



## St. Bede School Board

**Meeting:** May School Board Meeting

**Members Present:** Kari, Missy, Becky, Rebecca, Julianne, Lauren, Tina, Mike, Maria, Ryan, Sandra  
David Wieters

**Date:** May 11<sup>th</sup> 2021

**Absent:** Heather

**Location:** ZOOM

**Time** 6:30

### Mission Statement

Saint Bede Catholic School exists to support the family and community and to provide all children an opportunity for a challenging educational experience, which includes Social and Emotional Growth, Values, Tradition, and Faith.

Topic of Discussion	Presenter	Summary of Topic	Notes/Follow up required	Accountable	Target date
Opening Prayer	All				
Presidents Report	Missy	Brooks Allen Local Gym Uniform Provider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Drive through (June 21<sup>st</sup> or July 19<sup>th</sup>) <b>Board would prefer July date due to growth spurts, etc.</b></li> <li>- Online ordering now an option</li> <li>- Need registration numbers by grade <b>Missy must provide numbers to Brooks Allen by grade to ensure they have enough sizes/grade</b></li> </ul>		

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 724773</li> </ul> <p>We need a new contact person for Brooks Allen: Missy, Maria, and Kari will talk this through at a later date</p>		
Principals Report	Kari	COVID updates	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> grade returned from quarantine. There are 2 close contact cases (7 <sup>th</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> graders, but this affects the individual, not the cohort) Many of the local HS have reported increased numbers of COVID. We are waiting to see how this will affect us.		
		Year end updates	<p>We are only able to move forward with events using current/past</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Book fair, starting at end of month</li> <li>- Walk a thon (May 19) done by cohort</li> <li>- 6/4 @ 5PM at St. Peter – 8<sup>th</sup> grade awards</li> <li>- 6/5 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation</li> <li>- May 21, reverse parade and mini-Olympic day for 8<sup>th</sup> grade</li> <li>- Pre-K -7<sup>th</sup> field day on June 7<sup>th</sup> with a hot dog lunch (last day of school) provided by Athletics, PA needs to be looped in maybe they will be having ice cream</li> <li>- Jar wars going on</li> <li>- PA planning an event for PreK/K</li> </ul> <p>Some guidance on fall of 21-22, much of this will depend on vaccine roll out, the projection of virus, etc. None of this is set in stone. OCS is saying that we will likely need masks, and pandemic will still be with us in Fall. What if an employee is vaccinated, do they need to wear masks? Answer is “likely”. They are toying with the notion of requiring a vaccine for employment, but this is not final. Can we change classrooms in the fall, OCS is “hoping so”. This is all subject to change and will depend on the progression of the virus.</p> <p>Will the OCS help to coordinate vaccination for kids 12 and older? They do not know. Suggestion for our school would be to register anyone interested in vaccination to register their child on AllVax.</p>		

			There is a school calendar ready to go out. There will be a packet going out at the end of the school year with formal paperwork (permissions, calendar, EDP, etc) August 18 is the first day of the school year for 2021-2022. This packet will come home on May 27.		
		Dave	We welcome Dave Wieters as our new principal. He is coming to us from St. Mary's.		
Marketing	Maria	General updates	<p>We had another \$2000 donation to our empower scholarship. We have 38 fully funded with over 40 on our wait list.</p> <p>We have 5 new students making our total 195 registered for fall.</p> <p>Maria is still working on our child care assistance program. Everything is behind on the DCFS side of things, and we are waiting on a letter to continue to move forward with the program. Preschool parents will benefit the most from this program.</p> <p>New students who moved into our school: 25 total. Of those 25: 1 graduating, 13 kids not registered (2 are not returning due to a move, 1 is not returning to go back to public school) We did not have an exit survey, so Maria created one so that we can begin to gather data about why a family might not return.</p>		
Athletic Report	Tina	General updates	<p>Intramural for grades 4-7 finished last week. 8<sup>th</sup> grade due to quarantines will go until June 1. Dexter will ref for us to have some fun at the last one.</p> <p>There will be a reverse parade in place of 8<sup>th</sup> grade recognition nights and athletic recognition. Parents and students will be recognized.</p> <p>Planning for sports and coaching is in process. There are dates for HH and Holiday Bazaar planned.</p>		
PA Report	Sandra	General updates	No new updates.		

