

Saint Columbkille School Advisory Council

Meeting Agenda

January 5, 2016

7:00 p.m.

School Library

Meeting Called to Order: 7:05

Members: Present: Kristi Priesman, President; Barb Muellner, Vice President; Carrie George, Secretary; Fr. Dave Reeson, Therrel Brown, Mike Campie, Mindy Pelton, Wendy Squarcia, Mr. Jim Makey, Principal; Mrs. Brandi Redburn, Assistant Principal; **Guests:** Kelli Krause, HSA Vice President **Excused:** Catherine Swinarski, Jared Hollinger

Opening Prayer – Therrel

New Business (70 minutes)

- Policy Review: 5041.1; 5041.2; 5051.1 (10 minutes)
 - Clarification made in regards to making arrangements for financial assistance and payment arrangements to meet family needs as they arise
 - Student records maintained and required to remain in the office
 - Unanimous agreement on accepting changes
- Terra Nova scores (30 minutes)
 - Results presented in detail, the results will be presented at a HSA meeting
 - Discussed possibility of sharing via the Principal's message on the website
- Parent Survey- initial discussion (5 minutes)
 - We will plan to keep the initial 72 questions for record keeping purposes, but if you have any thoughts about additional questions (we usually have 1-3 additional questions), please be ready to present those. We will not discuss the questions during the meeting, but I will make a list and we will discuss in February.
 - Discussed aligning survey with accreditation survey
- Clarification of Strategic Planning Report CATHOLIC IDENTITY (10 minutes)
 - Update Therrel (Report located at the bottom of this document)
 - Clarification and alignment with previous plan
- Strategic Planning Report ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE (10 minute)
 - Update Barb
 - See report

Recurring Business (30 minutes)

- Goal 1: Service Hours (15 minutes)
 - Update Jared, Mindy, Brandi, and Wendy (they will have a proposal for us)
 - Information from November meeting:

- Input gained from SAC, additional clarification and revisions to be completed by committee
- Goal to implement for 2017-2018 school year
- Proposed service hours will be 30 hours, to be tracked by forms to be completed by each family and turned into the office. Office personnel will enter service hours.
- Completion of service hours will be requirement for re-enrollment in the following school year.
- Conversations will be held when tithing and service hours are not fulfilled.

- Goal 2: School Communication (Tabled until February)
 - Increase communication about ways in which to complete service hours
 - Enrichment
 - Teacher communication (weekly updates, lessons covered, how to help students)
- Leadership (please email out report at least 24 hours prior to meeting) (15 minutes)
 - Pastor
 - Bulletin coming out
 - New staff member to cover Deacon Lauber's responsibilities
 - Deacon Kuerger leaving
 - Parish planning, would like to keep debt manageable
 - School efforts to assist with parish efforts – Blog, electronic sign, collaborative efforts from school families will help keep costs down
 - Principal
 - Catholic Schools Week details to be sent out, Jan. 29 – Feb. 3
 - HSA
 - None at this time
 - Other

Closing Prayer – Catherine (absent), Fr. Dave

St. Columbkille 101: Kristi (January 1)

Strategic Planning Goals: Academic Excellence

1. Creation of a Continuous School Improvement Plan

- A committee was formed with the goal of drafting a Continuous School Improvement Plan. The Plan is in place.

2. Develop and implement Professional Learning Communities (PLC's)

- Each teacher is part of one of the PLC's. Groups meet twice a month.

3. Revise and update the School Assessment Plan.

- Draft plan attached. Many assessments currently in place. Others are being reviewed/considered.

4. Instruction tailored towards each individual student's needs.

- Teacher training is ongoing and will continue to be a focus. Staff will be attending training conferences this spring and next year. Two "blended" coaches are being trained, one in the junior high and one in the intermediate grades.
- Chromebook initiative is addressing this goal in grades 6-8. Integration of Dreambox in grades 4-6 and ALEKS in grades 7-8 is ongoing for math. Other subjects addressed on an as needed basis.

Catholic Identity Committee Report:

I have contacted several school families who have agreed to work with me to try to implement some of the ideas below. The ideas below are candidly not much beyond the discussion phase but our collective focus as far as working to strengthen the school's Catholic Identity is to work to prepare our students to go into high school with a well-grounded faith, and that they are prepared to live and defend it. The following are ideas that we hope to investigate and where possible work to implement. We understand that some of these goals require the approval of the pastor, the cooperation of the administration and additional research to make sure that they are indeed the right steps for our school.

The following are ideas that we hope to develop over the next year (or so....)

- Catholic themes / music as central part of performances (musical / drama)
- Use of Catholic / Christian music ISO of school athletic events
- Novenas as part of morning prayers – Saint of the Day
- Eucharistic Adoration opportunities
- Increase in Catholic books in the library
- Partnering with Catholic book stores for book fairs vice Scholastic Books
- An apologetics / debate club
- Introduction of Catholic Curriculum materials into all grades – particularly in History & Science
- Adoption of the Catholic Curriculum Standards (released by the USCCB Committee on Catholic Education) for our school, particularly in the area of the selection of educational materials and textbooks.
- Adoption of the National Catholic Education Association's Assessment of Children/Youth Religious Education exam as an assessment tool for student knowledge as well as beliefs, attitudes, practices and perceptions of the Catholic faith (5th & 8th Grade)

Our focus is on keeping our kids Catholic; too many young adults leave their faith between H.S. and College, we need to look for ways to give them reason to remain.