

School Commission Minutes-Sep 20, 2023 @ 6:00 PM Shepherd of the Hills-Coffee House

Present: John Laughrin, Sarah Benike-Immel, Jennifer Pelz, Corey Pelz, Leah Bode, Tim Reichelt, Barb Welsh, Mrs. Hughes, Miss Colwin, Father Mark

Absent: Barb Grzywinski, Jenn Wilke, Loretta Ortiz-Ribbing

Opening Prayer

Mission Statement

Walking the path of the Christ with love and service through a Catholic education

2023-24 Theme: Be the "I" in Kind - Ephesians 4:32

"Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you." Amen

School Reports- Tim Reichelt (Miss Colwin, Mrs. Hughes)

- **School Good News:**
 - a. Back to School mass went well. Appreciate the role students play.
 - b. Attendance good at the Steak Fry. Students did service at the tables and clean up; they were polite and courteous and made us proud.
 - c. 8th Grade led rosary last week and it was beautiful.
 - d. Masses have been going very well. Older students helping younger students. Students have been very engaged.
 - e. Gaga pit has been a huge hit. Looking at replacing sand with tires as having some issues sand being dragged into the building.

- **Principals Report:**
 - a. Up to \$5,000 grant available to schools in the Arch (101 of them) for building safety.
 - b. Federal Grant through FEMA up to \$150,000 for building and safety improvement. It's a repayment grant, so would have to be funded up front by the school.
 - c. Jodie Baumhardt has joined as our new art teacher beginning the week of September 25th.
 - d. Mandatory parent meeting with be forthcoming.

Review and Approve May Meeting Minutes: Approved

Parent/Parishioner Comments:

- a. Concerns on middle-school discipline changes regarding appropriate hallway behavior. We are working to establish a standard of expectation and once achieved we will begin to provide more flexibility. Would encourage sharing with the students what the goals are and how to work towards them, so they are motivated to achieve the next step. Tim will set up a town hall meeting with middle-school Friday, September 22.
- b. Middle-schoolers are asked to perform services at lunch time: serve lunch, rinse dishes, wash tables, etc. This is intended to teach them service and teamwork.
- c. Frustration that the Gaga pit is unable to be used. Tim to work with buildings and grounds committee to see what the options are to get this back up and running ASAP.

Pastoral Council: No Update

Committee Reports

- **Executive and Policy: Sarah Benike-Immel**

- a. Open positions long range planning, marketing, secretary, budget and fundraising.
- b. Next year John and Sarah's last year on committee. Will need new chair and vice chair.
- c. Currently only five voting members – need a minimum of six and maximum of 9. Review bi-laws for volunteer requirements – is this still feasible post COVID?
- d. Dress code: Review potential changes sent out by Jenny Hively and will discuss formally at the next meeting.
- e. Look into family service hour requirements for next school year. Assess whether a fee for not completing service hours is appropriate.
- f. Look into adding service requirements to St. Mary's Springs Academy Tuition Grant requirements.

- **Budget and Fundraising- No Update**

- **Long Range Planning- Tim Reichelt:**

- a. Do we look at developing parish wide committee for Marketing/Stewardship/Long-Range planning? Father will investigate this.
- b. Look into extending multi-year contracts with reimbursement language for when SOTH is funding CDL or other educational certifications.

- **Marketing and Recruitment- Tim Reichelt:**

- a. Tim will investigate potential services from the Arch.
- b. See above under Long Range Planning for potential committee restructuring.

- **Home and School- Barb Grzywinski:**

- a. Won \$25 prize for our float in the Eden Parade. We had great student representation.
- b. The School Supply Box Fundraiser was successful for the first year.
- c. Seroogy's Candy Bar Fundraiser will begin in October. Will also be selling after masses.
- d. Grandparent's Day is October 11
- e. Trunk or Treat October 26th. Will invite parish families as well.
- f. Will be doing Poinsettia fundraiser again this year. More information available in November.
- g. Looking for more parent volunteers on committees and events.
- h. Next meeting scheduled for Monday, November 6th at 6:00.

Next Meeting: November 8, 2023

Tentative Future Meeting Dates:

January 9, 2024

March 12, 2024

May 14, 2024