

**St. Columbkille School Advisory Council  
Meeting Minutes**

**Location:** St. Columbkille School Library

**Date:** March 7, 2013

**Roll Call**

<b>Role</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Present?</b>
Pastor	Fr. Damian Zuerlein	yes
School Staff Principal Director of Administration	Dr. Cheryl Blue Mrs. Valarie Galing	no yes
Council Officers President Vice President Secretary	Dr. Kristi Preisman Mr. David Woodard Mrs. Barb Muellner	yes yes yes
Other Council Members	Mrs. Amy Bova Mrs. Kim Chase Dr. Gintaras Duda Mr. Jared Hollinger Mrs. Mindy Pelton Mrs. Kim Sobczyk	yes yes yes yes yes no

**Opening Prayer**

- The meeting was opened with a prayer led by K. Chase.

**Opening Statement**

- K. Preisman welcomed Council members and guests.

**Principal's Report- Mrs. Galing for Dr. Blue**

- New Family registration is ongoing through the end of March. Current school families who have not yet registered are encouraged to turn in their applications.
- The number of kindergarten applications indicates the likelihood of three classes for next year. A new teacher and aide will be hired.
- Fr. Damian and the Finance Committee approved funding for a temporary office receptionist position and Heather Hixson has been hired.
- The Council discussed parent surveys required for AdvancED accreditation. D. Woodard will be putting the survey online. It was decided effort would be made to add questions requesting demographic information and a comments section which have been helpful to administration in the past. J. Hollinger suggested that the Council make available a second survey, to be staggered with the AdvancED survey. The AdvancED survey

requires a high level of participation; the other parent survey would be optional and, as in the past, a jeans day could be offered as incentive for completing it.

#### **Pastor's Report/Finance Committee Report-Father Damian**

- Father Damian thanked all of those who helped with Ceili. He noted that Classroom Creations are always a big help with generating income. Financial numbers and corporate donations were down from last year which may have been impacted by the date coinciding with the school four-day weekend.
- Dr. Blue will undergo a PET scan on Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. The Finance Committee has discussed options for leadership at school for this and next year pending results of the PET scan.
- The school budgeting process, including determination of tuition, is beginning for next year. Father Damian reported that teachers' salaries are currently at 85% of PLV salaries. Tuition amounts and teacher contracts have to be out soon.

#### **Athletic Committee Report - D. Van Haute**

- Softball, baseball, soccer and track seasons are beginning. Basketball season is ongoing with end-of-season tournaments. There was discussion of the recent incident in which a referee was assaulted by a fan from another school. D. Van Haute encouraged good sportsmanship and asked that parents remind their children to represent our school positively.

#### **President's Report-K. Preisman**

- K. Preisman noted that she had received an email from Deacon Krueger that the SAC is responsible for refreshments at the parish Mission on Wednesday night. D. Woodard offered to organize; K. Preisman and B. Muellner will assist.
- Grade level information for the school overview book project was discussed. Some grades need additional information. K. Preisman suggested each member add a volunteer opportunity section. M. Hoffman, HSA representative, suggested that the volunteer opportunities be clarified as separate from those of the HSA. All Council members are to review the submissions for consistency or omissions, as well as work on defining assigned glossary terms and report back to K. Preisman. Father Damian and Dr. Blue were asked to write introductory paragraphs. Suggestions for names for the book were discussed and a final name will be determined by email vote.
- School safety was discussed. It was decided the Council will hold a forum/discussion on school safety for interested parents at the conclusion of the SAC meeting in April.
- D. Woodard attended the new member meeting in March.
- V. Galing advised she had received a parent inquiry requesting a red polo be included as one of the uniform options. The red polo would have to be one provided by one of the two uniform stores, Dennis Uniforms or Educational Outfitters. The Council agreed to add the red polo as a uniform option and it will be allowed going forward.

## **Committee Reports**

### Alumni Projects – D. Woodard

- No report.

### Enrichment – K. Preisman

- A teacher has inquired whether there could be compensation for spending some Saturdays working with an enrichment program. The Council discussed various compensation alternatives, since it was agreed that we want to encourage teachers to be involved and help in some enrichment areas. K. Preisman will discuss this further with Father Damian and administration.

### Building and Grounds - K. Chase and J. Hollinger

- As part of the Ceili Helping Hands project signage will be added to the school. Bids for the project will be taken soon.
- Father Damian has met with City of Papillion officials on the preliminary concept of a new playground/parking lot on adjacent property.

### Development – M. Pelton

- The A.K.T.S. (Acts of Kindness through Service) club met Wednesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> to brainstorm options for a spring service project. Three students volunteered to contact Special Olympics, Top Soccer and the Humane Society to ask about how the 32 students could help out or contribute to their missions. The group will meet again on March 13<sup>th</sup>.

## **Open Discussion**

- Several parents attended in order to voice concerns about class size and addressing the needs of all learners. The parents asked about possible ways to deal with those needing additional behavioral and academic assistance, including adding specialists or aides to the teaching team. Father Damian stated at this time the budget does not allow for additional staff. The idea of setting up a core team of parent volunteers to take some burden off of the teachers was also discussed. It was decided that K. Preisman and A. Bova will work together to survey teachers to determine needs for each classroom and a volunteer team of parents will then be formed.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was closed with a prayer led by G. Duda.

## **Next Meeting**

April 4, 2013

## **Minutes Preparation**

B. Muellner