Finance Report	Mike	General updates	<p>Discussed fiscal trends. One line that is potentially under funded is the Fundraising line – we are unsure at this time if we can have fundraisers, what they will look like, etc. The bus is a line item that could potentially be a money saver as it costs \$60K/year, and we could get bussing by Antioch School District. Trending in a good direction.</p> <p>Scholarships could affect our budget as well. Caritas is open right now and being worked on between Kari and Sylvia.</p> <p>We will have to hire a replacement for Deacon Mark Buckley who is in charge of RE.</p>		
General Topics	Round Table Discussion		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. School calendar for the 2021-2022 school year. Is there a preliminary one out yet? <b>See Above</b></li> <li>2. Where do we stand on wearing masks for next school year? <b>See above</b></li> <li>3. Curriculum update - new materials - Where are we at with this? Is not having updated curricular materials a turn off to new families? <b>Our academic team meets throughout the year to discuss curriculum. This group is also part of the school improvement team. They are looking at overall improvements in reading and writing. There will be a new ELA curriculum. We are in a stand still though because we are being assigned an academic director. This person will help us chose curriculum materials. There will be a meeting to discuss this as this is a brand new program and Kari and Dave need to see what this will entail. New families do not question our curriculum as we have a strong curriculum. The materials might be outdated, but the curriculum is very strong. Will the teachers be able to pilot a program? Unsure at this point, there is very little known about this program.</b></li> </ol>		

			<p>4. Do we know why any reasons why current families are not returning to St. Bede? Going back to public school? <b>See above notes in Maria's section</b></p> <p>5. There appears to be an inconsistency in giving homework on weekend. Some teachers believe in it and others don't. Is there any guidance taking a uniform approach towards this? Having no homework on weekends? <b>Kari spoke with teachers on this topic: each teacher has policies on homework because of the basic nature of the content. For example, math needs to have some memorization and needs to be practiced every day, where other classes have more flexible content and can work around other classes.</b></p> <p>6. The homework expectation is 1 - 1/2 hours nightly for 5th-8th grade. Is this really fair for a 5th grader 10 to 11 years old versus a child in 8th grade? <b>One of the purposes of homework is to be prepared for the next step. Teachers do their best to adhere to 10min or homework per grade. If a child is taking much longer to complete the homework, a parent should contact the teaching team. The teaching team is invested in problem solving and working through problems. Parents need to speak up and seek help if the assigned homework is taking an exorbitant amount of time. Teachers are willing to accommodate.</b></p> <p><b>The handbook does not reflect the time recommendations of 10 min/grade (ex: 5<sup>th</sup> should have 50 min) as it states 1.5 to 2 hours for grades 5-8.</b></p> <p>7. What are we doing as a school to bridge the gap between 4th grade to 5th? Expectations? It's a shocker to move to middle school and the amount of homework? <b>From a parent perspective, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade is really tough, 4<sup>th</sup> grade is easy, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade is hard again. It seems to be that no matter who the teacher</b></p>		
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			<p>is in 4<sup>th</sup> grade, the jump to 5<sup>th</sup> is a big transition and change. Ms. Paukner does teach organization skills directly. Now 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> do switch for SS and Science to help the transition. Something that would be helpful would be a written policy handed to the students related to what each teacher's policies are (related to late assignments, corrections, etc) would be very helpful to the students and helpful in increasing</p> <p>8. Has a DRE been hired Director of Religious Education. Mike eluded to this, the title change will be Director of Lifelong Formation. This process is just starting.</p>		
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Future Agenda Placeholders			
Month	Who	Topic	
TBD		By-laws	