

School Advisory Board of St. Stephen Catholic School

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

St. Stephen School Church Conference Room

10424 St. Stephen Circle

Riverview, FL 33569

Mission

St. Stephen Catholic School is devoted to inspiring students to achieve their full academic potential while demonstrating a desire to continue Jesus' mission by applying Catholic morals, beliefs, values and practices in their everyday lives. We are committed to motivating students to sustain a lifelong love of learning.

Vision

St. Stephen Catholic School is a diverse and inclusive Catholic school community. In partnership with our families, church, and community, we provide excellence in Catholic education, focusing on faith, academics, and service in a caring, spiritual, and safe learning environment. Through person development and acquired knowledge within our school, students will influence a rapidly changing world with integrity and distinction.

- A. Call to Order: November 12, 2024 St. Stephen Catholic School Advisory Board Meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm by Austin Simon.
- B. Prayer: Opening prayer was led by Father Josh. Scripture Reading was read by Austin Simon. Discussion by all present followed.
- C. Approval of Minutes: September 10, 2024 was the last time the board met. The minutes were approved.
- D. Roll Call: The following members were present:
 - a. Board Members: Dawn Dyer, Jackie Higginbottom, Judith Kemp, Brad McAnally, Roy Palomo, Deborah Schwope, Austin Simon
 - b. Ex-Officio Members: Linda Umoh (School Principal), Mary Gurley (School Assistant Principal), Fr. Josh Hare (Parochial Vicar), Hendrik Cloete (Finance Council Liaison)
- E. Principal's Reports (Linda Umoh)
 - a. Hurricane Damage
 - i. \$5000 deductible; mitigation in Angels' Wing and preschool classes
 - ii. Sheetrock/some of the ways need replaced in preschool rooms- water came underdoor
 - iii. Angels Wing- wood is rotted, probably half the wall of one of the classrooms is ruined along with exterior issues
 - iv. \$40,000 estimated in total repairs; hopefully insurance will cover most of it
 - v. Holes found on main playground, preschool playground and one just outside; each near sewer grate. Appears to be from drainage pipe with issues last year
 - vi. Insurance adjuster on site today
 - b. Drainage pipe issue- see above
 - c. New part-time maintenance employee

- i. Kenny is starting part-time with maintenance background
 - d. Security Grants
 - i. Focusing on camera replacements, in process getting quotes
 - ii. Second security grant- hope to use for doors and gates
 - e. Accreditation requirements for this year
 - i. 2nd year; change to previous requirements
 - ii. Need to show how we are addressing the recommendations from last year
 - iii. Recommendation 1: Focus on Catholic social teaching- large focus in school this year; Corporal Works of Mercy, training for teachers, intersection of science and faith
 - iv. Recommendation 2: teach school mission statement; through teaching social justice
 - v. Recommendation 3: PLC Faculty development, ongoing, training with Mrs. Gurley
 - vi. Recommendation 4: continues to foster relationship between school and parish: giving information in Principal bulletin, Faith Formation
 - vii. Recommendation 5: Utilize middle school buddies with preschool for service projects to engage; Kindness Crew (crosses grades and ages), Angel Outreach, Teams for Walkathon by school "houses;" ongoing discussion
 - f. Facility Plans
 - i. Need 5-year facility plan with accreditation; need to start fresh with each reaccreditation cycle
 - ii. Goal to work on long term facility plan; would like to have a committee of experts
 - g. Hurricane Days- 2 with Helene, 5 days with Milton for total of 7 days
 - i. We have longer days, requirement by state does not require to make up
 - ii. Floating day Tues off after Easter; school ends on a Wednesday; making half days to full days- discussion by all, Ms. Umoh to consider
 - h. Enrollment decisions for next year
 - i. Sibling questionnaire
 - i. Budget review
 - i. Scholarship money coming through; has changed how to plan with scholarship money throughout the year
- F. Parish Report- no representatives present
- G. Parish Council Reports
 - a. Finance (Hendrick Cloete)
 - i. Church and facilities also sustained damage from storms; privacy fence damaged, unclear if needed to rebuilt. Some damage to roof of rectory
 - ii. Otherwise doing well; goal to down debt on new church with hopes to pay off in 5-7 years

- iii. \$100,000 from church to school annually for use of school facilities for faith formation
 - b. School-TBD; Roger now assigned to SAB
- H. Old Business
- I. New Business
 - a. Officer Thomas is the new school security guard
- J. Adjournment/Closing Prayer: Meeting was closed in prayer by Father Josh and adjourned at 7:29 pm.

The next School Advisory Board meeting is currently planned for Tuesday, January 14th, 2025 at 6:30pm.

Remaining Meetings for 2024-2025 School Year:

January 14th
March 11th
May 13th

