

# School Advisory Board Meeting

## 13 April 2021

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**Board Members Present:** Beth Henney, Pat McJoynt-Griffith, Jamie Caridi, Marin Santorsola, Mark Watts, Trish Schindler, Father Dury, David Bourke, Kevin Sweeney, (via Zoom): Jennifer Hadden, Mandy Deweese

**Those Absent:** Nathan Allwein

**Others Present:**

Hope Stebelton, Renee Scurlock (teachers), Johnean Goodwin (Marketing and Enrollment Coordinator), via Zoom: Preschool Director Christy Deberson, Justin Santorsola (parent)

**Proceedings:**

*The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.*

*Fr. Dury commenced the meeting with a prayer.*

*The meeting started with approval of the minutes from the March meeting.*

**Father Dury**

- Father made mention of some recent reports of bullying occurring this year in the school. He has discussed this at length with Mark Watts. Father mentioned the importance of respect amongst and that it is his desire to have a strong Catholic element of any long-term program. He emphasized the role of the Sacraments and Prayer in our daily lives.
- First Holy Communion - thanks to Mrs. Springer for her work with the second graders, and Toni Carmon and Molly for their work with the PSR children.
- Father has asked to Jamie Caridi to replace Brendan O'Rourke as a permanent member of the board.
- Fr. Matt Morris will be coming July 1 from St. Bridget of Kildare.
- August 12 – Fun Fest!
- Jamie thanked Father for his report and stated how missed he will be.

**Principal's Report:**

- First Grade classroom situation is being addressed re. flooding.
- Two aids, Kayla Palmer and Marin Santersola, have been hired to support kids with special needs as they return to full time in-person learning.
- Social Emotional learning is an area of concern as we navigate this year.
- Eleven students have been in quarantine since spring break.
- Tim Magree has resigned fully and the position will be filled by Dr. Ross Williams (music director at St. Brendon with many years experience). He starts 4/14.
- Behavior issues have been reported and are being addressed. Mark has had many meetings concerning this and has been in contact with the Dioceses re. specifics to this and long-term programs.
- Mark addressed some of the “growing pains” related to full time (need for bathrooms when in banquet hall, need for more playground equipment, need for social distancing while eating and in classrooms. For the most part kids have been good with keeping masks on.

## Committee Reports:

- Finance Committee Report:
  - Pat reviewed budget through 3/31/21 (70% expenses, 80% receipts) normal. April and May still to be collected.
  - Federal grant money has allowed cafeteria to break even.
  - Latchkey is struggling this year due to COVID, hope to get back on track next year.
  - Budget assumptions (SEE PAT'S REPORT)
    - In the 2<sup>nd</sup> year COACE contract.
    - Firmed up personnel costs due to new adds - puts pressure on budget and parish contribution
    - Enrollment of 255 in prelim budget reviewed in March, will be reduced to 252 due to projected attrition
    - Preschool continues to be great addition to enrollment.
    - 3% increase in current tuition modeled; significantly more (24%) for 4<sup>th</sup> child as over the last few years we have worked to bring this multi-child discount into line with other Diocesan schools
    - Net cost to Parish is expected to increase slightly.
    - Tuition letters will be sent to parents by end of April
    - May 31. Tuition due for the 35% of families who do not ask for financial assistance
    - History – ca. 20 years prior, needs-based model approach was adapted.
    - Motion to approve tuition levels as presented by Pat was approved.
  
- Public Relations Committee Report:
  - Johnean reported 251 current enrollment, 253 for next year. Of the Bexley families polled, some are returning to Bexley, others are remaining at St. Catharine
  - She is giving tours to some new families who have already registered but not yet visited.
  - She will include some current students in the tours (future classmates).
  - Ambassador program. Good for visitors, good practice for students.
  - Video from John Page is ready to go and looks great (3 min. long). Will go on website.
  - Kindergarten parents and kids will come in during summer for tours.
  
- New Business:
  - Jamie thanked Mandy for her service on the board over the last three years as she prepares to move with her family to Georgia.
  - Elections need to be performed by end of school year, with elections to be held at first meeting of school year. Notice will be sent out soon.

Next meeting: May 11, 2021

*Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.*

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Kevin Sweeney*