

# School Advisory Board Meeting

## 8 Nov 2016

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### **Board Members:**

Those Present: Fr. Dury; Janet Weisner; Jamie Caridi; Dan DeMatte; Mark Quinlan; Brad Burchfield; Pat McJoynt-Griffith; David Bourke; Trish Schindler; Jennifer Hofherr; Marin Santorsola; David Sybert; Jamie Must;

Those Absent: Steve Minnich;

Others Present: Mrs. Underwood, teacher rep / Beth Henny; Home & School

### **Proceedings:**

*Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m.*

*October Meeting Minutes were approved.*

### Pastor's Report:

- Alpha retreat took place last week – wonderful experience for the parish

### Principal's Report:

- Service Projects:
  - Advent Season – Focus on prayer and support in Haiti – Haitian family members will come in and share testimonies, there will be some sort of “action” in addition to speakers, such as collecting toys for children in Haiti for Christmas. There will also be a strong emphasis on the power of prayer. Student Counsel will help the school run these.
  - Lenten Season – Dominican Learning Center will be the focus.
- October had parent meetings for the sacraments
- End of Quarter and progress reports went out
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade trip to Mohican was great

### Focused Discussion of the Month: INTRODUCTION TO ED CHOICE

- This presentation and discussion is about information regarding school vouchers. It is meant to be a conversation for the sake of education, NOT a real conversation about us considering vouchers.
- The state of Ohio has 5 different types of scholarship programs – the Peterson Special Needs program is a scholarship program through the state that St. Catharine's participates in. This is very positive because they get state funds. However, they do take state-based tests which takes them out of class 6 mornings throughout the year for these tests.
- To get an Ed Choice Voucher, you first apply to the school, and then to the state. You can receive \$4,650 in scholarship funds but if they are below the poverty line, you can not charge the difference. Non-Participating Students (non St. Catharine students) are charged \$5,600 (True cost to educate is \$6,511).
- Who can apply?

- Most come in through Kindergarten – it’s a program that builds over time
- We can limit the number of slots or specifications – for example, we could spell out we only have 20 spots or we aren’t about to take students with English as a second language
- The only people who can apply must be coming from a failing school district. Fairmore and Broadleigh are both failing schools, so anyone from those school districts could come. You are very likely eligible if you are in a failing school district.
- We can spell out in our handbook what requirements we have and these prospective students have to all adhere to these
- Plan is to explore this more:
  - Father will talk to Pastors
  - Janet will talk to Principals (St. Tim’s is a great model for us to look at)
  - More Information can be found: [www.education.ohio.gov/edchoice](http://www.education.ohio.gov/edchoice)

Committee Reports:

- Finance Report:
  - *Report given by Pat McJoynt-Griffith*
  - Handout Provided and Attached
- Public Relations:
  - *Report given by Dan DeMatte and Trish Schindler*
  - Getting Yard Signs (Pat)
  - Short discussion on looking at early Application for next year
  - Discussion of hiring a basic marketing intern
    - Job description to be created and presented
    - If strong job description, we will interview a few potential interns
  - Ultimately, we need to increase enrollment by about 20 students next year – working on a plan to get those 20

Next meeting: Dec 6th, 2016

*Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.*

*Minutes submitted by Secretary, Dan DeMatte.*