

Minutes - October 13, 2021

Opening Prayer – Mike Kendrick

In attendance: Mike Kendrick, Cathy Avecilla, Chris Salituro, Michelle Goreham, Abby Gutzmer, Jim Kestler, Emily Hill

Approval of minutes - 9/8/21 meeting – Chris Salituro: move to approve, approved.

Principal/School Update - Principal Kendrick

- iReady scores – these scores are a starting point for the teachers. No need to worry - Teachers using the data to tailor their lessons and future learning

SJS Marketing Update - Principal Kendrick

- Melissa Finn is already planning for Open house and more
- Focusing on targeted ads for social media to pull people to our site.

FSA Update - Becky Dufern

- Attendance for events is a little lower than expected, everyone waits to the last minute to sign up for things.
- Fall Tailgate – super positive feedback
- Cultural Arts – 11/2: Opera for the Young.
- “How Can We Pray for You?” launches tomorrow
- New Purchases: Oven for the Cafeteria, Lost and Found Rack, Birthday Book, “Just Because”
- Wish list for purchases: trophy cases that used to be near the parish center, could be a reading nook with furniture similar to the Bulldog Commons
- Washington D.C. trip is a go – lots of students and parents attending
- Who do we go to in the Parish about scheduling space in the building?
- Creating payment forms for events – is there a way to delegate that process?

Finance Update - Chisty Horn

- Early read on contributions has been down over the past few weeks but no known reason why

Athletic Update - Christy Horn

- Sports update: Girls’ volleyball doing well, XC headed to state, boys’ bball starting this week and girls’ soon
- *We need to share information about Tip Off with the school families so that younger and/or new families know what it is. Move ticket sales away from physical tickets in the future or eliminate them all together

Communication

- Update on survey for communication types
 - Emily shared possible survey questions and then discussed feedback from families – right now it seems that sharing as much information as possible is the best way to communicate. Based on past survey data, there is no single preferred method of communication
 - We will continue with emails and social media posts as much as possible until the new website can help streamline information
 - Mike shared a website preview and requested feedback
- Update on Web redesign - understanding of timing for rollout
 - We will have a chance to review the first draft of the homepage together.

- Exit surveys / post cards for families who left - should we still do this based on timing, maybe plan something that corresponds to holiday?
 - Shift focus to a Thank you card to families around Thanksgiving or Christmas
 - Need a long term plan for families who leave -
 - Who is first notified if a family is not registered or returning ... Jane Jones and Kelly Busa
 - There is no formal or informal interview when they leave
 - What should we do when people leave? We need to look at what has happened in the past and then determine a path forward.
 - Such a small group of people who leave – needs to be a case by case situation

Tuition

- Eliminate parishioner/non-parishioner rate going forward - need talking points
 - School needs to be financially sound apart from the parish – can't be fully reliant on the parish
 - Need to work on reducing the school deficit
- Finalize tuition prior to Jan open house
- How many people are paying non-parishioner rate currently?
- Mike to bring former tuition plus other schools' information
- Mike will send out tuition information and then we can offer feedback before finalized tuition meeting.

COVID Guidelines

- How is education being facilitated in quarantine situations?
 - There is a plan moving forward with lesson plans for students when they are out – daily lessons to complete. Every class, every day. There will also be online tutoring options for students to connect with teachers.
- Cafeteria protocols - how are students spaced? How can we minimize “close contact” risk leading to quarantine?
 - Talked with teachers about cafeteria spacing – keeping 2 kids/bench and monitoring spacing

Other topics:

- Sponsorship guidelines - how do we engage in sponsorship opportunities for school events?
 - We have many opportunities for companies to sponsor; however, we will always protect the date/privacy of the school families.
 - Cathy will work to create a tiered sponsorship plan for giving to the school
- Availability of gym on Tuesday evenings - no ability for school sports teams to practice due to RE usage.
 - Mike will discuss with Father Ed and the Parish to see if Religious Ed can use other parts of the school and/or parish to allow for sports in the gym.
- Adjusting grading scale
 - Still in the works – talking with the teachers tomorrow morning
- Milk for students not getting hot lunch
 - Milk may be able to be ordered – but needs to be done ahead of time. If we wanted to have milk on demand – we would need a new vendor and that isn't going to happen
- Ensure teachers are aware that gym shorts are OK for Spirit Wear days
 - Mike will email teachers to be sure that they are aware
- iReady Test Result
 - Could Teachers communicate with more context on the scores?
 - What is the testing cadence?
 - Mike is going to send information to families – benchmark exam so the questions change for each student based on their answers
 - What are the SJS norms
- School council should be positive and advocates for the school and the teachers – we have a responsibility to be liaisons for our school and positive role models.