

School Commission Minutes – December 10, 2024 @ 6:00 PM Shepherd of the Hills – Virtual

Present: Barb Welsh, Barb Grzywinski, Mrs. Petersen, Tim Harding, Ramsey Immel

Absent: Father Mark, Katie Abhold, Libby Bonen, Matt Immel, Sarah Benike-Immel, Cori Knuth, Deanna Miller, Sarah Haubenschild, Kelly Hagman, Jenn Wilke, Leah Bode

Opening Prayer

Mission Statement

Walking the path of Christ with love and service through a Catholic education

2024-25 Theme: In the Deed, Find Glory – 1 Corinthians 10:31
“Whatever you do, do it for the glory of God.” Amen

School Reports: Mrs. Petersen

a. School Good News:

- a. Through CESA 6, we were able to use the rest of our EANS Funds to purchase 17 new Laptops for the Computer Lab. Over the next few weeks, Mr. Holden will prepare them for student use.
- b. Through a generous donor, Mr. Holden purchased 15 new chairs for the Computer Lab. The chairs will ship in several weeks, but pictures of the new computers and chairs will be shared as soon as they do!
- c. Through a generous donor, we purchased and installed a new Gym sound system with an enclosed, locked case.
- d. A generous donor has gifted Bibles to all our 6th-8th grade students, each beautifully paired with a custom Bible cover. Additionally, our parish quilters have lovingly created handmade bags for the students to carry their Bibles. What a wonderful blessing!
- e. Thank you to Donna Schmidt for her time, materials, and unwavering dedication to our Rosary Club. We also thank the Christian Women for their generous donation to support Rosary supplies.
- f. Applied for a \$5,000 Safety grant to digitally map our school, a practical tool for improving efficiency, safety, and overall school quality. Stay tuned to see if we receive the grant.

b. Principals Report:

- a. On Monday, December 9, we reviewed a new Reading curriculum called Wonders by McGraw Hill for next school year, as Journeys will be obsolete. We met on Zoom with representatives to ask questions. At our

next staff meeting, we will discuss more of what we thought of the program and how we will move forward.

- b. We welcomed 2 new students on Monday, December 2. Enrollment is at 71 students
- c. On Monday, December 2, our students and teachers welcomed School Resource Officer Deputy Luke Olson to Shepherd! The students were so excited to meet him and hear his inspiring message. He reminded them that one of the easiest, simplest, and quickest things we can do daily is to be kind to someone else. We are grateful for his visit and the important reminder about the power of kindness in our school community.

Review and Approve November Meeting Minutes: Approved

Parent/Parishioner Comments:

- a. None at this time

Pastoral Council:

a. Pastoral School Liaison: Barb Grzywinski

- a. Looking for ways to communicate better with parishioners.
- b. Goal to raise \$6,000 by June and are looking for new ideas
- c. Human Concerns and Stewardship positions are still open
- d. A meeting has happened to discuss new fundraisers – lots of good ideas such as a possible run walk / Run for the hills came from this meeting.
- e. A representative from the Archdiocese spoke about running a registration reboot to get emails from parishioners more easily. Planned on rolling this out in the next two months. It is based around how we can better help people.

Committee Reports:

a. Executive and Policy: Tim Harding

- a. Commission By-Laws are being reviewed and updated

b. Budget and Fundraising: Barb Welsh

- a. Dinner Auction theme – Celebrating 20 years of SOTH Super Heros. Invitations have gone out and everyone should have them.
- b. Cookbook fundraiser – an additional 100 were made to sell.
- c. Heart Association fundraiser to follow later in the year. This year will have more of a service project focus than in previous years
- d. Next meeting will be held on December 18th.

c. Long Range Planning: Mrs. Petersen (Committee Members: Mrs. Peterson, Jenn Wilke, Sarah Benike-Immel, Tim Harding, Matt Immel)

- a. Goals/Key Areas of Focus-Increase enrollment, Create a teacher pay scale(Amelia and Sandra need to work on this together), Budget(Amelia and Sandra need to work on this together), Curriculum, Safety, Exit Interviews
- b. Sandra has been reviewing budgeting things with Amelia, and they will attend helpful Zoom budgeting meetings.
- c. Amelia continuing to plan for curriculum with teachers (reading)
- d. Amelia continuing to work on Safety with Safety Plan Coordinator Mitch Petersen (Plan needs to be submitted to the State by January 1)

d. Marketing and Recruitment: Sarah Haubenschild (Committee Members: Mrs. Peterson, Steven Knuth, Sarah Haubenschild, Barb Grzywinski)

- a. Students who are registered by March 15th will be entered into a drawing to win Full Price Tuition for the 2025-2026 school year, and Half Price Tuition(a drawing for each) – Approved by the Finance Committee(Amelia is applying for a grant to help with funding)
- b. 3K/4K/5K Shepherd Showcase – invites went out December 5th – this will continue after Christmas break.
- c. Sunny 97.7 radio ad campaign – ads will start on December 16th and will run through March 12th and will include 480 thirty-second commercials
- d. Continuing to promote the Little Lambs program 3K/4K
- e. Video ads started on Radio Plus Sports YouTube channel on December 5th – the ads will play during local sporting event streaming and will showcase our school and Catholic Faith education – this will run 25 ads a week until May 2025 – generously donated by Nici Colwin

e. Home and School: Barb Grzywinski

- a. Christmas cookie social next Tuesday at the Christmas concert
- b. Movie day is next Friday the 20th
- c. Teacher appreciation Mondays
- d. Teachers have a wish list and it has been included in the newsletter

Review Action Item Register

Next Meeting: February 11, 2024 (In Person)

Tentative Future Meeting Dates:

February 11, 2025 (In Person)

April 8, 2025 (In Person)

May 20, 2025 (In Person)