

## **Aquin Educational System January 2024 Board Minutes**

The meeting was called to order on January 16 at 6:32.

Present:

School Board Members: Father Osterhaus, Deacon Mark Otting, Kelsi Hosch, Kathy Beck, Cody Noonan, Matt Kurt, Kim Vaske, Brad Boffeli, Jenny Recker attended in person. Laura Herbers, Itza Heim, Kelley Moloney attended via Zoom. Jesse Burkle arrived at 6:45.

Director of Faith Formation: Nicole Casey in person, Daycare Administrator: JoAnn O'Connell and Aquin Bookkeeper: Marian Kluesner attended via Zoom. Finance committee member: Josh McQuillen

Kathy made a motion to approve the agenda. Jenny seconded. Motion carried.

Kim made a motion to approve November minutes. Brad seconded. Motion carried.

Reports were shared via email. Any questions were brought up at the meeting and discussed. See below.

### **Finance Summary:**

- Kathy made a motion to approve November financials, Jesse seconded. Motion carried.

Josh and Kelsi from finance committee proved board with 24-25 school year budget. Discussion occurred regarding staff salary/wages and benefits and tuition recommendations.

- Finance board tuition recommendations for Aquin School:
  - ESA tuition to increase to \$6,220/year. This was a recommendation from the archdiocese.
  - Students not qualifying for ESA – tuition of \$2,500/year.
  - Students who repeat preschool for a second year – tuition of \$1,800/year.
  - 4-year preschool students attending a 4<sup>th</sup> day - \$135/month.
  - Technology fees, assignment notebook – these will no longer be additional fees and will be included in the yearly tuition.
- Kelsi has presented to the St. Matthias Finance Committee the ESA impact on financials at Aquin.
- Daycare continues to show negative net income. Improvement in food expenses were noted.
- Class size has been discussed. Recommending to continue with current number of staff/faculty.

Cody made a motion to approve tuition rates for the 2024-2025 school year. Kathy seconded. Motion carried.

Board elected to vote on staff salary/raises and benefits at February meeting.

### **Daycare/Daycare Advisory Committee (DAC) Report:**

- JoAnn has applied for 2 grants. One grant would be for health and safety and staff retention and should hear back in March. The other grant is for staff wage enhancement.
- With rate increases that began in January, one family has left Aquin Little Angels.
- Continuing to interview and hire staff. 1 full time position was hired in December and 1 full time position in January. 1 full time staff left in December. A few staff members out on leave.

### **Faith Formation:**

- First communion is scheduled on April 7 at noon.
- Confirmation students have completed their confirmation saint name report. Next meeting with candidates and sponsors is scheduled for February 21.
- Safe environment training will occur on January 31 and February 7.

### **School Report**

- 4-year-old preschool – 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers will be participating in the LETRS training. This is funded by the state of Iowa.
- Catholic Schools week is scheduled for January 29-February 2. Winter Welcome night is scheduled for Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Working with Catholic Charities to provide counseling support during Mrs. Antonelli's leave.
- All non-ESA families are encouraged to apply for STO.

### **Marketing and Development**

- Annual newsletter to be sent in January.

### **Building/Grounds Report**

- Great Lakes roofing will install the gym roof in summer of 2024.
- Jesse and Luke Kleitsch to finalize plan for parking lot lighting.
- Matt contacted Cascade lumbar regarding potential awning/lean to over the kitchen and freezer area.
- Estimate of replacing cost for decking and installation of new slide from Boland was \$15,000.
- Quotes from Meyer Mechanical and All Seasons Heating and Cooling regarding maintenance on HVAC systems were submitted.
- Daycare dishwasher – issues with hot water and dish sanitization. Boge looking into.

**Old Business:** None to report

### **New Business:**

- Satisfaction Survey will be sent via email to families during Catholic Schools Week
- Staffing for 2023-2024
  - Per Archdiocesan Policy #4111.22, the Aquin school board requests the administration to conduct a review of staffing needs for the 2024-2025 school year. If necessary, as per policy, staff reduction recommendations must be made no later than the regular March board meeting.

Kelly made a motion to approve the Archdiocesan policy #4111.22. Kim seconded. Motion carried.

Brad announced Aquin Dad's Breakfast will be held on Sunday February 25.

Brad made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jenny seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:55.