

## **School Committee Minutes**

**April 12, 2016**

**Present:** Jeff Bajczyk, John Shanahan, Cindy Gaudion, Ed Brady, Matt DeMarais, Joe Siekierski, and Pastoral Council Liaison Cindy Robinson

**Absent:** Pat Donahue, Dick Steve, Dawn Sarandos, Barb Romanello, Rita Borowski, Father Ralph, Father Chuck,

### **New Business**

#### **Recruitment of new School Committee Members:**

A notice for new School Committee members was published in the school newsletter as well as the parish bulletin but no one has responded to date. The committee was asked if anyone has intentions of leaving at the end of the year. All expressed interest in either staying or finding a replacement before they left, Ed Brady is in touch with two people who may be interested. There are currently 3 openings in addition to those currently serving on the committee.

#### **Parish Auction**

John Shanahan brought to the committee that the school has been granted the opportunity to do a "From The Heart" auction at the end of the live auction. This year he will be asking for donations to fund a new clock and tones system as the current one is not consistent and runs manually. Any funds above and beyond the cost of the clock system would be put toward tuition assistance.

#### **Golf Outing**

The first Golf Outing meeting will be held Wednesday April 12, at 6:00pm at The Legend at Merrill Hills. Gina Rhodes has offered to be the new Chairperson this year with Cindy Gaudion working alongside her to help with the transition. Gina has recruited several new committee members to help out. This year's event is on Monday, August 8<sup>th</sup> at The Legend at Merrill Hills.

## **New Principal**

Members of various ministries and committees have been asked to help with the interview process in the search for a new Principal to replace Dr. Shanahan upon his retirement at the end of the school year. Questionnaires are being developed and it is the intention of the search committee to conduct interviews the week of April 24<sup>th</sup>. Currently they have received 5 applications for the position.

Some of the topics that the committee felt were important to discuss with applicants are; experience with, or strong interest in developing a partnership with community schools for incoming 3K and 4K students, Choice school experience and knowledge, a strong academic design philosophy, and faith-based curriculum.

## **Strategic Planning**

The minutes from the last meeting were distributed. One of the topics covered was creating a brand to umbrella both St. Paul's and St. Bruno's school. One name offered up was Western Waukesha County Catholic Schools. The idea is to create a name (brand) that would sound bigger than each individual school name however there was no intention to eliminate the school names either. This would also help in sharing resources.

The question came up why only the schools would have this umbrella and not the churches? It was decided that this idea was only in discussion for the schools at this point.

A suggestion from a committee member was to offer completely different curriculum at each school such as a charter type system.

One additional concern brought up was creating a whole new brand for the schools would take a tremendous amount of time and money to make it work successfully.

The committee felt that the most successful start would be a collaboration of resources and expenses such as buses, teachers, and teaching materials.

In May Rita Borowski will complete an analysis and create a model that can be turned back to the Strategic Committee.

### **Principals Report**

Miss Mickel announced her retirement at the end of this school year.

Based on all of the intention to return forms the structure of the classes should remain similar to this year and enrollment looks to be as good as last year if not better with only 10, 8th graders leaving.

### **Committee Reports**

**Finance:** School budget for 2016-17 looks to be in the final stage of approval. The school will receive 3, \$1,000 grants next year from Kohls for field trips.

**Building and Grounds:** None at this time.

**Technology:** Everything is working and nothing new to report.

**Long Term Committee:** There is a meeting scheduled for May to focus on an endowment program for an annual tuition assistance budget of \$40,000 a year.

**Marketing:** The electronic sign on the corner has some messages running that are very difficult to read.

**Home and School:** Nothing new at this time.

### **Open Forum**

Matt shared a story about a video he had seen where a school had created a "Buddy Bench". This bench could be used by any child at any time that didn't have a friend to play with. When other students saw someone on this bench it was an opportunity to invite the student to join them. The committee saw this as a terrific idea for St. Paul.

Cindy Robinson, liaison from the Pastoral Counsel shared that she joined St. Paul parish in the fall of 2014 and at the time that she joined she and her family were never introduced to the school with materials or even a tour. Missed Opportunity!

It was suggested that perhaps the school should be notified of any new families joining the parish giving us an opportunity to welcome them on behalf of the school. Jeff will contact Fr. Chuck and Mary Kral about this moving forward.

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:24 P.M.**

**Respectfully Submitted by,**

**Cindy Gaudion**