

St. Joseph School Board Meeting

August 17, 2022 6:30 P.M. (in Classroom)

I. Call to Order and Opening Prayer

Meeting called to order by President Joel Hoffman at 6:30 P.M, and begins with an opening prayer

II. Roll call

Present: Doug Klein, Joel Hoffman, Kellie Antes, Ericka Piggott, Ron Simon, Susan Craft, Erin Kowatch, Nick Lawless, Aaron Schneider and Autumn Spitzley

Absent: none

Guests: Ryan Weber, Nickie Wentworth, Nathan Klein, Bill Thelen and Diane Thelen

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda made by Erin Kowatch and seconded by Susan Craft.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve both the April and June meeting minutes made by Susan Craft and seconded by Ron Simon.

V. Communication

Nathan Klein spoke on the status of the youth athletics in the Lansing area. The Catholic Youth league of Lansing for 7th and 8th grade has disbanded. Nathan is working to find games for our 7th and 8th graders to play for volleyball and basketball.

Nathan brought in the new uniforms for the board to view.

Nathan also talked about working to make a better balance between St. Joseph School and P-W public school in terms of facility use.

VI. Public Comments

Dianne Thelen voiced concern on the school losing two teachers and losing Mrs. O'Mara so abruptly. She also spoke on the student masses and teacher attendance. She thinks that it is important that teachers attend every mass to show an example to students. She stated that the students leaving to go to the bathroom is happening frequently and that it is a distraction to the adults.

Bill Thelen spoke on the power of sports in the community. He spoke on making clarity of parish activities a priority. He also spoke on his concern of the losing of teachers. He asked that we make sure the teachers are free to share concerns, thoughts and ideas and are listened to.

VII. Principal's Report

Ryan Weber spoke about completing the Student Parent Handbook. He would like to set a deadline for having the handbook set by next school board meeting. The Marketing and Communications Committees is helping him with this.

Brie Henning (1st grade) and Gina Nowland (2nd/3rd grade) and Jenna Thelen (4th 5th grade) are three new hires at St. Joes. Ryan Weber will be teaching 5th grade math and 6th/7th grade social studies in addition to his duties as principal.

Jenna Thelen is working towards her teaching certification. There is a three year grace period to complete the certification. This is not uncommon. This does show up on the school's accreditation but does not count negatively towards it.

Ryan Weber and Nathan Klein have been working on the Athletic Policy.

New "smart boards" have been added to the classrooms with EANS funding.

The parish is looking for important moments in the history of St. Joseph parish that will be included in the parish directory (particularly events from the last 20 years). An email to help collect information will be sent to board members.

Ryan Weber stated that the open house went well.

VIII. Business Action Items

Motion to approve the MHSAA Membership Resolution for St. Joseph made by Erin Kowatch and seconded by Ron Simon. A vote passes unanimously.

A motion is made by Susan Craft to approve the liquor license for the Century Club Dinner. Seconded by Nick Lawless. A vote passes unanimously.

A motion to approve the calendar of school board meetings, created by Ericka Piggott, made by Aaron Schneider and seconded by Autumn Spitzley. A vote passes unanimously.

IX. New Business

Joel Hoffman stated that there is a vacancy on the school board that needs to be filled as Todd Henning has stepped down. An announcement will be put in the bulletin.

Ron Simon spoke on changing the name for the St. Joseph School Lottery to the St. Joseph School Raffle. the use of the word "Lottery" is not allowed on the paperwork for the State of Michigan, so this change would make the wording consistent.

Kellie Antes spoke on the Education and Virtue program. Kellie stated that the Sister Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, of Ann Arbor would like to come to St. Joes to present the program. Kellie will share the contact information with Ryan Weber and Caleb Heckman.

X. Committee Reports

Executive Committee: Ron Simon and Susan Craft have the last 6 years of finances for the school. Ron would like to take specific questions to the parish Finance Committee. Kellie Antes would like the clarification of how well the tuition increase sufficiently covers the school's needs. She would also like to know if a year to date tally of church collection can be added to the bulletin, to increase parishioner awareness of our financial position routinely. Nickie will follow up with the finance council to get their approval.

The board had a brief conversation about Parish Festival funds and were made aware that these are "restricted", for use only in funding future parish festivals.

Marketing Committee: Megan Schneider, Kerri Hafner, and Carly Surbrook were added as members of the marketing committee. Megan is willing to do web work for the

school and has education and experience in web design. Nickie will work on getting approvals needed from the diocese for this.

The logo has been cleaned up.

The committee worked to help set up the open house.

Development Committee: The committee talked about advertising and marketing of the school.

Kellie Antes has met with the Strategic Planning Committee two times. The committee has developed a survey to send to school families and parish members/community. She will show the survey to Ryan Weber and Father Darrel to get their input. The committee's goal is to initiate the survey in October.

XI. Suggested Items for Next Month's Meeting

Ron Simon and Susan Craft will have an update on their findings from the Finance Committee.

Board members should bring names of potential new school board members.

Education in Virtue update if available.

XII. Next Meeting Date

Wednesday September 21st 2022 @ 6:30 pm – In Classroom

XIII. Closing Prayer

Joel Hoffman led the group in prayer.

XIV. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting by Ron Simon and seconded by Susan Craft at 8:30 P.M. and closed with a prayer.