

Holy Childhood of Jesus School

School Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday March 21st, 2024 @ 6:30 p.m. – Parish Center

Call to Order: 6:34 p.m. (President Mike Klein)

Opening Prayer: Don Norrenberns

Attendance: Father Mark Stec, Principal – Tim Keefe, President- Mike Klein, Matt Schroeder, 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. Empower

- i. Tuition rates for next year have been released to all families. Mr. Keefe discussed the plan for potential scholarships/reduced tuition. Families who received support from Empower this year received a letter with more details from Mr. Keefe.
- ii. Pre-K Discount: Pre-K families that have a child enrolled in K-8 will receive a \$500 discount.
- iii. "Spring or Bust" for Empower: Final push for Empower by some Illinois representatives.

II. Faith Formation

a. Nothing new to report

III. Curriculum & Extracurricular

a. Curriculum:

- i. A deliberate plan to update curriculum as needed has been developed and conversations will continue to be on-going as discussed last month.
- ii. Mr. Keefe has been talking with other schools in the Diocese as K-5 ELA curriculum options are being reviewed. Components of phonics, reading, writing, and grammar are being considered in the process. There are meetings with two companies set for next week.

IV. Employees & Employment

- a. Title Funding: Mr. Keefe is exploring various ideas regarding how Title Funds from Mascoutah District 19 can be used to support Holy Childhood School priorities, ex. professional development, STEM, reading specialist, Pre-K. More will be shared once funding guidelines and limitations are explored in more depth.

V. Technology

- a. Mr. Keefe went over the plan for chromebook distribution and cyclical updates/replacement of equipment.
- b. Mr. Grawitch, Mr. Patriquin, and Mr. Keefe are developing a computer/chromebook repair and replacement policy for next year. This will help to ensure that all equipment is handled appropriately and remains in good condition.

VI. Facilities: Nothing to report

VII. School in the Community

- a. Getting the Word Out:
 - i. We must continue to showcase the benefits of HCS and Catholic educations to the community
 - ii. Focus on continuing to highlight the positive improvements happening in the middle school
- b. Highlighting Highschoolers (HCS Alumni): Mr. Keefe would like to highlight the accomplishments and success of HCS alumni. Board members were asked to provide info when they see that these students recognized for awards, academics, sports, community efforts etc.

VIII. Miscellaneous

Organizational Reports

Athletics: Volleyball season has wrapped up and spring track is kicking off. The date for the end-of-year Athletic banquet is TBD.

HOPE: The raffle fundraiser was a great success (goal met). The recent Daddy/Daughter dance went very smoothly with 50+ in attendance. Thank you to Steve Shinger for supporting. HOPE will be hosting a Mother/Son game night in the HCS gym on April 6th. The committee has also started planning the End-of School Picnic event.

Old Business

- a. Casino Night: Reminder to board members to provide \$40 to Mike Klein to cover costs if you have not already.
- b. Principal Appraisal Reminder: Mr. Keefe reminded board members that the Principal's Appraisal must be turned in to Fr Mark immediately if not already completed.

New Business

HCS Presentation Recording: Mr. Keefe is checking the audio/visual quality of Dcn Dan's phone recording of last night's presentation. If not clear, he will look into other options for making the information available to those that were unable to attend.

Upcoming School Board Elections – This summer, there will be three open school board slots. The board members were encouraged to start spreading the word about upcoming vacancies. Information will also go out via various communication channels. Interest individuals should contact Fr Mark.

Executive Session: Not required

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

Closing Prayer: Fr Mark

Meeting Adjourned: 7:54 pm