

2.16.2021 School Board meeting minutes

Notebook: Action Pending

Created: 2/16/2021 6:25 PM

Updated: 2/18/2021 9:22 AM

Author: sikorski.c@gmail.com

Tags: 1-Now, school board, St Francis

URL: <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/FMfcgxwGCQTclJHNxbrGcnPmvXCBWFsx>

Details

Project	St Francis School Board meeting
Date/Time/Location	2/16/2021 7 pm Zoom
Attendees	Present: Ali Villinski (President), Katie Grund (Vice President), Mike Muir, Chris Sikorski, Jim Luby, Rich Mitterholzer, Kyle Schmitt (Principal), Laura Angelini (Parish) Absent: Dan Matzkin

Follow-ups

	Responsible	Completed?
Last Meeting		
Plan/organize virtual fundraiser(s) in the spring	Mike	
Follow up with auction house/vendor for spring event(s)	Mike	
Follow up with Our Lady of Tepeyac on fundraising strategy	Laura	Done
Draft proposal for contract resource to support development	Ali	
Ask for a report of school family contributions to parish	Board/Laura	
Working paper of enrollment count over time	Dan	
Have a virtual parent FAQ with School Board presence	Kyle/Board	
Current Meeting		
Send FAQ email explicitly stating Archdiocese Spring Break travel policy	Kyle	

Decisions

Decisions	Approver

Discussion Items

Summary & Takeaways
<p>Opening Prayer - Ali</p> <p>Review of Open Action Items / Approval of Jan 19th Meeting Minutes - Chris</p> <p>List of SFS families donating to parish (Laura) Determine if we're losing money by not using a parishioner tuition rate Can be done with an export from PowerSchool Personal data will anonymized data to determine this</p> <p>Keep an open item for a virtual FAQ meeting for potential parents Good idea even though it didn't happen for Catholic Schools Week</p> <p>COVID (Vaccination Details, Spring Break, Spring Outdoor Education) - Kyle Schmitt</p> <p>All faculty/staff are eligible in 1B vaccination group As of Feb 10, 26 faculty/staff received first dose of COVID-19 vaccine Executive Director from NCH reached out to staff as well, some appointments made</p> <p>Survey responses re Spring Break travel 70% will not travel, 16% considering travel, 14% will definitely travel School will remain open with face-to-face learning Archdiocese has changed its policy on travel; this has presented issues Arch policy: 10 days quarantine for out of state travel without exceptions Previous SFS policy was more risk-based with nuanced questions Arch communicates via Student Information entered in PowerSchool Parents have indicated they are unaware of current Arch policy School Operating Policy is on SFS website Parent Portal; updated with Arch policy</p> <p>Outdoor learning may continue in spring with better weather</p> <p>Question regarding sports leagues, Archdiocese is evaluating spring sports</p> <p>SFS is planning to run its summer camp</p> <p>Teacher Appreciation and Wish Lists - Kyle Schmitt</p>

Inquiry as to teacher morale
Morale has been trending up
Faculty frustration regarding Archdiocese travel policy
Discussion over Archdiocese communications to teachers re: travel

Ali/Katie created Mass cards for faculty that have lost family members

Enrollment Update (Tuition Letter Feedback, New Families, Re-enrolled Families, etc) - Kyle Schmitt

K-8 registrations, 153 families have submitted registration fee
55 new and/or preschool families have registered
Average family size is 1.5 (estimated 230 students registered)
Current SFS enrollment: 328

Registration as of 2/4/2020:
23 new families
27 new students

Registration as of Feb 2019,
15 new families with 16 new students
194 registrations received total
179 current students re-registered

Current registration is a higher number of registered families at this time than in past years
Are we "retaining" new families? Yes, some
We have not lost any families because D95 has re-opened
Many student departures were school-initiated; SFS could not meet student needs

If registration fee was paid by end of Catholic Schools Week, treated as a deposit rather than fee

No direct feedback received from tuition letter stating next year's tuition increase
No feedback received by Board members, possibly due to lack of social events due to COVID-19

Fundraising Update (Direct Appeal, Virtual Wine Tasting, Justification for Position, Additional Data Requests) - Kyle/Mike/All

We achieved our \$100k goal for the Direct Appeal (November - early Feb/Catholic Schools Week)
We achieved our \$150k fundraising goal for the academic year (July 2020 - present)
This was done with lower fundraising expenses than ever before
Principal Schmitt greatly appreciates and is humbled the donations and offers of help from school families

Virtual wine/craft beer tasting event after Spring Break
Emphasis as a social event rather than a fundraising focus
Partner with a strategic sponsor that has donated frequently to the school

Desire to sustain this fundraising momentum in future years
Principal Schmitt: current fundraising setup (i.e., borne by existing SFS staff/volunteers) is not sustainable
A dedicated resource would not only increase our fundraising targets but enhance the donor experience
Purpose of tuition increase was to reduce the parish subsidy to the school; still work to do
Discussion over how to deliver a proposal for a development resource
Discussion over an assistant principal to act as a proxy if Principal Schmitt is on paternity leave

Lessons Learned from this experience?
Context of relationship of donor, school families, parish families, etc must be maintained
Principal Schmitt is appreciative of Board support in the Direct Appeal

Website Updates - Katie

Closing out action items now (e.g., After Care)
Friday newsletters now link to website for reusable content
Kudos expressed for increased activity on Facebook, website

Board Member Recruitment for 2021-2022 School Year

Several Board members will have met 3 year requirement at the end of this year

Discussion on recruitment strategy, ideal Board size, roles/responsibilities
Suggestion: virtual "showcase" of volunteer board responsibilities and positions
Possibly mention opportunity in Friday newsletter
Have volunteer boards talk at State of the School?
Communicate Board accomplishments from this/previous years

Principal Schmitt: volunteer/family contribution requirement will not be enacted next school year
Discussion over Board candidate recruiting process and outreach methods
Discussion over volunteer expectations of School Board membership

Volunteer for February PTO Meeting

TBD

Reminder of Next Board Meeting Date (March 16th)

AOB (All Other Business)

