

St. Monica Local Advisory Committee Minutes

August 16, 2018 5:30PM

In Attendance

Fr. Farrell
Fr. Adams
Becky Reits
Sue Clyne, President
Kevin Kavanaugh, Vice President
Kate Redinger, Secretary
Lin Buck
Mike Willis
Steve McCue
Ed Clifford

Guests:
Jeff Sniderman
Kelly Jo Homic
Trena Kerrins
Amy Pienta

Call to Order	5:31 PM
Prayer	Fr. Farrell
Approval of Minutes	Sue Clyne, Mike Willis

Pastor's Report

- Bathrooms are finished in the Church
- Adoration is back in the adoration Chapel, but there has been a request for for Adoration in the Church on Wednesday and to offer confessions for an hour after the all school mass for the parents to attend. The biggest concern with doing this is maintaining the safety of the children during school hours with allowing open access to the church during these hours and protocol for this will be addressed. Likely will have personnel at the entrances/exits of the church doors during this time.

Principal's Report

- Experience at St. Jerome Academy and the direction of the school
- Training with Mary Pat Donohue over the summer to transition to a classical education
- Based on their educational implementation plan, we are looking to transition to this model in K-3 this year.
 - Kindergarten: The Cradle of Civilization Year
 - First Grade: The Greek Year
 - Second Grade: The Roman Year
 - Third Grade: The Medieval Year
- Student pledge will be incorporated to the morning prayer. This is available on RenWeb.
- St. Catherine has closed the preschool as on Monday this week. Lots of phone calls and visits. 3 parents have chosen to enroll with us.
- Back to School Sunday is this Sunday, Mass at 11am for all students and family followed by meeting teachers and presentation.
- Active Shooter Training
 - Recommendation to decrease entrances to school by 2, so there are only supervised immediate access at the front door and gym door.
- Returning preschoolers may be be dropped off at gym doors, new preschool students should be walked into school until further notice
- Accreditation dates set for March 18th-19th, 2 day visit from the team
 - More to come in September

- Special Scheduling was very difficult this year because turn over has been very high and recruitment of teachers is difficult without making them “full time” positions shared between 3 schools. It is not ideal. These teachers are Portage Public School Teachers we contract with who come into our schools to provide these classes. We need to start thinking of solutions for this long term. Mike Willis suggested contacting some tutoring and homeschooling agencies to address this. Add to agenda for Strategic Committee

Advisory Committee Discussion

LAC Elections

Motion for nominations: Lin Buck / Second: Sue Clyne

- President, Sue Clyne
- Co-Vice Presidents, Kevin Kavanaugh and Mike Willis
- Secretary, Kate Redinger

LAC President Updates/Goals

- CSGK Board Meeting every 3rd Friday at 3:30-4:30
- Sue encourages more participation in the CSGK board meeting from the members of LAC
- Focus this year will be implementation of the new integrated curriculum
- New sub-committee structure of the LAC to hopefully gain traction with increased parental involvement and more gains made this year
- Meetings will be held 2nd Thursday of the Month at 5:30 going forward
- No meetings in July or December
- LAC Bylaws will need to be reviewed and updated this year

LAC Discussion

- Youth group will be starting up this fall for 6th-8th grade to “Cultivate authentic friendship” between St. Monica and St. Augustine students tailgate prior to Hackett Football Game Sept 21st 5:30-7pm. Will be meeting once per quarter
- Bullying Policy reviewed, and no changes will be made to the policy specifically, but the new student pledge will be added to hold children to clear expectations
- Teachers will be covering their own recesses to hopefully decrease any student conflicts and need for intervention with Becky
- Trena suggested idea to implement an annual award for each grade level that recognizes exceptional student who model virtue and Christian service. Award could be given at end of year Mass/ Move-up ceremony, so children see that it is of highest honor. May be tied into scholarship.
- Ed Clifford: How do we get parents more involved?
 - Fr. Adams: Classical and Biblical reading lists, articles, websites to encourage the parent-child relationship to help the parents with resources to mentor and support their children
 - We could add these lists and resources to RenWeb
 - Parent subcommittee to advise Becky on these resources
 - Engage imagination instead of giving rules
 - Quicker feedback to children and parents
 - Every report card also includes – “your child excels in this virtue but could grow in this virtue.” Not to be punitive, but to encourage growth. Alternatively, possibly structure the report card to list goals under the category of virtues
 - Fr. Adams: The fruit will come from helping the parents and children grow in their relationship
- Sign-Up Genius for CSGK meetings so that we have better representations at meetings and projects identified by Becky

CSGK Subcommittees - Establishment of Committee Chairs

- **Finance (Lin Buck)**
 - Members: Lin Buck (chair), Kelly Jo Homic, Mike Willis
 - CSGK Finance Meetings every 3rd Thursday of the month, at 3:30pm in the Hackett Library
 - Establish a budget for LAC and Boosters, review with Becky

- **Enrollment / Retention (Sue Clyne)**
 - Members: Sue Clyne, Trena Kerrins, Kate Redinger
 - Will try to recruit from parents outside LAC
 - St. Monica Ambassador Program

- **Academic Affairs (Kevin Kavanaugh)**
 - Members: Kevin Kavanaugh, Mike Willis
 - Teacher appreciation
 - New curriculum changes

- **Building/Grounds (Kevin Kavanaugh)**
 - Members: Kevin Kavanaugh, Kelly Jo Homic, Jim and Julie Douglas, Brian Ashton, Andrew Walbridge
 - Blueprints now in digital format but need to be touched-up by architecture firm
 - Kelly Jo Homic is an architect and willing to help
 - These will be made available to local EMS in the event of an emergency
 - Fence/Gate and Security System is an area of interest to both LAC and Boosters to increase security
 - We need quotes and need to consider city regulations on materials and height
 - Security doors inside
 - Application for Grant Money for increased funding for the school for the above projects

- **Marketing/Communications (Steve McNeill)**
 - Deferred

- **Boosters/Social (Trena Kerrins)**
 - Members: Trena Kerrins, Amy Pienta
 - Trivia Night in November
 - Kalamazoo Candle Sales
 - Jan 26th Booster Bash Carnival, still need a chair
 - Feb 2nd, Diamond Jubilee Silent Auction at the Moors again
 - 100 capacity
 - Moors space is provided at no cost
 - Alternative spaces will increase the cost of admission
 - Over \$50,000 was raised
 - Sell sponsorship ahead of time
 - Jester is the app that allowed people to bid even if not present in person
 - TRIP program, will be available at Back to School Night

- **Vision, Mission and Integration / Strategic Planning**
 - Members: Ed Clifford, Mike Redinger, Fr. Adams

**Next Meeting
Adjournment**

**September 13, 2018 at 5:30PM
7:00 PM**