

Holy Childhood of Jesus School

School Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 1st, 2024 @ 6:30 p.m. – Parish Center

Call to Order: 6:32 p.m. (Principal: Tim Keefe)

Attendance: Father Mark Stec, Principal – Tim Keefe, Matt Schroeder, Patrick Stumpf, Amy Uptergrove, Mike Brennan, Mykale Elbe (absent), Brian Spears, Don Norrenberns

Guests: None

This meeting is a scheduled, out-of-cycle meeting that was added to allow time to discuss the start of the 24-25 School Year and upcoming Parish Picnic/Fish Fry responsibilities.

Principal's Report (Mr. Keefe): Mr. Keefe discussed the Principal's report (attached).

- I. Items of emphasis
 - a. General Information:
 - i. Open house to kick-off the school year will take place at 6:30 On Aug 12th. New Family Dinner will occur in the cafeteria directly prior. Mike Brennan will be speaking to the new families.
 - ii. Mr. Keefe will be emailing "beginning of school" update to all families.
 - iii. Pre-K has increased numbers this year. Mr. Keefe offered a special thank you to all of the Pre-K staff for their input, flexibility, and work toward organizing the Pre-K classrooms for this upcoming year.
 - iv. Enrollment: Mr. Keefe reported enrollment numbers are at 170 total. There are several new families. 129 are currently enrolled for K-8. Patrick Stumpf asked for a further breakdown of enrollment in middle school grades (6-8th) and emphasized the importance of putting more focus on retainment as well. Brian Spears suggested the idea of having a meeting with middle school parents to get feedback and discuss changes. Mr. Keefe has put together a letter.
- II. Faith Formation
 - a. Teachers have chosen a theme (light) and virtue (respect) to focus on for the entire school year (no more monthly rotation). This will be discussed at Open House.
 - b. New religion curriculum arrived today. Several teachers did not like the curriculum that was selected and purchased last year, so it has been replaced with a curriculum from Kendall Hunt. Mr. Keefe followed up after the meeting with the full title which is "Blest Are We Faith in Action."
- III. Curriculum & Extracurricular – Board had a very brief discussion about 8th grade math. Brian Spears asked if using the "flipping classrooms" method was still being discussed. It will need be used initially, but could be considered in the future if deemed beneficial.
- IV. Employees & Employment

- a. HCS is welcoming three new teachers this year, Mrs. Holder (4th), Mr. Evans (part-time math), and Mrs. Holzhauser (7th homeroom, ELA).

Math: Frank Evans was hired as a part-time math teacher. The middle school teachers will co-teach with him (Mr. Evans as the lead with others available for individual assistance/questions during class).

V. Facilities:

- a. Mr. Keefe offered a tremendous thank you to all involved in the parking lot re-pavement project. A list of all involved will be compiled.
- b. The parking lot is being repaved late June by Kilian Corporation. The rosary will be re-painted. Mr. Keefe is going to ask what other things the students want painted on the parking lot for recess.
- c. AC in the 3rd floor print room updated.
- d. Matt Athy completed the needed fencing around the piping outside.

VI. Technology: No new report

VII. School in the Community

- a. Renner Farm Fundraiser: Mr. Keefe and Mike Renner discussed fantastic opportunity to participate in Renner Farm's 100 Years of Horsepower event. This event will be every other year and HCS will keep a percentage of fish stand profits.
- b. HCS float will be in next weekend's Mascoutah Homecoming parade.

Old Business

School Board Vacancies: Brian Spears and Troy Gryga are becoming board members. Official board member changeover will occur at next meeting.

Board again discussed the importance of positive messaging. Additional effort will be made to highlight accomplishments of HCS students and alumni more often as we did in year's past.

New Business

Election of New Board Officers: Mike Klein has concluded his second term on the board, effective June 30th 2024. Officers for the 2024-2025 school year will need to be determined at the next board meeting.

Upcoming Parish Picnic: Mr. Keefe will participate in the Dunk Tank.

Fish Fry Workers List (Fri, Aug 23rd): Discussed Fish Fry duties. Board members should begin recruiting workers and sync sign up names with Stacie's worker board. Mike Klein will take care of

the Fish fry stand. Over/Under (Uptergrove), Soda/Dessert (Stumpf), 50/50 (Brennan), Beer Stand/Tokens (Schroeder), Dunk tank (Elbe).

Spiritual Component of HCS: Fr Mark discussed that Catholic Education includes four major components of growth (1) Academic (2) Emotional (3) Physical (4) Spiritual. As our spiritual father, his focus is on the spiritual growth of our school community. Some examples of the areas of emphasis for him currently are encouraging families to attend Sunday Mass, prioritizing being at school Mass, student participation in school masses, having Baptisms during school Masses, emphasize the importance of Sacraments to kids and families, encouraging prayer throughout the day, etc. Reminder: Church is unlocked during the day for private prayer.

Executive Session: Not required

Next Meeting Date: Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, August 15 st, 2024, 6:30 pm in the Parish Center. (Note: this meeting was later cancelled due to Holy Day of Obligation).

Closing Prayer: Fr Mark

Meeting Adjourned: 7:42 pm