



HCS Board Meeting March 16, 2022

Called to order 6:34 pm

The meeting opened with a prayer.

Present: : Bill Robinson, Mike Klein, Eliot Deters, Carrie Taube, Steve Harris, Laura Yarber, Mickey Elbe

Excused Absent: Father Paul Wienhoff & Jamie Moll

Guest: Don Norrenberns, Breezy Gober, Jody Cozzi, Dan Cozzi, Catherine Flores

Public Comments:

Catherine Flores gave her educational background. She said she is disturbed that police presence was requested back in the fall. She gave her timeline of events in regards to the vaccination mandate for teachers.

After 10 minutes, Steve made a motion to extend her public comment for 5 more minutes. Carrie seconded. Motion was approved 4-1

Minutes:

Steve moved to approve the February minutes as written. Bill seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Principal's Report: Laura Yarber

EMPOWER

-Explained the Empower Program. Joe Dressler is starting a team to help promote the program.

-We currently have 30 kids on the waiting list.

-Don Norrenberns said it is not incumbent upon us to grow the program organically. There is lots of potential here.

-Tax benefits from Empower are only for people with an Illinois tax liability.

-Laura has spoken to local CPAs and at Mascoutah Chamber meetings to inform influential people about how the program works. Personal phone calls will be critical.

CURRICULUM

-We need a math program for the middle school grades, and a phonics program for the younger grades.

-The staff would like to get rid of “Shirley English” and move to something more in line with current teaching practices.

Chairman Report: Eliot Deters

ANNUAL FUND

-78% of board has participated. We are at 77% of the total goal. (Every month has exceeded the goal)

NOMINATION PROCESS

-Up to 3 openings for school board

-April will be when nominations will start.

MINUTES

-Minutes used to be available upon request in the office; They are now posted on the school website.

Eliot reviewed the committees of a board.

Finance: Steve Harris

-Went over up-to-date budget

-Bill motioned to approve, seconded by Mike Klein. Passed 6-0

Facilities: Mike Klein

-No news on the freezer follow-up

-Solar option is still on the backburner

-Mike went over heating/cooling bids.

-Mechanical J&R gave a much lower bid for a split system and their work came highly recommended. (Weeke does not have much experience installing this type of system)

-Mike motioned that we recommend the J&R proposal, not to exceed \$82,000. The motion was seconded by Steve. Passed 6-0.

Marketing: Carrie Taube

-Carrie shared ideas of ways to improve Pre-K retention (Promotion Ceremony, Big Buddies, "special days" like moms/muffins and dads/donuts that get parents into the school, Pre-K Kindergarten visit, Kindergarten informational meeting with registration packets available, etc.) She will create a list of ideas and send to Laura. HOPE would be able to contribute money to such endeavors.

-We discussed the billboard outside of town to possibly advertise HCS.

-We agreed there is a need to promote our early pre-care in addition to the after-care.

-Carrie will come up with some survey questions for preK parents, asking about their HCS experience. We can include "pop up questions" to make sure they know about the Empower Scholarship opportunities.

-Steve suggested an event where PreK and Kindergarten parents/families can mingle and get to know each other. Maybe this would be something Shelby and the room moms could organize, and HOPE could help fund?

-It was suggested that maybe HOPE return to their previous structure with official officers and regular meetings, if possible. Then more parents would have the opportunity to get involved. Carrie will suggest to Kim Satterfield that we have a meeting in April, and maybe plan for a family event in the late summer. Then we could recruit more HOPE members.

Technology: Bill Robinson

-Zoom will no longer be free.

-Committee is looking into Google Meets and if it works well with our system/swivel.

-1 smart board has been installed. More might be able to be done over Easter break. If not, it will be a project completed in the summer.

-Laura is wondering if HOPE can buy 2 carts for chrome books. The deal we had with Belleville East/West fell through.

Athletics

-Mykale said that the athletic department made just under \$3000 at the Fish Fry. Munchkin Basketball was a huge success!

-Track starts March 28th

HOPE

Raffle:

Huge Success - we raised the highest amount ever!!!! Sold \$14,550 in ticket sales. All but \$200 of the prize money was covered by sponsors and fees from the company were \$2,304, profiting us a total of \$12,046.

An ice cream truck surprised the students on Fat Tuesday, beautiful weather and upcoming Lent made it the perfect day.

Daddy Daughter Dance is scheduled for April 2 and Mother Son Bowling for April 9th with 2 time options. Feedback has been especially positive to the bowling event.

The technology department was in need of 60 additional chrome book cases, John Grawitch reached out to his rep and got a quote of \$1540. HOPE approved the amount and the cases have been ordered.

School picnic preparations have begun - date is set for the 8th graders' last day of school, May 20th. Bounce house, a few of Bill Huff's church picnic games and Kona Ice truck are on the agenda.

Old Business

Strategic Plan Committee

-Mike has a committee of 8 recruited: Mickey Elbe, Shelby Brennan, Matt Schroeder, Brian Hart, Ryan Kinzel, Kim Satterfield, Jamie Burch, and Deacon Dan Cozzi.

By-law Updates & Ratifications

-1st draft is available for review to be discussed at the April meeting.

School Admin Backup Plan

-The diocese is working on developing a plan for this.

Casino Night

-All went well, and everyone had a nice time. The purchasers of the night were appreciative.

New Business

Academic calendar was reviewed. Steve motioned to approve, Mickey seconded the motion. Passed 6-0

Eliot asked to go into closed session at 8:47 to discuss grading scales and tuition discount for teachers.

Deacon Dan asked that we as a board consider what Mrs. Flores said, and prayerfully consider a response.

Closed Meeting

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Carrie motioned to close the meeting at 9:48. Bill seconded.

Mike led us in closing prayer.