**St. Catherine of Siena Board of Catholic Education**

**Minutes for Meeting of 10/04/2022**

Opening Prayer: Prayer for Pro Life

Roll Call: Present: Mike Jacks, Juliane Brown, Jenny Tallarigo, Sarah Dinkelacker, Colleen Copenhaver, Jenny Collopy, John David Kimes

Absent: Judy Newberry

Excused: Becky Schill and Fr. Stef

**Public Relations/Marketing Committee Report (Jenny Collopy, Colleen Copenhaver, Jenny Tallarigo)**

Jenny C. reported that they have secured all donations for the yard signs. Mark Babey will start the design process for those. The goal is to start sharing ideas for designs in the next few weeks and get them printed and distributed. Simple design with the colt/St. Catherine logo and something that incorporates our core values to really get that message out in the community. Jenny C. will look into how quickly they can be printed once a design is decided on.

Mike told the board that the New family open house was planned for January 26th.

Discussions were had about Open House.

There was a consensus that we could benefit from changing our Open House day of the week and format.

Proposed Idea:

* Sunday January 29th after 11:30 mass. Mike said he will ask Fr. Stef about the change.
* Include all current school families as well as new and potential families.
* Advertising all of our clubs and offerings in the gym similar to how we would do the Open House for our current families. Ideally, we would have the gym full of all the organizations that we have to offer and funnel the new families into the gym.
* Jr. High Ambassadors would take the families around the school. This is very well received.
* One room or area designated for new and potential families to ask questions to existing families – we would ask for current parents to volunteer to be in that room.

Other Items Discussed

* Mike will check on the condition of Open House signs that are stored in the shed.
* Jenny C. thought of possibly advertising with Link NKY. They might have some non-profit pricing.
* Mike plans to have inserts in the bulletin for Catholic Schools week thanking the families that are in the schools.
* PTO plans to do a boost on Facebook before the Open House to promote that. Possibly do some sort of competition or something to boost some reviews or likes among the current families.
* Discussions were had about Parish Fest and if it was advertised in the school announcements to try to encourage the school families to attend. Possibly have that be promoted there next year.

Questions were asked about Blue Ribbon status. Mike reported that class size doesn’t matter. Must have one class that makes the high scores in Reading and Math. The whole school doesn’t have to hit those scores just one class and that is submitted for the application. Mike doesn’t see any reason that we wouldn’t want to make plans to apply. Mike mentioned that to the community Blue Ribbon status does spotlight the school, but it won’t define us. The application process does take a while and schools hardly get it in the first try. It is a 23-page application. Mike proposes that a member of BOCE head up the committee with other parents and he would assist. It would be great to do it after an accreditation year because a lot of that data is already being collected. We need to begin to get the committee together. It is a yearlong process to apply. Hopefully get any parents who were teachers who might have been through the process.

Jenny C, reported on the Geographic Distribution summary – which is a demographic overview of where we pull students from. It was passed out last meeting. New developments under construction are the Neighborhood in Bellevue 150 homes being built, off Covert Run and Memorial Point Housing. Both are in the Campbell County School District and could be a good place to advertise our school.

Colleen reported that the Colts Kudos and quotes are back. Colleen will continue to work on those and get it published in the bulletin. Joliene Garlick is proposed to get that recognition this month for all of her extra work over the summer with the new View Boards, and all Tech issues within the parish. Colleen with write up something to send for approval from everyone.

**Principal’s Report (Mike Jacks)**

Mike continues to work on the goals: Increase Enrollment, Teacher Effectiveness and Academic Rigor.

Noteworthy Items:

* We stand firm on 122 for enrollment.
* Teachers are continuing to work on focusing on the depth of knowledge vs. the breath of knowledge. They all showed an interest in finding ways to serve the kids that know the material but could benefit from diving deeper and being challenged more.
* Fall MAP test results are in and he is pleased overall. Especially happy with the kindergarten test results. For such a young and large class he was pleased with their results and noted that they continue to work on the social and behavioral aspect of schooling.
* Continuing to work with and strengthen the bond with NCC - 7/8th grade get Spanish class from NCC students and it is amazing to see how well the high school students are working with our kids.
  + In idea was brought up is to ask the NCC students to come to the Open House to help highlight that bond.
* Team up with God teams have been set. They are working on shirts and writing letters to the seminarians.
* Donuts with the Principal – Mike loves this program and enjoys getting that time with the kids.
* New Item: Faculty started a prayer breakfast once a month before school and the teachers take turns being responsible for a prayer each month.
* New Item: Teacher small faith group with the book He Leadeth Me on Tuesday afternoons.
  + These programs are intended to spiritually nourish themselves as a faculty to that they can be better doing that with the students.

**Religious Education Report (John David Kimes)**

John David is very happy to have his office in the school beginning to develop a relationship with them. He hopes his presence as another male in the school building will be a good one. He did attend the faculty meeting and faith assembly to continue to strengthen that bond of school and parish.

He and Mr. Jacks attended the Virtus training at the end of September. Each school/parish is required to have two lessons on the Safe Environment program per Virtus direction. Virtus provides the curriculum, but he is trying to develop a good way to work with the parents in order to respect our role as parents on such a sensitive topic. He is thinking about doing a parent meeting before so that he can talk to parents about it and offer an opt out option.

Fr. wants his position to be youth focused so he really wants to make sure to have a connection with the parents first so that he can develop a relationship with the youth.

John David reported that we have 99 students in CCD right now. All catechist positions have been filled. He has been working very hard to get the administrative things underway and Kip has been helping him with that. He is working with the catechists on the material and lessons they are teaching since it is a lot of information to get through in a short amount of time. He is talking to other parishes about their programs. He likes the idea of focusing on the family as a whole as educators of the children in their faith journey. He is looking into the Family of Faith program and will bring more information about that to the board. He really wants to focus on the way we teach our faith to inspire wonder and awe. There was some discussion about the actual books we use for the CCD and school religion class.

John David is hoping to put together a High School Youth ministry and Middle School Youth ministry. He is hoping to collaborate with Young Life and Highlands to better serve all parishioners and non-parishioners in our community. He is also thinking about the service hours program and how to improve that with a focus on something parish wide.

**Evaluation/Planning Committee Report (Jenny for Becky Schill)**

October minutes were approved.

**Policy Review Committee Report (Juliane Brown and Sarah Dinkelacker)**

* Table the pregnancy policy for now.
* Diocese is working on a Trans Gender policy so we will wait on that as well.

**Pastor’s Report (Father Stef)**

**Representative Updates**

PTO Update: A few events coming up in the next few weeks.

Next meeting is on November 8, 2022

Closing Prayer: Jenny Tallirigo

Adjournment: