

**St. Thomas More Catholic School Commission  
May 2018 General Meeting Minutes**

**Date, Time, and Location:** Thursday, May 10, 2018, at 7:00 P.M. in the teacher's lounge

**Meeting called to order by** President Bob Brown at 7:05 P.M.

**Attendance:** Pres. Bob Brown, Vice-Pres. Kevin Foley, Sec. Pam Michel, Mary Aydt, Frank Celarek, Mike Mesina, Leni Pedres, Humberto Perez, Principal Sonja Keane, and Father Richard Rosinski.

**Absent:** No one

There were 10 members in attendance; a quorum was reached. No guests in attendance.

**Prayer:** Prepared by Leni Pedres - Commission recited together.

**Welcome:** President Bob Brown

**Approval of Minutes:** Frank Celarek motioned to approve and Michael Mesina seconded the motion to approve the April 5, 2018 School Commission Minutes.

**Pastor's Report:** Given by Father Richard Rosinski

- Father Rosinski stated the 8th Grade Mass will be Fri., May 25, 2018. The 8th graders will be setting up the altar, doing the readings and prayers, and presenting the gifts. The 8th Grade Graduation will be that evening at 7:00 P.M. in the church.
- Father stated that the Kindergarten Graduation will be Wed., May 30, 2018 at 10:00 A.M. in Roberts Hall. On Thurs., May 10, 2018, Father blessed the Kindergarten's rosaries that they will receive on their graduation day.

**Principal's Report:** Given by Principal Sonja Keane

- The budgets for the Cafeteria, After Care, and Preschool programs were presented to the Parish Finance Council by Mrs. Keane on Thurs., April 2, 2018. Those budgets were approved.
- The Pastor from St. Mary's Catholic Church, Huntley, approved an ad for their bulletin and the Observer also approved an ad. Both were advertising our school and preschool.
- The first Color Run was held at St. Thomas More School on Sat., May 5, 2018. One hundred runners, made up of students and their families, and community members enjoyed the day with the beautiful weather and camaraderie. There are pictures posted of the event in the hallway, PTO face book, and the May 11th school newsletter.
- The flat roofs of the two wings, gym, and hallway of the school will be replaced this summer. The roofs are 35 years old and have leaks in various places after rainfalls. The parish received approval from the diocese to hire a (firm) contractor who will get 3 bids

and oversee the project. This firm also recently worked on our parish parking lot project. We will receive a loan from the diocese which Father can draw from for this project. He will also draw money from the present Parish Building Fund. The diocese approved the extension of our Parish Building Fund for three more years.

#### **Old Business:**

- Vice-President Kevin Foley spoke to the Commission that he is still working on various apps for the Commission members to use. President Bob Brown and Michael Mesina have been working on this app selection since April. Humberto Perez and Leni Pedres offered to work with the group, as well, in order for more input with the various selections. They are completing tasks in each app to determine which app will fit our needs and is easy to use.
- Vice-President Kevin Foley presented his findings from Sleepy Hollow and Elgin on their private property yard sign regulations. Sleepy Hollow does not require a permit to put signs on private property and no signs should be put on utility poles and public property. Each sign cannot be more than 3 sq. ft. in area. Elgin's Code permits outdoor graphics on residential property without a permit that shall not exceed 32 sq. ft. in surface area and 10 ft. tall. A permit is not required for a temporary outdoor graphic. No signage should be displayed on tree banks. Mrs. Keane will get a quote from the vendor, who does our spirit wear, on the pricing for signs to advertise our school. Frank Celarek will also get a quote on signage from Signarama on Larkin Ave. in Elgin. The School Commission is discussing how to have signs distributed to school families and parishioners for display in their yards to advertise St. Thomas More School to encourage more enrollment.
- Vice-President Kevin Foley is setting up a meeting with a public school education coordinator. When he gets an email and a list, Kevin will look at any event and invite parents.

#### **New Business:**

- A School Commission page is now on the school website with the Commission's purpose and a list of the Commission's names and jobs. There is a link for the STM School Commission Constitution and Bylaws. A picture of the School Commission will be taken at the end of this meeting to be put on the School Commission page.
- Principal Sonja Keane spoke of some of her dreams for the future of St. Thomas More School. Two WIFI access points near the junior high and one access point in the gym will be added this summer.
- The front hallway will be updated with new paint this summer.
- E-books for Social Studies will be used by the upper grades next year.
- This summer the school will be getting 1 or 2 new tables for the LRC.
- Mrs. Keane spoke of increasing the enrollment of the school.
- Mrs. Keane would like to hear from the Commission if they have any ideas or resources for improvements of the school for the future.

- Mrs. Keane asked School Commission members to volunteer to help on Fee Day in early August. School Commission members will work stations for morning and/or afternoon sessions. A date for the fee day will be forthcoming.

**Topics for Next Meeting:**

- Information on any educational/safety precautions for our students online and tools for parents to use to supervise or overlook their children's use of the internet.
- Review the 2017-2018 school year at St. Thomas More School and looking forward to the 2018-2019 school year.

**Adjournment:** With no further business to come before the School Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 P.M. A closing prayer was led by Father Rich.

The next meeting of the St. Thomas More Catholic School Commission will be held on Thursday, June 7, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. in the teachers' lounge.

Minutes prepared and respectfully submitted:

Pam Michel  
St. Thomas More  
School Commission Secretary

Mary Aydtt moved and Michael Mesina seconded the motion to approve the May 10, 2018 School Commission Minutes.