

St. Columbkille School Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes

Location: St. Columbkille School Library

Date: October 1, 2015 7:00 PM

Roll Call

Role	Name	Present?
Pastor	Fr. Dave Reeson	no
School Staff Principal	Mr. Jim Makey Mrs. Brandi Redburn	yes yes
Council Officers President Vice President Secretary	Mr. Kirt McAlpine Dr. Kristi Preisman Therrel Brown	no yes yes
Other Council Members	Mrs. Tracey Brousek Mr. Terry Buckman Mr. Jared Hollinger Mrs. Barb Muellner Mrs. Mindy Pelton Mrs. Catherine Swiniarski	yes yes no yes yes yes

Guests present: None

Opening Prayer

The meeting was opened with a prayer led by Tracey Brousek.

New Business & Outcomes

1. Discussion of the SAC yearly project with the focus on how to be more service focused. Key topics included: project(s) that the students could be directly involved in, a “Day of Service” with limited hours for the younger grades, the possibility of spreading the days out across the grades, trying to partner with another school such as All Saint’s School (Fr. Damien). There was agreement on emphasizing teaching service tied to our faith, to get after the “why” we serve, as well as to tie it to the Church’s seven themes of social justice.
 - a. We have a potential candidate to serve as the ACTs coordinator, tentative interest from a kindergarten parent.
 - b. The Religious Education office sends out service opportunities for the 7th/8th graders; tied to requirement for service hours for Confirmation. There may be opportunities there.
 - c. The need to check with the projects that the teachers already have in place and build on those before we levy additional requirements – many classes are already doing service projects (3rd grade visiting nursing home on 84th, etc.)

- d. The younger grades should have service opportunities “on campus”.
2. St. Columbkille 101 – Mindy asked for some clarification on what are allowable statements regarding costs, tuition and academic standing ref. local public schools. The consensus was that the use of personal testimony, i.e. why we chose to send our kids to school here was the best approach. It is useful to have some informational handouts with stats, facts about the school, the enrichment opportunities, before/after school care, etc. but that the personal approach was the most effective.
3. Policy review of the 1000 series was completed, in general the language was simplified.

Old Business – No carry over business from previous meeting.

Leadership Reports

1. Principal’s Report- Mr. Jim Makey
 - a. Testing is going on this week, some makeups are also in progress. NW Association Map testing has started as well.
 - b. The Papillion Fire Department did a school tour on 21 Sep; they will return later to conduct a fire drill.
 - c. The H.S.A. fundraiser has raised approximately \$15K so far.
 - d. The review of potential Math textbooks is ongoing, looking to purchase in the spring for next year. NE has adopted new, tougher standards.
 - e. Principal’s Mass is scheduled for 19 November; past Principals have been invited.
 - f. Archbishop Lucas will perform the 24 February All School Mass.
 - g. Mindy Pelton, Deacon Krieger and Mr. Makey will attend the Ambassador Program meeting on 16 Oct.
 - h. Sr. Jean Marie will have a table set up at the Parent Teacher Conference (Fair Trade products).
 - i. Outdoor education was rescheduled (6th grade) for 13 October due to rain.
 - j. Parent Teacher conferences will be in the evenings, 27th (4:30-8:30PM) and 29th (12:00-8:00PM).
 - k. Vocations Day (6th grade) is 23 October.
 - l. Recruitment Days (7th/8th grades) are 7 & 8 Oct.
 - m. There has been some interest expressed in forming a parent’s Booster Club for the music/vocal program.
 - n. The Christmas program will be held in the Social level and will have separate times for each grade. 10 Dec 6:00PM – 1st Grade, 7:30PM – 2nd Grade. 15 Dec 6:30PM – Kindergarten.
 - o. There was a news report about the hazards of the playground rubber, consensus is that it is time to stop deferring to the future gym. The option of rubber matting on the playground still requires a concrete base, and as such is expensive. The question of bark was raised and will be taken by Therrel to the H.S.A. as there was the belief that they had looked at that previously and may have some estimated costs. Terry will check with the Pastoral Council.
 - p. We have asked the Archdiocese for funds for technology under the Ignite the Faith campaign, no word as of yet. There will be some technology demos for the faculty during the first quarter.
2. Pastor’s Report – Fr. Dave Reeson / Fr. Kevin Vogel – no update.
3. Pastoral Council
 - a. Discussion on the future gym, a committee may be formed to plan it. Fundraising will proceed once the Ignite the Faith campaign is complete. The committee will consider potential locations.

- b. Strategic finance goals were presented to the Pastoral Council, no issues raised.
 - c. Question was raised as to whether we can compare Terra Nova scores to Papillion schools. The Archdiocese prefers that we compare using the Archdiocese average vice the individual school average. Of note, the Papillion schools take the Terra Nova testing in the 3rd and 7th grades. The scores are available on the “Love My School” website. Brandi stated that in her conversations with prospective school families, the question about test scores rarely comes up.
 - d. The idea of raising the teacher’s salaries by 1% next year will be looked at by the Finance committee, the impact on tuition costs must be presented to the Pastoral Committee.
- 4. Athletic Council – No Update.
 - 5. President’s Report – K. McAlpine - No Update.

Committee Reports

- 1. Marketing: have added some new members with marketing experience, the committee has had its first meeting. They hope to create a video for the school website and for use at Columbkille 101. They would like to incorporate student narratives, have regular bulletin inputs and an Open House sometime in the spring.
- 2. Home & School – T. Brown – no update.

Open Discussion / Non-agenda items:

Closing

The meeting was a song by John Michael Talbot.

Next Meeting: Thursday November 5th, 2015 – 7:00 PM (School Library)

Minutes Preparation: Therrel Brown