

SMA School Board Meeting

April 19, 2023

7:00pm in Beyanka Hall

Board Members Present: Meaghan Fido, Fr. Greg, Chris Cwynar, Eva Matela Kogut, Erin Szymanski, Jen Reykjalín, Nick Zayas, Lena Suwalski, Deb Ingargiola, Ruben Ontanon

- 7:02 pm – Welcome & Prayer
- 7:05 pm – Pastor's Report:

Due to many factors Father has decided to discontinue our relationship with Mrs. Zver. We cannot answer and share certain things due to HR issues. She was not a good fit with the culture of our community. There were interior issues with staff and communication issues.

The Archdiocese sent a representative, Lorelei Bobroff, to handle any issues that the principal would be responsible for. Patrick Schultz, Joanna Reykjalín, and Father Greg are working with Lorelei. The goal and focus is the well-being of the children and our staff.

We have 2 candidates for new principal. We will have a new principal by the end of the school year. Hoping to hire someone in the next week or two to take over as principal next school year.

Father wishes Nancy all the best, but it did not work out here.

- 7:10: Open discussion:

Parent: Will the new principal have the role of hiring new teachers?

Father: Yes, that will be one of the roles of the new principal.

Parent: Where is the communication breakdown? Why did the Arch/Father not communicate sooner?

Father: We told Nancy to communicate about not coming back next year. She sent the most recent email out without communication with the Arch and Father. The email from myself was sent out today because we needed to get the wording correct.

Parent: Is there a current need for teachers next year?

Father: We currently need one Spanish teacher for next year.

Parent: If we have a curriculum issue, who do we go to?

Father: The new principal.

Parent: What is current enrollment?

Father: 237

Parent: Will there be 2 classes for 1st grade/ preschools?

Father: We will/can accommodate all the families that will want to attend.

Parent: We just want to make sure that the class sizes will be small.

Father: We will not have huge class sizes. We just need families to register early so that the school is prepared.

Parent: Is the interview process for the new principal different now?

Father: The arch has a process.

Parent: Will the new principal start shadowing once they are hired?

Father: Yes; definitely. They will be brought in as soon as they can. Mostly during the summer due to their current job. Mr. Coleman is more than willing to help the new principal with the transition.

Parent: We left this school because we had a problem with Zver. What is the proper protocol for future reference?

Father: The principal will be the first contact. I am very sorry that the conflict did not go well with Zver. You can definitely come to me or the operations director.

- Principal's Report (No current principal)
- 7:45 pm – Committee Updates
 - Environmental Awareness - No report
 - Legislative Action Policy Report - No report
 - Alumni and Public Relations - No report
 - Hospitality: Working on Teacher Appreciation Week.
 - Volunteers: Need many volunteers for Summerfest & Gala
 - Fundraising - Boosterthon: made 22 or 24
 - Finance - No report
- 7:50 pm – Old Business
 - Scholastic Sign-up: We will be signing up for next year.
 - Marketing/Website: We will be ordering door hangers.
 - Curriculum - No report
 - 100K - No report

- Molly Memorial Project- still in process. Tree and tiles
- Athletic Board: Lena spoke to Gonzo. We want to meet to discuss uniforms (gym)
- Year at a Glance Calendar (6/27)
- SummerFest/Gala (10/14) Recruiting Volunteers (50 needed):

We will do summer fest at St Monica's

- 7:55 pm – New Business
 - Clerk Appreciation – next Wednesday
 - Teacher Appreciation: looking for volunteers for May 1st – 5th
 - Bonni's Pizza (tonight), Dino's (May 9th), & Los Azares (trying for the end of May)
 - New Board member application: Reviewed application of Phillip Guzman. We need any other applications by May 15th.
- 8:00 pm – More Visitor's Open Discussion:

Parent: We need to put out an announcement to the public so that we do not present as unstable to the community.

Father: I want to have a new principal within a week or two. They will communicate with the community about the vision.

Parent: Do we have a marketing firm?

Board: Our marketing director is a hired position. We wanted for marketing to be more present. Under our former leadership, this did not happen. Unfortunately, what happened in the past was not great. But we are hopeful that this next year will be much better.

Parent: You should be leveraging the people on the board to send out communication for damage control.

Father: Thank you

Parent: When the new candidate gets hired, can the parents meet them instead of just getting an email?

Father: Definitely. This is part of the plan.

Parent: You have come to where the parents are in order to get outreach in the community.

Board: We would love to make this more inviting and welcoming. We do not have the power to communicate with the families. Marketing has been a big problem. The info that does go out does not get much response from families. We really need families to volunteer and support.

Father: We know things will be better. I had to make this drastic change because of the children and the faculty. We hope that you will continue to support this school and parish. I encourage you to come to mass and pray together for this school community. Your money will be very well spent at our school.

Parent: Safety questions about possible intruders. What about all the doors, especially on the playground/parking lot area?

Father: Teachers open doors for parents/faces that they know. We have to take a closer look at security and door usage.

Parent: Will there be a theater/musical program?

Father: We would like to do that.

Board: We also want to do more with STEAM in general in the future.

Parent: (New parent) has never seen any email about volunteers.

Board: We had a table at the Family Pick up Day. We are hoping that marketing will change and get communication out more.

Father: We have been debating hiring an assistant to the principal.

- 8:34 pm - Meeting Adjourned

Future meeting date: Wednesday, May 17th@ 7:00pm in Beyanka Hall