



**HCS Board Meeting
February 16th 2022**

Called to Order at 6:37 by Eliot Deters

Opening Prayer - Father Paul led the board and guests in prayer.

Attendance - Father Paul, Laura Yarber, Eliot Deters, Steve Harris, Mike Klein, Carrie Taube, Bill Robinson, Jamie Moll

Eliot Deters reminded everyone of what the school boards responsibilities are and Robert's Rules of Order allowing everyone 10 minutes to speak.

Guests/Public Comments

Jonathan Birdsong - No Comment

Vicar General Father Steven Beatty - No Comment

Todd Gober - He is a first grade parent and husband of Breanna Gober. He spoke about being concerned about some of the mandates being implemented. He expressed concern over the excessive enforcement of the rules and mandates. He asked everyone to challenge the rules and not just accept them. He also spoke about retaliation against him.

Carry Kinzel: She has three students in HCS and has been part of the HCS family for 10 years. She said the current policy for close contact goes against our Catholic beliefs. She shared a statement from the Catholic diocese website stating that Catholics schools are to be a community not a bureaucracy. They feel like they don't have much say about what is going on at HCS. Who do we talk to to get things changed?

Ryan Kinzel: He stated that we need to work together with peace and compassion. He said he feels Mr. Birdsong and Mrs. Yarber are working for us.

Catherine Flores: She is a 7th grade teacher at HCS and has five children in the school. She has served in several different capacities at Holy Childhood Parish. She spoke about her children being quarantined because of one child in the class testing positive. She has three children that are English as a second language, and she feels that the masks are hurting their progress. She has been able to get a doctor's note stating that they should not have to wear the mask. She said she feels the kids are victims. She would like clear policies on masking. She also stated that the testing is discriminatory.

Ronda Beck: She is an alumni of HCS, teacher at HCS, and a parent of HCS students. She said it is vital to the learning process for young children that they can see her face and she can see their faces. She has seen progress since some of her students are no longer wearing masks that she hadn't previously seen. She also shared that while her son was fighting leukemia he was able to learn remotely. Her son had to wear a mask, but nobody else wore a mask. They ventilated the room and used hand sanitizer. She reminded everyone that God is in control. She also shared that the teachers are working hard and the kids are being cared for.

Teresa Smith: She has two children at HCS. She is an educator and wanted to express her gratitude.

Shelby Brennan: She is an alumni and currently has three children that attend HCS. She said this is our family. She expressed her appreciation to Mrs. Yarber. She said that Mrs. Yarber greets the children every morning, plays with them, and she has even cleaned the toilets when we didn't have a janitor.

Adam Uptergrove: He has had five girls that have attended HCS. The diocese did not comment on close contact or testing for staff. He would like to see the diocese do that so it is clear.

Mikale Elbe: She has two children that attend HCS. She gave credit to the educators. She also suggested changing the method of contact tracing.

Susan DeLorme: She said it appears that the schools are being targeted with all the COVID mandates. She invited the board to pray about the children being targeted.

Breanna Gober: She has a son in first grade. She teaches at MHS and coaches volleyball. She shared some information about the negative impacts COVID has on our children. She asked that the parents be heard at the diocese level. She shared a document stating some of the issues that they have had throughout the year. She ended the reading with a quote from the judge regarding the TRO.

Steve Wienstroer: Steve discussed that the children are easy targets and the parents need to stand up for their kids. He suggested stopping masking. He also suggested that the church stand up.

Patrick Stumpf: He has three children that attend HCS and his wife attended HCS. He and his wife are frustrated with the rules and policies from the diocese. He listed some of the frustration from the last couple of years. (Locking Playgrounds, Cohorts at Recess, Masking Outside, Masking Inside, Kids Eating Two at a Table, Etc.) He shared that healthy children are at a small risk for COVID. He also shared some statistics about COVID. He said it would make more sense to send a child to school with a life jacket than a mask. He wants his children to have a mask optional policy and to stop quarantining healthy children.

