



St Gerald School Advisory Board

2014 – 2015 School Year

Approved-Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2015

School Library – 7:00 p.m.

Attendees: Buffy Larsen, Michaela Goerke, Christy Keenan, Nancy Kochanowicz, Fr. Korte, Tobi Mathouser, Dennis Rinkol, Kris Sigmund, Chris Sommers, Jennifer Tselentis, Kathy Yochum

† Opening Prayer – In honor of our Blessed Mother in this month of May
O Mary, my Mother, I offer you my soul, my mind, and my heart. Make of me God's instrument. Give me a penetrating mind to discover, firm to judge, open to understand, free to serve the truth; an honest mind in telling what it sees rather than what it wants to see; a tolerant mind which does not dictate to other people, but which explains what it sees clearly; a mind infused by the light and the truth of your Son Jesus, patient in faith, while waiting for the vision of eternal life. Amen.

† **Roll Call Present:** Buffy Larsen, Michaela Goerke, Christy Keenan, Nancy Kochanowicz, Fr. Korte, Tobi Mathouser, Dennis Rinkol, Kris Sigmond, Chris Sommers, Jennifer Tselentis, Kathy Yochum

† **Welcome Visitors** No visitors

† **Approval of April Minutes** Nancy Kochanowicz made a motion to approve April minutes. Jennifer Tselentis 2nd the motion to approve.

† **Policy Review (Jen Tselentis)** Over the last 2-3 years, several members of SAB has made an attempt to update St. Gerald's policies using the Archdiocese's generic policy templates as a guide. Archdiocese templates were reviewed, revised/enhanced as it pertained specifically to St. Gerald and any progress made by this group was saved on Jen Tselentis' personal computer.

Jen brought this to the attention of the current SAB in order to regain momentum on this project. Going forward, Jen Tselentis, Christy Keenan, Michaela Goerke and Tobi Mathouser will work together to review the remaining policies and make needed

revisions. The revised policies will be brought to SAB and will be voted on before adopting. This group will organize a date to complete the progress on the policies.

- † **Brunch Reminder** Recruitment Committee and SAB have taken care of the brunch item assignments. Will be delivered to the Neuman's on 5/17.
- † **Teacher Appreciation Lunch** It was suggested that SAB sponsor an end of the year teacher appreciation lunch. SAB members will contribute to breakfast bagels on 5/15, delivered by Chris Sommers. Please send your donations through school to Chris Sommers.
- † **Pastor Report** Father provided an overview of the Family Formation (FF) program which can be found at www.familyformation.net
Father's goal is to recruit 4-5 families to work with him and help create a vision for the future direction of Family Formation, implementing FF into the school families- students and parents, how it can increase stewardship, adding FF to the current curriculum in the school, etc. Father has witnessed an extremely positive response to the FF program and it has received high reviews by the current members. It is Father's intention to spread the strength of this program to the school community as well.
Father also provided an update on staffing; Mary Harper will be PT and continue to guide the FF program for K-6. She will also take care of the Sunday Children's Liturgy. Alan Vonnahme will come on new to our staff, beginning July 1. He will oversee the implementation of the FF model in our Grade school (next year K-2). He will oversee our Confirmation program especially for the religious ed kids collaborating with Becca Gann from the grade school. Alan will help Dan Wees, who will also be our Social Studies teacher, with the YDisciple program and he will also encourage Young Adult Ministry and FF for adults in the parish. Finally, Alan will coordinate Totus Tuus in 2016. on K-6 FF and children's liturgy; Chad Rourk was hired as PE teacher

Principal Report

- Upcoming Events
 - 5/13 Zoo Trip-1st Grade
 - 5/13 Pioneer Day-4th Grade
 - 5/13 Kiewit Center-8th Grade Activity Day
 - 5/14 Water Treatment Plant/Fontenelle Forest-3rd Grade
 - 5/14 Runza-5th Grade Art Part

- 5/18 Field Day- Grades 1,2,3,6,7
- 5/19 Field Day- K,4,5
- 5/19 8th Grade Honors Breakfast 8:30-10:00 AM
- 5/19 Graduation 7:00PM
- 5/20 All School Mass 10:00, 11:00 dismissal for summer

- Scholarships, Honors, Awards
- Ordering/Planning for Next Year and Beyond-Spanish Teacher position is only open position remaining; May 29th registration is due, getting 2 6th graders; Kindergarten class is at 32.

† **Assistant to the Principal Report (Christy Keenan)** Christy is assisting H&S with the WOP wrap up-organizing of events, rewards, etc. 8th grade graduation and end of the year activities.

† **Recruitment Committee (Jennifer Tselentis)** It is projected that if we remain at an annual average of 30-35 new students, we will most likely see a 20 student drop in 2016-2017. If we stay at 30-35 2018 and beyond, we will consistently lose an average of 10 kids per year.

Be conscious of this and remember that it is everyone's job to recruit. Some suggestions on ways to improve recruitment include enhancing the school website, which would require volunteers who are experienced in this area-this should include basic "did you know" information on the home page. Consider creating a Facebook page.

† **Home & School (Buffy Larson)**

- **Walk of Pride Update** Over \$47K was raised from WOP donations. Father suggests that the H&S treasurer, Michaela and Tim get together to manage the tracking of H&S expenses/check writing going forward.

† **New Board Member Selections**

† **Other Business** Dennis Rinkol has bulletin board for June. Suggestion made to showcase the 8th grade scholarship winners.

† **Closing Prayer – Hail Mary**

Next Meeting – June 9th @ 7:00 pm – School Library

School Board Member Selection Criteria

- Possesses an understanding of our school and its needs
- Passion for St Gerald's School
- Willingness to commit time for board meetings, committee meetings, planning sessions, special events
- Team player - works well in a group
- Listens well, is thoughtful in considering issues
- Openly demonstrates their faith in their actions and words
- Demonstrated leadership in business, profession, or vocation or in community, education, or charitable organizations