

Holy Childhood of Jesus School

School Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday January 18th, 2023 @ 6:30 p.m. – Parish Center

Call to Order: 6:30 p.m. (President Mike Klein)

Opening Prayer: Tim Keefe

Attendance: Father Mark Stec, Principal – Tim Keefe, President- Mike Klein, Matt Schroeder (absent), Patrick Stumpf, Amy Uptergrove, Mike Brennan, Mykale Elbe (absent), Deacon Dan Cozzi (absent), Don Norrenberns

Guests: N/A

Approval of Previous Minutes: (Motion to approve (Mike Brennan), second (Patrick Stumpf)

Principal's Report (Mr. Keefe)

- I. General Information
 - a. Catholic Schools Week (see additional notes below in Old Business)
 - b. Snow Closures: HCS will continue to follow the lead of Mascoutah District 19. Mr. Keefe reported a small glitch in the phone communication system regarding the timing of the text that went out to parents.

- II. Faith Formation
 - a. Mike Klein made mention that it was great to see a quick fundraiser pulled together by Mr. Keefe for two former HCS students that experienced an unexpected family crisis.

- III. Curriculum & Extracurricular
 - a. Washington D.C. Trip 24/25: Mr. Keefe made the board aware that Mrs. Timmerman has proposed the idea of taking 7th and 8th grade classes to Washington D.C. next year. Mike Klein noted that some parents/kids may have additional questions about whether this would replace the 8th grade class trip. There will be a meeting scheduled with 6th/7th grade parents to discuss further.
 - b. Basketball/Volleyball: It was noted that it was great to see a large crowd for end of season games.

- IV. Employees & Employment
 - a. Custodial staff is all on board and working to establish a cleaning routine that best fits current needs and resources.

- b. Mr. Keefe passed out an article that discussed the concerns that the number of people choosing teaching as a career is dwindling. This is a growing challenge for all schools, including catholic schools.
- c. The board discussed the announcement of the closure of Notre Dame Academy (Belleville) and St Ann (Nashville) schools at length. This announcement was made by the Diocese yesterday. Other schools in our diocese are already reaching out to contact teachers/students so Mr. Keefe made contact with Mr. Birdsong to discuss. In response, Mr. Keefe posted a teacher vacancy announcement so that teachers looking to transfer would consider HCS.
- d. Mr. Keefe discussed that he was in the early stages of developing a plan to make improvements to the schedule/structure for grades 5-8th. This plan could come to fruition if HCS could garner another teacher position in the future. The board also brainstormed as to how we can add more time back into the school day that was previously lost due to the changes in the bus schedule.

V. Technology

- a. Printers: Mary Sue Crist donated six, used but functional, desktop printers for use by teachers.

VI. School in the Community

- a. Turnout for monthly Feeding God's People:" continues to be good. As part of Catholic Schools Week, several classes will be visiting residents of local nursing homes/care facilities.

Organizational Reports:

Athletics: Volleyball coach positions have been filled. Transition from basketball to volleyball is going smoothly thusfar.

HOPE: HOPE is in the process of planning the Daddy/Daughter dance scheduled for February 17th. A Mother/Son event is also being planned. HOPE fundraiser raffle will kick off at the end of the month.

Old Business

- a. Annual Fund Review: This year's annual fund marketing will be conducted similarly to years past. There is not time to consider the use of an on-line service this year, but it may be explored for next calendar year. The newsletter containing accomplishments and highlights will be returning.
- b. Catholic Schools Week": Mr. Keefe provided a handout that outlined the activities for the entire week. The week will kick-off with Open House on January 28th. School Board members were asked to be in attendance to help answer parent questions. 8th graders will be Ambassadors during the open house.
- c. Munchkin Night and Fish Fry: The Athletic board will be sponsoring this event on the last day of Catholic Schools Week. Many volunteers will be needed to make it a success.
- d. Casino Night: Reminder that the School Board will host Casino Night on February 3rd in partnership with "Chick" Fritz Distributing. Mike Klein will bring the catering from Betty Ann's. Board members should be there at 6:00 PM to set up. Steve Harris and Eric Taube also volunteered to help with games. Guests are scheduled to arrive at 7:00 PM.
- e. Principal Appraisal Reminder: Mr. Keefe reminded board members that the Principal's Appraisal must be turned in to Fr Mark at (or before) the Feb 15th school board meeting. Mr. Keefe will email out an electronic copy.

New Business

Feeding God's People – Next one will take place (tomorrow) Friday, Jan 19th.

New Marketing Ideas – Several marketing ideas were discussed to include potential of further exploring a new marketing video, the importance of word of mouth by parents/parishioners, placement of signage (when applicable), reaching out to adjacent areas that no longer have parish schools, and group Facebook pages such as Scott AFB.

Next Meeting Date: Next meeting scheduled for February 15th, 6:30 pm in the Parish Center

Closing Prayer: Father Mark

Meeting Adjourned: 8:00 pm

Executive Session – President Mike Klein called to order an Executive Session at 8:01 to discuss two topics that require privacy and discretion.

No action required at this time.

Executive Session Adjourned: 8:47 pm