

# Holy Childhood of Jesus School

## School Board Meeting Minutes

**Thursday February 22nd, 2023 @ 6:30 p.m. – Parish Center (rescheduled from February 15<sup>th</sup>)**

Call to Order: 6:32 p.m. (President Mike Klein)

Opening Prayer: Amy Uptergrove

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

Guests: N/A

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

Principal's Report (Mr. Keefe)

### I. General Information

- a. Catholic Schools Week (see additional notes below in Old Business): CSW was a success. The incorporation of "service projects" to the week was a good addition. There was positive feedback from the local nursing homes and humane society.
- b. FACTs Clearing House/Financial Assistance: Tuition rates structure for 24-25 school year was published. HCS will use the FACTs Clearing House to review applications for potential tuition assistance from Holy Childhood financial resources. Don Norrenberns was instrumental in getting the tuition rates established.
- c. Enrollment: Enrollment for next year is open. Mr. Keefe has begun to encourage enrollment and is considering incentive options so that families register as soon as possible. Early registration allows for better planning and review of resources.
- d. New Pre-K Options: Mr. Keefe distributed a handout to the board that outlined additional options for Pre-K and extended care. The plan includes additional full/part time options for three-year old children. It was also proposed to offer a \$500 discount for kids with a sibling in K-8.

### II. Faith Formation

- a. Mr. Keefe is working with Fr Mark on actions for next year.
- b. Students will participate in Stations of the Cross throughout Lent.
- c. Confirmation Retreat will be Feb 24<sup>th</sup>.

### III. Curriculum & Extracurricular

- a. Reading Data: Mr. Keefe distributed results of Iowa Test for 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade. Overall results were very good. Board reviewed results. Patrick Stumpf mentioned that it would also be useful if we could review grade level progression as we continue to evaluate going forward.
- b. 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Contained: Mr. Keefe discussed his plan to make 5<sup>th</sup> grade a self-contained classroom next year. This will allow for a “transition” year for 5<sup>th</sup> graders as they prepare for middle school structure. The plan is for Mrs. Hill to move to 5<sup>th</sup> grade to help facilitate that transition. This change will also free up additional time for the middle school teachers to spend with the 6-8<sup>th</sup> students on various subjects.
- c. Curriculum Forecast: Grades 5-8<sup>th</sup> have transitioned from ARC to a new ELA curriculum this year. Currently, Mr. Keefe and teachers are exploring options for K-5 ELA curriculum to be implemented next year. The exploration process includes cross-talk with other schools in the diocese to obtain input and feedback on curriculum being used. The HCS middle school will be getting a new science curriculum next year. There is a plan in place to continue to update curriculum cyclically over the next several years.

### IV. Employees & Employment

- a. Mrs. Sandy Holder, a previous HCS teacher, has been hired into the 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher position for the 24-25 school year.
- b. Mr. Keefe held a panel interview to fill the upcoming ELA (7<sup>th</sup> grade homeroom) vacancy. Hiring process is still in progress to date.

### Organizational Reports

Athletics: The Athletic board will be hosting a Fish Fry in coordination with Volleyball 8<sup>th</sup> grade night recognition/games on Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>.

HOPE: The Daddy/Daughter Dance and HCS Skating party were a success and fun for students and families. The raffle fundraiser is nearing completion. A final reminder for participation went out.

### Old Business

- a. Catholic Schools Week: Participation in the Open House was good. Mr. Keefe reported that the week went very smoothly and included a lot of fun, faith-based activities for the students. Munchkin Night and the Fish Fry was a great way to conclude Catholic Schools Week. Many volunteers made it a success.

b. Casino Night: Thank you to all the board members that assisted with hosting the party. Special thanks to Mr. Steve Harris for allowing board to use the casino games/cards/chips. Reminder to board members to give donation to Mike Klein to be used to cover food costs. Thank you also to “Chick” Fritz Distributing for donating use of the venue.

c. Principal Appraisal Reminder: Mr. Keefe reminded board members that the Principal’s Appraisal must be turned in to Fr Mark this week.

## New Business

School Board Vacancies – This summer, there will be two open school board slots. The board members were encouraged to start spreading the word about upcoming vacancies.

Marketing/Messaging – Mike Klein and Amy Uptergrove reiterated the importance of continuing to emphasize positive communication and messaging to our community. We should make effort to share all of the positive progress and initiatives that are in the works, and encourage others to do the same.

Next Meeting Date: Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 21st, 6:30 pm in the Parish Center

Closing Prayer: Mike Klein

Meeting Adjourned: 8:11 pm