

## Saint Mary Catholic School Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes for November 8, 2023

*Meeting was assembled at 2pm in PLC Upstairs Meeting Room*

In Attendance: Father Doug Halsema, Father Joseph McShane, Principal Peter Rodgers, PTO President Christina Gil, SAC Chair Vanessa Kuennen, Stacey Mai, Katie Ryan, Delores Noechel, Karen Kirk, and Amy Hebson

I. **Open Meeting:** Prayer led by Mr. Rodgers

II. **Mission Statement:** Read by Vanessa

*Dedicated to Catholic values, Saint Mary Catholic School is a Christ-centered educational community committed to academic excellence, spiritual growth, individual responsibility, and service to others.*

III. **Agenda and Minutes**

Vanessa made motion to approve minutes from previous meeting. Motion was seconded by Stacey. Minutes were signed.

IV. **School Report:** Given by Mr. Rodgers

- A. Four new students and one parent are coming into the Church
- B. Bus Status (more will be discussed by subcommittee chair)
  - 1. We are on track to raise \$50-60K by EOY for new bus to replace one of the buses.
  - 2. Two remaining busses have about five years before they will have to be replaced.
- C. First Reconciliation was last night. Three priests attended.
- D. Track or Treat was a success chaired by Ruby Underwood. It was faith based and enjoyed by all.
- E. Lessons & Carols will take place 12/20 in the Church.
- F. Brite Stars: We are planning to host it in late February or early March at the Emerald Coast Harley Davidson. More information to come on that.
- G. The Church participated in the Ministry Fair last week.

V. **Subcommittees Report**

A. Security: Led by Katie

- 1. There were about a dozen items to pull from security survey. Some items are free to resolve such as updating the diagram of the campus for the police and fire departments. Some items will require a purchase such as a lock box for the fire department as well as additional cameras.
- 2. Security committee will request PTO funding for cameras and box.

B. Bus Purchase: Led by Karen

- 1. Committee is currently looking at three companies for replacement bus. There are many factors to consider such as new versus used, mileage and age of used buses, diesel versus gas, and when replacement bus could be available.
- 2. New bus with Bluebird ranges from \$143k to 146k (variables include seating capacity and diesel versus gas.) Used buses being looked at range from \$34,900 to \$62K with variables including age of bus, mileage, and gas versus diesel.
- 3. Benny recommends that a used bus be no older than 2015 with no more than 100k miles.

C. Enrichment: Delores will discuss with Mr. Rodgers after meeting

VI. **PTO Report:** Given by PTO President, Christina Gil

- A. Monthly dining fundraisers: raised \$277 at Sonny's BBQ
- B. Skating fundraiser: Scheduled for 11/30. It is \$13 per student to attend and \$10 per ticket will go to school.
- C. Mrs. Morrison and Mrs. Beatty started a project with their students to beautify the garden around the Blessed Mother. They will ask PTO for funds to assist with this project.
- D. Art to Remember (ATR)
  - 1. We had difficulties with some of the artwork that was submitted. ATR is allowing us to resubmit art but the timeline is tight. Artwork has been redone by students but it still drying. Art has to be scanned on site before it is mailed to ATR. The challenge is the timeline. Parents will only have four days to place orders once the new art is available.
  - 2. SAC members advised to continue scanning and sending art to ATR and to let parents know right away via email, Flocknote, notes home, etc. that art will be available to purchase on X date for X number of days only. Continue daily communication with sense of urgency for timeline once art is available.
- E. Breakfast with St. Nick is taking place 12/3 and is being chaired by Teresa Amato and Brooke Barns. Knight of Columbus will prepare breakfast.
- F. There will not be a Holiday Shoppe for students but there will be a table at the Breakfast with St. Nick where rosary bracelets and other items can be purchased.

VII. **Pastor's Report:** Given by Fr. Doug Halsema

The church project is going well and there are no foreseeable issues. The project will be completed before next academic year with a possibility of completion by Easter.

VIII. **Open Discussion**

We scheduled meeting for Spring 2024. Vanessa will notify office of these dates. Karen proposed adding parents of younger students to committee.

*Future meeting dates: All meetings are scheduled at 2pm and will take place in upstairs classroom of PLC.*

- 1/17/2024
- 2/21/2024
- 3/27/2024
- 4/24/2024

*Ending prayer led by Mr. Rodgers.  
Meeting adjourned at 2:43pm.*

Father Doug Halsema \_\_\_\_\_

Principal Peter Rodgers \_\_\_\_\_

First Motion to Approve \_\_\_\_\_

Second Motion \_\_\_\_\_