



# ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

**AGENDA:** October 19, 2023

**Meeting Starts: 6:31**

## **Opening Prayer**

**Present (In- Person)- Fran, Daniel, Father Stephen, Phil, Pat, Angela, Beth, Meredith**

**Present (Online)- Andy, Maria, Sandra**

**Absent- David, Kevin**

**Vote on previous months minutes: Phil: motions, Pat: 2nds – Passes**

## **Introduction (Daniel)**

- Upcoming Events
  - St. Joseph Fall Festival, October 21-22
    - School has a table at Festival on Sunday. If anyone can help sit at the table for a bit that would be great.
  - St. Joseph Donor Appreciation Reception, October 26, 2023
  - St. Joseph 2023 Hoopsgiving Classic, November 18, 2023
    - Sign-up genius for volunteers (adult and 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade students) was sent out in this weeks Jaguar Tracks.
    - Need help getting everything set up on the 17<sup>th</sup> for the tournament on the 18<sup>th</sup>.
  - 2023 Richardson Christmas Parade, December 2, 2023
    - Mrs. Ortega will be looking into registering and theme.
  - PSIA, February 24, 2024
  - Open House dates: Please come and help if available. Prospective families always enjoy talking to current families.
    - Nov. 2 – 5:30 pm
    - Dec. 5 – 9 am and 5:30pm
    - Jan. 16 – 9 am and 5:30 pm
    - Jan. 23 – 9:45 (Little Disciples Open House)
    - Feb. 6 – 9am and 5:30pm
    - March 5 – 9am and 5:30 pm

## **Principal report (Ms. Thompson)**

- Security Officer Update
  - Just finished interview with final candidate. Interview included Catholic Schools office and Mr. Daigrepoint. Moving forward with hire be the end of next week. Final paperwork needs to go through the Diocese Catholic Schools office.
  - Candidate had to apply to be an approved GAPS Vender for pay.
  - Security Officer to be on campus M-F 7am-4pm



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- Finalist is a female former Mesquite ISD CSO officer.
- This school year officer is paid for with GAPS money. Will need to determine if sustainable for subsequent years.
- GAPS/EANS Projects Update
  - Awarded just under 50% of amount asked for in Catholic Schools Foundation Grant.
    - Pays for locks, security cameras, and Network.
  - ERATE money for hardware needs to be spent by end of this year. IT Goat helping to figure out ERATE funds.
- Enrollment Dashboard
  - Current 294 – One student in 7<sup>th</sup> grade left in mid-October.
  - Fran and Ms. Kim are working to update the enrollment dashboard.
  - Several tours happening for families interested in St. Joseph for next year.
  - Other Catholic schools seem to be offering applications for the next school year already. This would allow for entrance exams to all happen on the same day in the springtime and a waitlist for new applicants should a class be full.
- Texas School Choice
  - Father Stephen discussed the Diocese encouraging parishioners to contact state representatives to vote for school choice. Also, the success other states have seen with school choice.
  - Bill has passed in the Senate, waiting for house vote.
  - Anyone who feels strongly about school choice can contact Fran to be connected with the superintendent to help talk to representatives.

## **Pastor report (Fr. Stephen)**

- Father has been making his way through all the cards the school children made for him at his installation. He has been very touched by each note and can really see the great work being done at St. Joseph to learn the gospel.
- The Fall Festival this weekend has spaghetti dinner and bingo on Saturday and the big party on Sunday.
- Church Debt: Loan on roof will be paid off next month. The final piece of debt is a \$1.2 million loan which is due for refinance next year. With current interest rates it would be best if the church can try to get this paid off within the next year. This loan is from the second floor addition and many of the other rooms around the church used by church and school.
- Big focus on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 3 years. Started by thank you reception for church donors last month. Reception for school donors next Thursday evening.
- Discussion about getting the school kids involved in some way. Possibility of classes fundraising to learn about paying off debt.
- Office Personal changes update:
  - Christi McGee is the new Children's Faith Director. She comes from Holy Family in Irving and is looking at ways to connect school and Sunday school.
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- Emily Lugo is leaving – She has served many years at St. Joseph and is moving on to University of Dallas beginning of November. A new director of faith formation job will be posted soon.
- All Saints Day is coming up Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>. Visiting priest Fr. Mark Garrett (Chaplain at Bishop Lynch) will be doing the children's mass. 4<sup>th</sup> graders will be dressed in Saint costumes.

## **Financial report (Phil)**

- Budget still looks favorable.
- Adding money to the endowment fund will be discussed and hopefully approved at parish finance meeting next month.
- Discussion about annual technology budget and assessing those needs to make sure setting aside funds for those updates over the years.
- Separate meeting to discuss tuition rates for next school year set for Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30. Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> still on calendar as regular SAC meeting.

## **Community Vitality (Maria)**

- School Video updates
  - Original video file has been located and watched to check for all needed updates.
  - Updates needed: Segment with Fr. Jason changed to Fr. Stephen. Several images with students in masks, update to include current students, and wording in one section mentioning soon to have Pre-K.
  - Will work with Mrs. Ortega to get new photos to replace still images in video
- Parish and HOA Ad renewals
  - Reached out and heard back from most to renew
  - Ads to continue at these parishes: St. Anthony's in Wylie and Sacred Heart in Rowlett
  - Checking all ads to make sure all wording is up to date.

## **2023 St. Joseph Hoopsgiving Classic (Daniel)**

- Current Balance Sheet
- Mini Hoop Purchased – Need volunteers to help assemble on Friday night before tournament.
- 38 teams registered to date, 3 from St. Joseph.
  - Discuss regarding possible reasons St. Joseph students aren't registering this year.
  - Several times registered from St. Monica's and St. Patrick's

## **Brief review of 2023-2024 Deliverables (Daniel)**

- Reviewed completed and in progress action items.
- Parish presence has increased: Catholic Book fair offered on Sunday a few weeks ago. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is going well and might be able to expand to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade next year.

**Around the room** – Highlights/head-ups feedback



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- Google Ads Admin access is currently only given to Mrs. Basham and Mrs. Kim. (Daniel)
  - Google account needs to be verified. Need to consider more people who have admin for account.
- Any updates or announcements that we missed?
  - Yung Cao will continue for now as an inactive member. She needs to step back to tend to the medical needs of her family.

**Closing prayer**

**Meeting ended: 8:15**