

School Council Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2018, 7 p.m.

Board Room

Members Present: Father Matt, Judy Pappas, Julie Delaney, Vic Fontanetta, Julie Furmanski, Jennifer Hartman, Chris McKissack, Lisa Woods

1. Opening Prayer
2. Parent Comment

Becky Dufern presented three issues:

- Can a change be made to the uniform code to give 5th grade girls the choice to wear the dark blue polo for modesty reasons?
- Half-day kindergarten students whose families pay the multi-child rate are being charged the same as full-day kindergarten students from multi-child families. In addition, many of these half-day kindergarteners occasionally stay for the extension program and then pay an additional fee for that program.
- What is the status of the search for a K-2 part-time art teacher?

3. Principal's Report:

- Remember that all parents who volunteer in our school must be Virtus trained. St. James will hold a Virtus training event on September 24, 2018.
- The new Pearson Science Curriculum is going extremely well. Students and teachers are enjoying the hands-on component.
- Jackie Ropski and Mrs. Pappas met with Kurt Lewis from the Office of Catholic Schools Marketing Department to discuss SJS's marketing efforts and concluded we are ahead of the curve.
- SJS will soon be receiving more iPads due to a generous donor
- Teachers participated in professional development focused on the Continuous School Improvement Plan. They also set new goals for reading and are using data from last year's Aspire testing to make adjustments in curriculum

4. Marketing Update:

- Trunk or Treat has been removed as an event from the Marketing calendar
- K for a Day will be consolidated into one event on 2/8/19, down from two events last year
- Baby Bulldogs (open gym for toddlers) will begin monthly 10/5 and will be held monthly through the school year
- Jennifer Hartman is continuously working on parish bulletin updates
- Christmas greeting video is coming back this year
- New volunteers have joined the Marketing committee

5. Family and School Association Update:

- FSA Mtg was well attended the night before. Most exciting was there were many new faces in attendance.
- Annual Fund is at 56%. We are thankful for the generosity of so many of our families but are still working towards our goal of 100% participation.
- Angels in the Classroom Reimbursement Program will (hopefully) be communicated to our teaching staff by Friday.

6. Financial Update:

- Gaming grant application is due at the end of the year

7. Other Topics:

- The SC Chair will provide short updates for the Friday Fodder and will get meeting minutes placed on the school website
- One of the three new signs created for the exterior of the building has been placed. A second will go up soon and a third is slightly the wrong size, so some patching to the paint underneath will be done first. Father Matt will consider repainting of some of the dark red on the building, but budget must be kept in mind. New landscaping will be added.
- Community Events such as Cookies with Santa, Memorial Day Parade, and National Night Out will fall under the marketing umbrella and Jackie Ropski will have responsibility for the planning and staffing of those events.
- OCS is expected to provide bylaw guidelines within the next few weeks. Once received, Chris M. and Lisa W. will begin the revision process.
- Meeting to discuss long-term marketing strategy is scheduled for October 1, 2018. Attendees will be Judy P., Chad W., Jackie R., Lisa W., Jennifer H., and Julie D.
- It is time to prepare the Family Satisfaction Survey and have it ready to go out to parents in early November. Council discussed and decided that Marketing Team should prepare it. Judy will contact Jackie R.

8. Closing Prayer