



**St Catherine of Siena School Council
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Monday, November 7, 2016 – School Conference Room

Members Present

Jeremy Barr
Pat Buckles
Tracy Dible
Betty Hunt, Principal
Diana Kessinger
Rob Sill
Father Dan Spexarth
Vanessa McKinney, PTO President

Members Absent

Karen Gomez (Chair), Karen Stein

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Betty at 7:00 p.m.

Opening Prayer

Father Dan opened the meeting with a prayer.

Approval of October Minutes

Minutes from the October meeting were approved. Rob made a motion to approve the minutes. Jeremy seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-0.

Announcements

Fr. Dan made a motion to amend the school council by-laws to elect officers for the coming year at the May meeting. Jeremy seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-0. A motion was made by Fr. Dan to nominate Rob Sill for the Vice Chair position vacated in May by outgoing member Janice Yaeger. Jeremy seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-0.

Agenda Additions

None

Committee Reports

Wellness Committee – Karen and Betty are our representatives on the Wellness Committee. No meeting was held this month.

Technology Committee – Rob is our representative on the Technology Committee. No meeting was held this month.

Athletic Committee – A new committee formed this year interested in getting athletics started at St. Catherine. Representatives Vanessa and Jeremy will provide updates.

Associate Principal's Report

- Betty and Jeremy attended the KSDE conference two weeks ago. They learned about the changes in the KS Assessments that will be taken in the spring.
- Halloween parties were fun.
- Jeremy and some of the teachers are currently working on the master schedule for next year.

Principal's Report

- From all reports, Parent-Teacher conferences went very well, with middle school students doing student-directed conferences.
- Week of 11/7 - The entire school is to teach the diocesan stewardship lessons this week.
- Tuesday, November 8, the 4th grade will go to the first of two Young People's Concerts. We have designated 4th grade as the grade for Mrs. High to take to these concerts.
- Wednesday, November 8, we will have vision and hearing screenings for the designated grade levels and all new students to St. Catherine. Also, the 5th, 6th, & 7th graders will attend the Bishop Carroll drama production.
- Thursday, November 10, at 6:30 P.M. in the church, Mrs. High will have the 4th & 5th grade music performance.
- Monday, November 14, 4th & 5th graders will visit Cornerstone. 7:00 P.M., we will have a PTO meeting.
- Tuesday, November 15, is mid quarter, and also, Spangles Night from 5:00-8:00 P.M.
- Wednesday, November 16, is class pictures as well as individual retakes. We will also have a Faith Family activity.
- Friday, November 18, the 3rd grade will go to the Cathedral before they "close" the doors at the end of the Year of Mercy.
- Week of November 21, there is no school as the teachers will attend the Regan Institute on Monday and Tuesday, and the Thanksgiving break is Wednesday-Friday of that week.
- Monday, November 28, basketball season games can begin. We will also have a Box Tops Contests that week. There is a VIRTUS training at 6:30 in the evening.
- Wednesday, November 30, the Bishop Carroll Choir is scheduled to perform some of their Christmas concert music for us.
- Thursday, December 1, our 7th grade will participate in the second Scholars Bowl being held at St. Peter. It will also be the evening of the Sisters of Siena Holiday Home Tour and they will be using the foyer and cafeteria of the school this year for the unveiling of the first mural. The proceeds of the Holiday Home Tour fund this great project.
- Friday, December 2, is Eucharistic Adoration, Spirit Dress, and the first day of our Scholastic Book Fair. The Book Fair will also run after all Masses the weekend of December 3 & 4, as well as after school until 5:30 Monday, December 5, & Tuesday, December 6.
- Monday, December 5, the 3rd grade will visit Cornerstone, and there will be a Technology Meeting at 6:00 P.M. that evening.

Pastor's Report

Father Dan reported that the Stewardship Fair is this weekend after all Masses and parishioner forms will be returned the week of Thanksgiving. The SOS Holiday Home tour will be held on December 1 and the first mural in the school atrium will be unveiled that evening. Opportunities for family photos will be available on Saturday in the decorated atrium area.

PTO President's Report

- Truck or Treat was a success with over 500 kids attending and 48 trunks. A profit of \$3,286 was made.
- The next Spangles Night is November 15 from 5 – 8 P.M.
- The Box Tops drive is November 28 - December 2. Fall proceeds will be kept by PTO and the spring proceeds will be donated.
- The Scholastic Book Fair will be held on December 2 and after all Masses the weekend of December 3 & 4, as well as after school on December 5.
- The 5th grade provided the Spirit lunch on November 5. On December 2, the 4th grade will provide lunch.
- The second spirit shirt order is going quite smoothly with about 150 items ordered so far. Those items will be distributed after Thanksgiving.
- Adult participation in Walk in Sister's Shoes was up twenty-eight people from last year. Fifty-three adults walked with their student. PTO donated \$5 for each adult who walked, for a total of \$265.
- The next PTO meeting will be on November 14.

Old Business

- Social Media Survey Results
 - Betty and Jeremy will meet with some of the candidates who expressed interest in managing the school Facebook page.
- Preschool Updates
 - Betty has sent out an on-line survey to parents in the parish with preschool age children to gauge interest and get their input relating to the preschool startup. Surveys are to be returned by November 10th and so far, 38 parents have responded. There will also be a notice in the church bulletin asking for anyone interested in preschool to respond to the survey. Survey results will be in by late November and decisions on how to proceed will be made based on this information.
 - The building plans have been approved and the architect will put it out for bid.
 - Betty sent out a questionnaire to several westside Catholic schools that have preschools to gather information on their hours, prices, etc., and will work through that information.
 - Father Dan stated some modifications had to be made to the original building plan such as adding a new east entrance, adjusting classroom size, etc. which will affect building costs.

New Business

- Building Leadership Team

- The diocese is implementing a district wide accreditation plan and each school will be required to have a Building Leadership Team.
- Betty, Jeremy and the committee members will gather and start discussion on some chosen topics and then will present the information to the entire staff. The first meeting will be on November 14.
- Athletic Update
 - Vanessa and Jeremy reported that basketball practice has started.
 - The 6th grade girls don't have enough members to have a complete team so they may pair up with another school or 6th and 7th grade girls may play together.
 - The 7th grade volleyball team took 1st place and the 6th grade team took 2nd place in their respective tournaments.
 - The cross country team also took 1st place.
 - The boys' football team had a fun season.
- Biggest issue or problem we're dealing with question for Diocesan School Council by December 1
 - Preparing for the opening of preschool in August.
- What can we get better at question?
 - Use exit surveys to see if we notice any trends as students leave.

Future Business

- More on Long Range Planning

Closing Prayer

Father Dan led us in the closing prayer.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Next meeting will be Monday, December 5, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.