

St. Mary's School Board Minutes 14 November 2023

Routine Business: Call to order at 6:00 pm in the Memorial room

X	Brett Logan (2022)	X	Paul Temeyer (2023)	X	Lacey Carroll (2021)	X	Tony Monaghan (2021)
X	Josh Heffernan (2022)	X	Jan Eilers (2022)	X	Megan Lahr (2023)	3	Guests
X	Ashley Jasper		Father Gabriel Anderson	X	Jen Soderblom		

Prayer: Led by Josh

Approval of Minutes: October minutes approved via email.

Old Business

2025-2026 Preschool Registration Procedures: Parent Concern – Current parents were sent an email and given the first opportunity to register any younger siblings for 2024-2025 preschool class. A current 6th grade parent was present at the meeting to express concern about registration for the 2025-2026 preschool class as their family would not have a St. Mary's student next year, therefore would not receive the email to current parents.

Archdiocesan School Board Policy Review – Current month topics include various personnel issues. SMS is bound by the Arch board policies. We can suggest additions or changes, but can't officially "change" anything on our own. Board will discuss via email if there are any questions or concerns with what is read.

PE – There has been discussion of potential changes to the PE schedule. Currently, Domeyer teaches PE Mon-Thurs mornings and Foley teaches PE Mon, Tues, Thurs afternoons. Domeyer was present at the meeting to share her thoughts on the current schedule and potential changes.

Prayer Service Proposal – No discussion as Father Gabriel was not present.

New Business

A 2023-2024 board picture was taken.

Appoint SIAC Committee – SIAC stands for School Improvement Advisory Committee. The Archdiocese would like us to have a committee. Purpose of the committee is to bring different school stakeholders together to form short and long-term goals. Parents, teachers, board members, and other community and parish members can be involved. Board will work toward setting this committee in the Spring.

Review 2023-2024 Budget – Currently, we are under budget for tuition, but have not received STO funding yet. Ashley to check how much we can expect. (Later confirmed by Ashley/Jen that current year STO funding more than makes up for tuition budget deficit).

2024-2025 Budget Goals & Preliminary Planning – Waiting for official notice from archdiocese about where we can set tuition for next year. Will continue budget discussion once we have that piece of information.

Committees and Member Reports

Building & Grounds (Paul)	No meeting. Siding is not here yet. Troubleshooting issues with thermostats/boilers in certain areas of the building.
SCRIP (Lacey)	No meeting. Continuing communications through Facebook, church bulletin and school newsletter.
Home & School Stars (Jan)	Planning a Christmas pajama party. "Helping hands" tags at conferences were a success.
Parish Council (Tony Brett)	No report - No board members available to attend meeting and Fr. Gabriel not present at this meeting.
Gala (Megan)	Theme is "On Island Time." Caterer and bartenders are set. Still finalizing entertainment and meal.
	--
	--

	--
--	----

Principal's Report: Preschool & JK registration went well, only had to turn away a handful of preschool applicants after reaching the 20-student maximum set by state. One potential parent was told a year ago that they would be on the list, but the "list" was not communicated/shared with Jen during principal transition and they did not reach out this year until after the program was full. Could we open JK back up to students turning age 5 before December 31 (rather than September 15) if we change the name of the program? Our program is only 3 days per week, which is already different from other programs in the state, so it's possible that we wouldn't have to follow the same guidelines if it had a different name. Jen will get clarification as this could allow us to include more of the preschool applicants.

Archdiocese presented principals with transgender training. Power point will be provided for the teachers and Jen will share with the board.

Goals for future years with Educational Savings Account (ESA) dollars have been discussed with archdiocese leaders – for 2024-2025, the goal is to have an instructional leadership team made up of current teachers who would receive a stipend for this additional work. For 2025-2026, goals include hiring a full-time instructional coach, possibly adding a 2nd section of preschool, and hiring a school counselor.

Discussion about request for basket raffle contributions – Could we change to paying the school rather than paying individuals? Yes, Ashley can set up liability and reimbursement accounts to handle the basket items purchased by the leaders for each grade. This change would be for next year as basket raffle request letters have already gone out.

Financials – October 2023: Discussion regarding an increase in equipment expenses, replaced a bathroom sink & stool, painted in the basement, and replaced a sump pump. There was also some expense for data wiring, which has to do with the security cameras and will be reimbursed with grant money. Funds to be received from West Delaware for the preschool program have been applied for. Approved by consensus.

Went into executive session at 7:33 pm.

Came out of executive session at 8:37 pm.

Closing prayer led by Brett.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm

-Lacey Carroll, Board Secretary