

St. Catherine of Siena Board of Catholic Education
Minutes for Meeting of 2/2/2021

Opening Prayer: Fr. Stef

Roll Call: Present: Father Stef, Julie Scherer, Kip Perkins, Carol Smith, Nancy Browning, Judy Newberry, Jen Kirst, Gwen Fields, Raymond Schlosser, Sarah Weinel, Ashley Cox , Becky Schill Absent: Excused: Ashley Cox

Pastor's Report (Fr. Stef)

New member Becky Schill was introduced. Father said that the selection of the policies that had been forwarded to him, he approved with one revision. The pastor technically is the person who sets the tuition level (4.1). Tomorrow is the feast of St. Blaze. He is not permitted to do the traditional candle blessing on the throat because of Covid 19 nor the traditional application of ashes on Ash Wednesday. Ashes are to be sprinkled on the recipient's head instead. Tuition will increase by 2% as per the diocesan instruction. We will continue the freeze on Kindergarten tuition.

Principal's Report (Julie Scherer)

Open house was last week. Eight new families came through. Three have already registered. The families were escorted by teachers instead of the usual student escorts this year, also a change in response to Covid 19. Registration opens this Friday. It will continue through 2/11.

MAP (Measure of Academic Progress from the NWEA /Northwest Evaluation Association) assessment PD day on 2/12 to cover the analysis of MAP assessment results. Mid term reports with MAP testing results will go home after that.

Our Kindergarten teacher has retired. The class is currently being covered by other faculty members (Julie sent a letter to the board and parents explaining the situation. We have started the search for a replacement kindergarten teacher.

Teachers who wanted their vaccine for covid were able to get it last Saturday. There is a possible plan for taking 2/22 off in the event of side effects. The second dose has seen more side effects.

Religious Education Report (Kip Perkins)

CCD students and teachers did the safe environment training last week ended.

First confession is coming up and we are working out the logistics of setting up seating.

Evaluation/Planning Committee Report (Nancy Browning)

We will need 5 members. We have 2 other parish members who have said yes who will join in May. There are two others who are tentatively agreed to join along with Becky Schill.

Policy Review Committee Report (Gwen Fields, Raymond Schlosser)

Policy 11.0 Wellness Policy was reviewed. The two versions from 2007 and 2012 were compared trying to get a balance between the two. Sarah suggested that many of the details could be moved to a separate detail document and the revised policy could be more of an outline of the policy goals. The food related issues are now under the school lunch program administered by the diocese. The goal will be the final policy would be general plan covering the guideline requirements leaving the specific implementation to the other document.

Policy 7. Julie had reached out to the diocese but is still waiting for a reply on the case reference for legal authority.

Minutes of the January meeting were approved pending revisions suggested by Nancy.

Public Relations/Marketing Committee Report (Ashley Cox, Sarah Weinel)

The BOCE notes appeared in the bulletin again. Sarah still wants to look at the 6,7, and 8th and find out how many are currently in the Fort Thomas school district. She would like to add some questions to the yearend exit survey. She wants to gather more data on why people are choosing to stay or leave. Jenn asked to also receive the questions to see if it is something that PTO can contribute to it. What can we do to improve our strengths as to why are people staying at St. Catherine. PTO can be a good source for information about at what grade students and parents start making the decision about where they will go for middle school.

Representative Updates

PTO Update: (Jenn Kirst)

There was a virtual meeting on 1/13. The “Stable” Facebook page is up. It is private group but is visible so membership has to be approved but can be found with a search. PTO has collected about \$4,000 to date through the various fund raising. They are working on virtual dances for father and child and mother and child “dances.” They are putting together gift boxes that can be shared for the night of the “dance.”

Finance Update Report:

The finance committee has not held an official meeting since October so there is not an official report statement.

Pastoral Council Update: (Judy Newberry)

Finance council has not specifically met since October. There will be some insurance and textbook costs that are going to be passed along to the parishes. The average pledges are up this year compared to last year. The stewardship campaign is in one final push and then will be closed. The diocese has made no additional changes to the mass protocols. Judy has shared the technology list with the pastoral council.

Faculty Update: (Carol Smith),

Fifth and eighth graders have been working on science fair projects. We have been celebrating Catholic Schools Week. Second grade is preparing for first reconciliation and communion.

Adjournment:

Closing Prayer: Carol