

St. Joseph School Board Meeting

March 20th, 2024 6:30 P.M. (In School Classroom)

I. Call to Order and Opening Prayer

Meeting called to order by Kellie Antes at 6:30 P.M, and begins with an opening prayer.

II. Roll call

Present: Kellie Antes, Susan Craft, Doug Klein, Ericka Piggott, Ron Simon, Aaron Schneider, Alyssa Frechen, Nick Frechen, Rick Stump, Michelle Schafer, Autumn Spitzley and Erin Kowatch

Absent: Nick Lawless and Joel Hoffman

Guests: Principal Ryan Weber, Brie Henning, Beth Thelen and Gina Nowland

III. Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda is made by Susan Craft and seconded by Ericka Piggott .

IV. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the February minutes is made by Aaron Schneider and seconded by Rick Stump.

V. Public Comments

Several St. Joseph teachers presented current happenings in their classes.

Beth Thelen - teaches Young 5 students. Her class is working on a song about St. Joseph, keeping track of a Lenten calendar, and finishing their study of phonics. Mrs. Thelen is seeing things clicking for students socially and academically.

Brie Henning - teaches 1st grade. Students are doing 100-150 minutes of reading. Her group is a very good group of readers. They are doing 15 prayer petitions per day to create a prayer chain that will stretch down the hallway.

Gina Nowland - teaches 2nd and 3rd grader. Her class has been following the Iditarod during March. They completed reading passages to learn about the race. Mrs. Nowland is seeing students progress from picture books to chapter books. She has been doing Reader's Theater with students, where students act out parts of the book. She really loves the creativity and spirit of our kids.

VI. Principal's Report

Mr. Ryan Weber presented the Principal's Report. Mr. Weber provided a copy of the report to all board members.

Some key points:

8th grade graduation will be May 22nd and their last day on May 23rd. Mr. Weber will try to keep 8th graders last day on the Thursday before Memorial Day.

Looking ahead to next year, the 8th grade will likely have eight students, 7th grade will have two students and 6th grade will have seven students. Mr. Weber is looking at what classes can be combined.

Middle school visit from St. Mary's students. Another invite will be sent to St. Mary's families to visit for the day. The ones that have visited have shown interest.

Student happening....

During Lent, the staff has been promoting silent time for students to be more reflective.

Students come into the church first thing before school.

St. Joseph Feast Day was celebrated with students.

Buddies Pals - a grandparent has a dog that comes in to read to classes.

Solar Eclipse - viewing glasses were donated for students to use.

Hubbardston Irish Dance Team - performed last Friday. Six or eight St. Joes students are part of the dance team.

7th grade retreat at St. Pat's in Portland. This went well. Focused on being open to God's call.

6th and 7th went to Lansing Catholic to watch My Fair Lady performance.

Helping the community....

6th, 7th and 8th helped Knights of Columbus assemble pie boxes to give back to the Knights.

May 20th will be a no school day per the principals day off.

Title money was gained to set up tutoring time for students. St. Joe's teachers will do the tutoring.

VII. Business Action Items

- B. Susan Craft motions to allow the 8th grade class to do an overnight trip to Grand Rapids on April the motion is seconded by Erin Kowatch

IX. Business New

- A. Budget update from Mr. Weber - Income from tuition was at \$199,000 last year and next year it is looking to be at \$204,000.
- B. School Lottery - Ron Simon is looking for someone to take the lead on running the school lottery. There will not be time to have the license approved and the tickets printed to start the new drawing on May 1st. Autumn will look into questions on the licensing process.
- C. Nick Frechen looked at the current bathroom renovations. He is concerned that the new renovations will not meet ADA requirements, and the scope of the project will be bigger than anticipated. Nick will look into the threshold dollar amount before ADA code is enforced and the occupancy requirements for the school and hall.
- D. Social Media and Marketing - Ryan Weber talked about the use of Facebook to market the school. The school is attempting to communicate with parishioners more. Alyssa Frachen commented that the marketing committee can use their funds on Facebook ads.
- E. The board has a discussion on updating the school website with tuition amounts and other details.

X. Committee Reports

- A. Executive Committee: none
- B. Marketing Committee: spoke above
- C. Development Committee: none
- D. Strategic Planning: Next meeting is April 2nd.

XI. Suggested Items for Next Month's Meeting

- A. Discuss the option of a new scoreboard as a Fund-A-Need idea.
- B. Michelle would like to talk about using the school as a resource for families in the community.
- C. Update on the bathroom remodel from Nick Frechen.
- D. An update on the school raffle.

XII. Next Meeting Date

Wednesday, April 17th, 2024 @ 6:30 pm – In Classroom

XIII. Closing Prayer

Kellie Antes closes the meeting with a prayer

XIV. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting is made by Autumn Spitzley and seconded by Nick Frechen at 7:45 pm.