Joe Dressler: Joe is an alumni of HCS and has had three children go through HCS. He is also a trustee of the parish. He asked Mr. Birdsong to take our passion to heart. He also expressed the passion of Mrs. Yarber. He also thanked Mrs. Yarber for her leadership and he thanked Mr. Birdsong. Joe expressed that we have rules that we must follow even if we don't have to like them. He asked everyone to take our passion and focus on the greater good. Joe encouraged everyone to be slow to anger and have conversations. He suggested that we try to unite behind Laura. He reminded everyone that we are a Catholic school and try to support each other.

Kevin Elbe: He has an 8th grade daughter at HCS. He expressed appreciation for Laura, the board, and the teachers.

Bonnie Wolters: She works at HCS and has had three children attend HCS. She loves this school because we can pray here. She loves her job and the HCS teachers. She also expressed her appreciation for Laura and stated how much the children love her. She thanked Laura for her work at HCS.

Jody Cozzi: She expressed her appreciation to Laura. She is frustrated about the testing for unvaccinated staff members. She also said she is tired of healthy children not being able to come to school.

Heidi Killian: She is the HCS athletic director. She also has several students at HCS. She would like to see a better system for quarantining students. She said that she hopes that everyone has listened to everyone else speak tonight. She also suggested that we act like adults and stop attacking each other.

Brandon Wodrome: He is the MHS principal. He has several children attending HCS. He asked Mr. Birdsong for some guidance that makes sense.

Lisa Woodrome: She is an alumni of HCS. She expressed her gratitude to Laura and all of the teachers. She offered her love and prayers.

Deacon Dan Cozzi: Deacon Dan expressed that we are at a point that we are not protecting anyone through the testing. Deacon Dan expressed that the diocese has not seemed to listen to the people. He said it is time to listen to the people. He asked, What does our faith say?

Meeting Resumed at 8:22

Approval of Minutes: Mike Klein made a motion to approve the minutes for January and Bill Robinson seconded.

Steve Harris motioned to approve the minutes and Carrie Taube seconded.

Principal's Report (Laura Yarber)

Laura shared information about the fun activities during Catholic Schools Week.

The Open House was great. The 8th graders led the tours

Curriculum Update- She has different curriculums that are going to be delivered to the school for the teachers to view.

Empower Update- Steve Harris and Laura Yarber are going to meet about the Empower grant.

Twenty-five kids at HCS take advantage of Empower.

Debbie Bunn shared some additional information on Empower.

Chairman Report (Eliot Deters)

Eliot shared that we are right on track with the annual fund drive.

Finance Report (Steve Harris)

Steve asked to table the report until next month.

For next year, they are in the process of creating a finance committee to help Laura with the budget.

Facilities Report (Mike Klein)

Mike Brennan is currently getting bids for the new boiler system.

Mike is also looking at a less expensive option. He is in contact with some other schools that use those systems.

Solar is also on the agenda. The heat is taking priority right now.

The freezer is having trouble lately. Mike is working with the vendor.

Marketing Report (Carrie Taube)

Enrollment will open in 6 to 8 weeks

Technology Report (Bill Robinson)

HCS will be opening up a part time position to do some of the jobs that Dr. Gibson used to do in the past.

Organization Reports

Athletics Report (Heidi Killian)

Heidi said volleyball is in full swing.

They are hoping to do an event this spring.

HOPE (Kim Satterfield)

She reported that the raffle is doing phenomenal. We have \$11,500 so far.

She is hoping we will be able to do an end of year pool party at Mascoutah pool.

Old Business

Strategic Plan: Every three years we have to update our strategic plan. This needs to be established by the end of the school year.

Principals' Appraisals: These were due February 15th.

By-Law updates and ratification: We will discuss this more next month.

School Administration Back Up Plan: We will discuss this more next month.

Go Over Plans for Casino Night 3/12 - Arrive by 6:30

Mike has invited Deacon Thomas

We have five games.

Wear black pants and a white shirt

New Business:

Open Board Position: Jamie Moll read aloud Matthew Schroeder and Mykale Elbe's school board write up
4 to 2 vote for Mykale Elbe

Fundraising Events for 2022-2023 school year plan

Joe Dressler thanked Laura Yarber, Father Paul, and the Board. He reminded everyone that we work together between the parish and the school. The biggest checks that they write at the parish are to subsidize the school.

Close Meeting: The meeting was adjourned at 9:10.

Closing Prayer: Father Paul closed the meeting with a prayer

Next Meeting is March 16th at 6:30 PM
