

**St. Patrick School Board Meeting
February 3, 2016**

I. Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved.

II. Final Approval of Minutes

Minutes approved.

III. Public Comment – N/A

IV. Finance Council Presentation – Mike Johnson & Bruce Beachnau

Bruce Beachnau and Mike Johnson presented a financial management plan for the parish.

V. Subcommittee Focus

A. Public Relations – Annalise Kranz and Sue VanLente

Tuition Angels brochures are printed and look great. Catholic Schools Week breakfast kicked off Catholic Schools Week on Sunday. Approximately 450 people were served which is an increase from last year; however, the \$1850 gross income was slightly down from last year.

Annalise reported the diocese has begun their strategic plan for the future vitality of Catholic schools. Community forums will be taking place across the diocese where data and emerging strategic priorities will be presented. One of the forums will take place here at St. Patrick on Thursday, February 18th at 5 pm and 7 pm.

B. Finance – Tammy Bengel, Shayla Schneider, Teresa Schneider

Mike Johnson discussed the school budget. Each year the budget is based on the previous year's student numbers. The **proposed 2016-17 budget** will eliminate the 2% single payment in August, increase tuition 5% (preschool rate a little less), and provide a 3% increase to teachers. Mike stated that tuition increases 2-3% each year. Teachers did not receive a pay raise last year nor did they get their step increase. Tuition, at the very least, covers teachers' wages and salaries.

C. Mission Effectiveness – Jennifer Davlin and Mike Cook

An additional holy hour will be added for May 10th, before the senior class graduates.

On February 12th Dan Mattson will be speaking to sophomores, juniors and seniors regarding living with feelings of same sex attraction while living a chaste life. On February 26th different speakers will talk to the high school students about human trafficking, teenage anxiety, cyber safety, and substance abuse.

D. Planning – Marc Nichols and Mark Thelen

Planning sub-committee met with Mr. Hodge on January 11th. They reviewed the technology plan where they found some duplications. The subcommittee hopes to scale the plan down from 72 pages to approximately 40. Mr. Hodge has received a technology grant and has applied for an additional grant. If the second grant is successful, Mr. Hodge will approach the PTO to possibly provide funds to help purchase 60 chrome books and two carts. Student to device ratio would be 1:2.7. Mark said he is comfortable that teachers are doing a good job with curriculum and technology. Marc suggested keeping parents updated about the technology. Mark asked about a follow-up survey for teachers. Mr. Hodge said this is the last year for the three-year contract for teachers' laptops.

Regarding next year's objectives, Keelie said the executive sub-committee has ideas for the strategic plan.

E. Policy – Lisa Bartlett and Bruce Beachnau

Policy sub-committee has new wording regarding performance enhancements for the athletic handbook. The student handbook will be sent out for review before the next meeting.

G. Executive Committee – Lisa Bartlett, Keelie Honsowitz, Mr. Hodge, Ms. Townsend

Mr. Hodge stated that if the School District in the Ionia County Intermediate School District goes to a balanced calendar, we will too. The Grand Rapids Diocese has already given approval. The music program has a full-time substitute teacher who is doing great. Mr. Hodge also reported that Portland Public Schools has hired a new 2016-17 superintendent named William Heath. Mr. Heath is the current principal of Morrice Junior and High Schools as well as the superintendent.

Keelie said a family departure survey will be sent to the family of any student who leaves St. Patrick School. The survey will be sent only after all other avenues have been met. Keelie reported the Alumni Scholarship received 142 donations from 130 families for approximately \$26,000. There was a single, anonymous donation of \$12,000.

Work Items:

Mr. Hodge will draft a tuition letter and send it to school board members.

Mr. Hodge will send a letter to parents about the February 26th speakers.

Mike Johnson will present the school budget to the Finance Sub-committee.

Mark will follow-up with a teacher survey (technology).

Strategic Planning will send out the strategic plan to school board members.

Policy will send out the student handbooks to school board members.

Sub-committees will get strategic plan updates to Marc and Mark.

Next school board meeting: March 29th

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm

--Notes submitted by Nancy Wohlschied