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

***1/8/2025 - 7:00pm School Classroom***

***Agenda***

**Opening Prayer**: Board Members prayer

*Present:*  Jenny Collopy, Colleen Copenhaver, Molly Geiger, Mike Jacks, Mike Ruwe, Michael Schuh

*Absent*: John David Kimes, Fr. Stef

**Open House: day-of details:**

-Sunday, 1/12/24, 11:30am-1:30pm

-Parent Panel: two sessions = 12:00pm & 1:00pm

-BOCE volunteers can assist with the parent panels

**Open House: marketing**

-Jade Gosney 1/6/25 email detailing Facebook ad performance

-1/6/25 email to parish – flyer included with other info

-1/7/25 stand-alone email (with Open House flyer) sent to parishioners asking them to forward

 the Open House info to relevant people they know

12/20/24 – flyers were distributed to various local day care centers (details at the bottom)

**School Budget Options**

Mike Jacks outlined potential approaches to cuts to the school.

**1/16/25 Parent Meeting:** 1/4/25 email to the parish from Fr. Stef:

*As you know, various groups within the parish have been discussing for a while the state of our parish.  Our Ignite teams have been generating ideas to renew the parish, and we have even begun to implement some of those ideas.  Part of the work has to do with finances and how to adjust our expenses to fit our income.  It is unavoidable that those discussions affect the school.  We have scheduled a meeting for 7:00 p.m. Thursday, 16 January in McCrystal Hall to announce the changes that will be coming next year.  Everyone in the parish is invited to attend the meeting, but because of the importance of the information, I am requesting that at least one parent from every family with a child in the school be present.*

**1/16/25 Parent Meeting: discussion**

*Thanks for Michael Schuh for starting this discussion*

-agenda?

-will tuition increase be discussed?

-will potential budget cuts to both the school and the church be discussed?

-who is delivering the message?

-who will answer questions?

-further email to parents to help them prepare for 1/16 meeting?

* ask them to come with ideas?
* to provide appropriate context (we have a plan, we are mitigating disruption, we will maintain a strong, faith-based education offering for your children, etc.) ASAP to keep parents from spiraling & speculating

**Hybrid homeschool program**

*Thanks to Jenny Collopy for starting this discussion.*

Explore a hybrid homeschool program similar to

[Saint Joseph Academy > Academic Programs > Classical Homeschooling](https://www.sjawalton.com/Academic-Programs/Classical-Homeschooling)

-would hybrid students pay full tuition or reduced tuition?

-how would teachers accommodate hybrid students?

-would additional resources be needed?

-participate in sports and extracurricular activities?

**St. C Alumni Appeal**

-this idea was presented at the 12/3/24 Combined Committee meeting

-*the following info represents the exploratory phase of an Alumni Appeal*

-Mike Ruwe emailed the following questions to Fr. Stef on 1/3/25. Fr. Stef answered via

 1/7/25 phone conversation

 Do we need permission from the diocese? NO

Can 100% of the donations be dedicated to the school? NO

Tax deductible? - YES (Donation to the school/church)

 - School Tuition = NO

Can donations be done online here [Give](https://www.wesharegiving.org/app/giving/WeShare-3135?tab=home) ? = YES

In addition to alumni, can non-alumni give? = YES

What is the minimum number we need to reach to avoid any cuts to the school?

 **= $200,000**

 If the alumni appeal could successfully raise the money to avoid the cuts, what is the

latest date the money would need to be in hand? **Unsure: needs to ask Dennis**

**Combined Committee**

Date of next Combined Committee meeting: 2/6/25

**Adjournment**

Next BOCE meeting: 3/4/25

**Closing Prayer**

 Mike Jacks

***Open House Flyers***

From Kelly Lorenz: I have 300 flyers ready to go.  I did 1/2 sheets.

I called all 4 preschools that we went to last year and not one of them answered (they must be in the middle of Christmas programs for parents!) So... here are the numbers from last year but these are total kids ages 3-5.  If you want to stop by with flyers and do 4-5 or just 5 year olds, then you could use the extras to go to a daycare if you want to.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Wise Owl | **150 students 3-5** | 441-5086 | 150 |
| Bluebird | **80 students 3-5** | 441-2132 | 80 |
| Natural Start | **33 students 3-5** | 360-3726 | 33 |
| Cadance's  | **48 students 3-5** | 781-3442 | 48 |

*On 12/20/24, Mike Ruwe distributed flyers to*

**Bluebird**

<https://highlandmethodist.com/bluebird-christian-preschool>

314 North Ft. Thomas Ave; Across from Highlands

**Wise Owl**

220 S. Ft. Thomas Avenue

<https://www.wiseowlpreschool.org/>

In Ft. Thomas Presbyterian Church; Near post office – before Avenel Place

**Natural Start**

810 Carmel Manor Dr.

Small stand-alone building near the Tower Park basketball courts

<http://naturalstartpreschoolky.com/about/>

**Cadence**

Ft. Thomas - 29 Churchill Drive 41075

<https://www.cadence-education.com/locations/ky/fort-thomas/514/>

*Was not able to reach/connect with the following*:

**Cadence** -Highland Heights 859-781-2899

<https://www.cadence-education.com/locations/ky/highland-heights/516/>

near NKU, across from Walgreens, near Busken Bakery