



ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Minutes: April 16, 2025

In Attendance: Daniel, Fran, Beth, Angela, Phil, Yung, Pat, Ivan, Meredith (online)

Began: 6:26pm

Opening Prayer

Introduction (Daniel)

- Approval of March Meeting Minutes – Phil – Motions; Pat – 2nds. Minutes approved.

Principal Report (Ms. Thompson)

- Ms. Thompson needs helpers for community Sunday May 4th after 8:30 and 10:30 Masses. Stand at the table and answer questions and visit with anyone who stops by. Beth will help get the sign up for that put together.
 - 7th grade was Austin today – Used a tour company for booking for the first time this year. Sounds like it was a great trip.
 - Fields Trips over the years have gotten better and they found the best places for each grade level to go.
 - Auction went well: Paddles up for front of school raised about \$27,000 – This money is for the front entrance of school updates. Ideas include a T shaped sidewalk to connect with other sidewalks and get rid of some of the mud. This will also help give another way for handicap parking users to move around rather than go across the parking lot. Need a flagpole on that side of the building so students can learn to raise and lower the flag.
 - Other auction proceeds go to renovation of the office. Meredith and Yung volunteered to help meet with landscape architect to discuss plans to oversee the movement on that project. Hoping to complete over the summer.
 - Parishioner who donated a end of life beneficiary amount to the school passed away last week. Those funds were intended by the parishioner to help with tuition assistance and will be used over the next several years in that way, based on the terms of that trust.
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- Enrollment Dashboard
 - 34 currently enrolled students are still not reenrolled. Most are likely waiting to determine financing. Ms. Thompson has and will continue to meet and check in with them regarding reenrollment.
 - Phil and Ms. Thompson worked last week on determining a max school capacity of 382 – based on physical space and staffing abilities.



ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

- Accreditation is officially scheduled for Sept. 28 – Oct. 1st. It will kick off with an dinner on the evening of Sunday Sept. 28th.
 - SAC needs to complete the work on the Strategic Plan and be familiar with that document for the accreditation.

Technology inventory (Phil):

- All looks good for now. Mr. Holmes will be able to work on and repair on an individual basis the 60 that next run out of warranty next. They will not look to continue that warranty.
- In the future they are considering leasing the computers rather than purchase, that way issues and repairs are handled easily by the company without having to keep up with warranties.
- Ms. Thompson noted that some GAPS money is still being spent – Just bought some new laptops and Apple products and she just resubmitted for the security cameras items they have sent back a couple times.

Financial Report (Phil)

- \$345K favorable to budget through the first few months of this school year.
- FACTS changed when they collect fees from Spring to Fall; we will need to adjust that accounting in the budget in the future.
- Cash is favorable
- In the process of putting the budget together for the next school year. Proposed budget has to be turned in to the diocese by June.
- SAC will hold a special budget meeting May 8th at 6:30 to approve budget for next year.

Sub-Committee Updates

- Uniform Update (Angela)
 - Check out the Uniform display in the trophy case
 - Measuring events happening on May 1st, in conjunction with fine arts night and June 23rd, following the used uniform sale.
 - 8th graders attending BL or JP II next year can also get measured at the SJCS measuring events. Ms. Whorton will be sending out a note to 8th grade parents about that option.
 - Dallas store is now open
- Community Vitality (Beth)
 - SMART Families Program
 - A Houston based non-profit provides this program. Schools have to apply to be part of it. It is a 3 year program. 3 other diocese of Dallas schools started using the program this current school year.
 - Program is all about delaying devices, limiting time on tablets and apps, faith based content, giving parents better tools to have the conversations.



ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

- SMART Families provides all the materials as well as finances various things to help promote less devices for families. Budget is \$10,000.
- They send monthly newsletters with information very specific to kids. These will be sent home in Friday folders and provided digitally. Looking into then translating it to Vietnamese.
- Beth is developing a task force of teachers and parents
- Saint Carlos Acutis – Being canonized at the Jubilee of Teenagers on April 27, 2025 – He was a gamer and learned about the affects of gaming and the connection to addiction devices and social media can have on us. Perfect timing and connection to the progress we are working on in our community regarding device use.
- Dad's Club – Mother/Son Olympics update provided by David through email in advance of tonight's meeting:
 - The event was a total hit!! All of the dads pulled together to set up the 5 Chore Olympics stations and the Grilling Station.
 - They brought tents to give some shade to the field. That was a huge help.
 - We had about 50 people show up which was a great turnout for our first year of this type of event.
 - Played Kickball in the first half then ate cheese burgers and chips in the shade, and did the Chore Olympics. Ended the event with few awards for best outfit, team spirit, and best attitude.

Strategic Plan – Daniel will email out the current 3 year plan so each sub committee can review their area. Make changes or updates and send them to Andy who can put all together into one document. Once the 3 year plan is updated, then the 1 year plan information can easily be extracted from the 3 year.

- A brief look over academics section met with conversation and updates regarding some ongoing areas being worked on all the time each school year.
- Also, conversation about volunteerism and ways to provide more volunteer options for parents. Creation of a hospitality committee can help with the plans for various school sponsored events.

Closing Prayer

Adjointed – 8:00pm