountains and bottle fill stations at the big school and preschool.

Long Term Goals

- Replace the MODJ with a permanent building.
- Replace fencing in maintenance area.
- Church Office – ceiling repairs, flooring, paint
- ECDC - more inviting office space, add bathrooms to classrooms
- Replace chain link fence around Canal field.
- Move maintenance area and replace building.
- Eliminate all keys and install key card access on all doors.

Completed Projects

- Replaced the firewall at school and upgraded internet speed at school and church.
- School field renovation.
- New cabinets in Art studio.
- Gym restrooms have been fully renovated, including the sewer underground.
- Replace HVAC in the preschool office.
- Improving security throughout our campuses with keycards and camera.

Metrics Report - School Enrollment

- We will be taking a more comprehensive marketing strategy, tapping into members/parents with expertise.
- Missional Marketing – can be used to promote school events.
- We only conducted 7 tours this summer versus 23 last summer.
- Road construction may have been a contributing factor.
- Conversion rate was much lower.
- ECDC transition was about the same. Losing TK students to free TK.
- Families that left:
    - 4 out of state
    - 4 problems with other students
    - 4 personal/family issues
    - 3 transferred to public middle school
    - 2 for sports reasons – specialty schools
    - 2 with personal financial issues that declined assistance
    - 1 upset with the way we handled a problem
- We haven't seen as many coming in from the public school system.
- International students – levels have not come up to preCOVID.
- Lower church membership of families – about 25% membership
- Jackson Thiesfeldt shared that studies show that 70% of families are deciding on a school every year. St. Paul's has automatic reenrollment, which can cause surprises at the last minute. The economy is forcing parents to make hard choices.
- Pastor spoke with other churches and schools in our area – Salem up a few, St. John's down a few, Christ Costa Mesa down quite a few.

Treasurer's Report – Pike Lambeth

- General tithes and offerings are about $75K below budget and $66K below last year.
- Our net income is $536K, which is below our budget by about $57K and 90K below last year. We have 32 fewer students than we budgeted for enrollment, which has had a significant negative impact on our operational budget. Our budgeted net income is used to support our principal payment.
- Funds at Allspring are earning about 4.89%. The Federal Reserve cut rates by 0.50%, which accounts for the reduced rate. This rate may drift lower through the end of the year.
- With the reduced school enrollment, very attentive management of the situation is required.

Nick commented that there has been a call for budget transparency. With this in mind it is important that when non-Board members review the financials, they need to understand the financial cycle of the church, elementary and ECDC.

Senior Pastor Report

- The Pacific Southwest District (PSD) will be holding Convention in June 2025. Each congregation sends a pastor and a lay delegate.
- The PSD will be holding an All-Worker Conference in November 2025. We were planning to send all the staff, but due to the budget reduction this expense is being eliminated except for Kim Hood and Janette Mattoon who will be recognized for 35 years of service, Tasha Mashi who is part of the planning committee, and Jackson Thiesfeldt.
- The upper roof repair that was planned has been stopped due to the budget reduction.
- Serving Challenge numbers are higher than originally reported, but lower than past campaigns.
- School Accreditation is in the works, with the formal visit scheduled for April.

Closed Session
A motion was made to move into closed session for personnel discussions, motion seconded, all in favor, motion carried. Visitors were thanked for their attendance and participation.

A motion was made to come out of closed session, motion seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Adjournment & Prayer – Nick Seierup at 9:20 pm
There being no further business before the Board, the Chairman entertained a motion and second to adjourn. Motion approved. Adjournment to continue in Service and Prayer.

Sincerely,
Gail Kanneg - Secretary

Those in Attendance on September 24:

Nick Seierup – President	Steve Aviles
David Talmage – Vice President	Drew Hantula
Pike Lambeth – Treasurer	Deb Mercier
Gail Kanneg – Secretary	Paul Marlow
Pastor Scott Christenson	Robyn Strohschein

Absent: John Borton

Guests: Nicole Stankus, Kari Kelley, Becky Calleja, Angela Batta, Carol Gardner, Danielle McConnell, Clara Dunbar, Bob Westphal, Jackson Thiesfeldt, Matt Wingert, Emily Campbell, Linda Campbell, Brandon Carrillo, Cory Fleming, Ruby Cruz, Elijah Cruz, Ben Strohschein

Board Meeting & Devotion Leader Schedule

Tuesday, November 19, 6:30 pm	Drew Hantula
Tuesday, January 28, 6:00 pm	Paul Marlow
Tuesday, March 25, 6:00 pm	Deb Mercier
Tuesday, May 27, 6:00 pm	Steven Aviles