St. Gabriel the Archangel School Board Minutes

9/22/26

6:30-8:00 p.m. Loft 1

Attendees: Kat Abdin, Brandon Burns, Lara Krill, Brandon Lewis, Brigitte Mader- Urchel, Jordan Oros, Laura Roberts, Jennifer Schulz, Christina Szymanski, Lisa Mattmiller, Erin Young (virtual)

- Opening Prayer
- Membership update
    - Previn Alexander stepped down
    - William Burns accepted member at large position
        - Goes by Brandon
    - Need new alternate
        - Reintroduced each board member and guests
            - Guests include Molly Cape and Chad Hardison
- Minutes -
    - August 2026- Approved
- Old Business
    - School Board Statement
- New Business
    - Preschool Liaison: Kat Abdin, Preschool Director
        - New Admissions Manager: Sheyla Armstrong started last week
        - Enrollment Increase to Date: 143 last year to 160 currently
            - 5 Open seats in Preschool.
        - 92 of these 160 students will be eligible for Kindergarten based on age.
        - 23 have a current sibling enrolled at St. Gabriel
        - 69 No family Connection to St. Gabriel
        - Last year 74% of eligible K students enrolled at St. Gabriel
        - Jessica LaFevre compared MAP scores between students that come from St. Gabriel Preschool to students outside of the school.
            - Found that reading and math scores were higher for those students that attended the program.
            - Thrive by 5 Program: families gain access to a family access scholarship that allows them to offset some of the cost.
                - 42% of students have CCAP or Thrive by 5 assistance.

            - This is in place of CEF Funding for Preschool families.
        - Trunk Or Treat: October 30th 6:30-8:30
            - Businesses also invited to have a trunk
        - Kat on maternity leave December 1st
            - Contingency plan in place
                - Finer details being worked out.
            - After School Care staff is newer this year. Hired 5 new staff this summer, we have 2 more open jobs. Would like help getting the word out for filling positions. Ideally, college student going for teaching degree

- Partnership with Preschool
    - FACTS: enrollment, tuition
        - Current enrollment 164, nearly at capacity for Preschool
    - Kindergarten data review/ Curriculum alignment w/ JK and K teachers
        - Focusing on skill gaps and curriculum alignment
    - Modified application for current preschool entering K
    - Safety drills/ emergency planning
    - Fundraising
    - PTSO
        - Discussed misconception: PTSO also encompasses Preschool as well.
    - Events: Walk-a-thon, Open House, Derby Days parade, Field Day
    - Coordinate event schedules
    - Brigance Kindergarten entrance exam
    - Kindergarten classroom placement
    - Marketing
        - Increased marketing budget for this year.
    - 2nd grade buddies
- Admissions Process
    - October 8- Invitations to Open House go home hard copy and virtually and letters from K students w/ eligible K for 27-28
    - October 15- folders go home w/ eligible K for 27-28, send email
    - January 15- priority window closes for applications
    - 92- eligible for K (age 5 by August 1)
- Pre-Registration for returning students
    - October 15- Re-enrollment email and hard copy to current families
    - March 9-25- Enrolment packets in FACTS
    - Current timeline to have Bus enrollment tie with March 9th, may review to get earlier commitments from families, to allow for bus route planning in advance (and give enough time to resource accordingly)
- Enrollment Management Plan
    - Vital Statistics Report
    - Highlights
        - Parish membership is the highest it has been since the COVID-19 pandemic!

        - This is the most students we have had on campus since the 2017-2018 school year!
        - Preschool enrollment has hit a record high!
    - Quarter 4/ End of Year Report (Apr-Jun 2026)
    - Budget / Facilities Update
        - HVAC and Roofing at MPB (aka Gym) has been expedited, originally scheduled for replacement in summer 2027. Due to critical status of the equipment, the replacement has been pulled up to Fall 2026/ ASAP. Total Estimate $700k
    - 2026-27 School Improvement Plan
        - Domain: Mission and Catholic Identity Goals:
            - Provide three targeted sessions on student agency and whole child education this year, resulting in 100% of teachers implementing at least one new verified 'holistic student' practice per trimester into their classroom routines.
            - Develop a portrait of a learner framework that defines the specific skills, knowledge, mindsets, and character traits every student will develop before graduation. .
        - Domain: Governance and Leadership Goals:
            - Build leadership capacity and create shared leadership within the administrative team and Instructional Leadership and Innovation Team (ILIT) to ensure the long-term sustainability of the school's mission and vision.
            - Develop systems of support and accountability for PLC work with common assessments and Tier 2 instruction.
        - Domain: Academic Excellence Goal:
            - Teachers will collaborate within PLCs (Professional Learning Coordinators) to design and implement common formative assessments that measure student progress toward identified learning targets outlined in the curriculum maps.
            - Teachers will identify and implement Tier 2 interventions for students who do not demonstrate 80% mastery of the learning targets.
            - Become a Cognia STEM certified school by Spring 2028.
                - Archdiocese will be certified in Fall 2027; St Gabriel will fast-follow suit to apply for our certification. Technology Committee is taking lead on STEM certification
        - Domain: Operational Vitality Goals:
            - Increase student enrollment (preschool through 8th grade) by 10% by 2028-29 school year. Budgeted school enrollment for year was 540, currently enrollment 545. Total students includes Preschool currently at 709.
            - Create a visually stimulating environment that promotes creativity and efficiency
- Next Meeting Topics
    - Review school data report (Academic Excellence/ Operational Vitality)
    - Review supports for neurodivergent students (Academic Excellence)

    - Mental health supports/ Social-Emotional Learning (Academic Excellence)

Other Business

- Discussed AI resources and safety issues aligned with AI.
    - Tech committee has identified as a priority to address.
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        - Last year's campus financial report - Preschool reported flat income to PY. Original budget anticipated growth. However, with nearly max capacity for enrollment we anticipate positive growth for the new school year.
        - The Bus Committee is looking at facts-finding with the bus company to answer the question "Can we add a bus back next year?"
            - Discussing a way to gauge interest and a proposed area for families that would align with that interest.

- Next Meeting Dates (2026-2027)
    - *All meetings at 6:30pm*
    - October 27
    - December 1
    - January 26
    - February 23
    - March 23
    - May 4