

**SSPJ School Board Meeting Minutes**  
**September 30, 2019 at 7pm**

**Members Present:** Fr. Tom Haggerty, Ms. Diane Anderson, Mr. Jonathan Nicastro, Ms. Kelly McGovern, Dr. Lisa Stephen, Mrs. Jennifer Wos, Mr. Matthew Carey, Dr. Denice Franco, Mrs. Christina Hughes, Mrs. Tania Willman

Members Excused: Dr. Gus Mantia, Mr. Michael Radosta

**1. Opening Prayer - Mr. Nicastro**

**2. President's Report- Mr. Nicastro**

*Old Business:*

- a. Tent for events- In the future, a tent may need to be purchased, for events, i.e., St. James Day, Kings Park Day, Thank you to John Garvey for the use of his tent at this time.

*New Business:*

- a. Mr. Nicastro reported that he is inquiring about courses/training that may be available to Members of the School Board, through the Diocese. Mr. Anderson stated no classes are currently scheduled but she will get a notification from the Diocesane when they are scheduled.
- b. St. James Day, is this Sunday, October 6th, SSPJ School has a space, and volunteers are needed for throughout the day, to meet and greet families and share information about our school.
- c. Parish and School Support-
  - i. Dr. Stephens reported that on behalf of the school board, parish, school, she would like to help organize participation in the Tomorrow's Hope 5 k Walk/Run in Spring 2020 and more events to continue to join the school and the parish together in community as disciples, other ideas include, but not limited to, hosting hospitality after Sunday masses, a Beach mass, participation in the PB & J Gang, The Wash Kit Gang, etc. Also, the upcoming Italian Night on Saturday October 26, all are encouraged to attend, it will be sure to be a wonderful night, as our Magic Of Ireland Dinner Dance, in the Spring was, perhaps putting together a table for each grade, to come out and support SSPJ and have a wonderful evening.
  - ii. Dr. Stephens reported that there are currently 29 school families who are actively contributing to the Parish, through contributions at mass. This number indicates only the donations that the Parish is able to capture when families use envelopes (sent to all families who are registered with the parish), and/or FaithDirect (online donations). Therefore any families who

are contributing each week, without envelopes or through Faith Direct, are not being recognized for their generosity.

- iii. Discussion continued to identify opportunities in which we can continue to support the parish and the school together, to continue to sustain, grow and flourish. Presently, the parish subsidizes each family in the school by approximately \$1000 per school year. The school is very appreciative and grateful for the continued support from the parish, including lifting the \$500 annual contribution that was required of each family, through envelope/Faith Direct donations to the parish, up until a few years ago. SSPJ does not receive any additional support for our students who join us from our neighboring parishes, where our school families may attend mass regularly. In addition, the School Guild is required, by the Diocese, to raise \$125,000 each school year; the School Guild has not met this goal in several years. The school is also grateful to the parish for supporting the school hosting the Christmas Tree Sale, the Family Festival, and other major fundraising events throughout the year, in which all proceeds go directly to the School Guild.
  - iv. Discussion took place about opportunities to share this information with the school families, as it was discovered that many of our school families may not be aware of the amount of continued financial support the school receives from the parish; a suggestion was made to write a letter to our school families to communicate this information, in support of the continued growth of our parish and school, the school board will continue to work on this.
  - v. The school board identified opportunities in which members of the school board will be available to families, for coffee and hospitality, following Sunday mass, and to discuss the above mentioned information- date to be determined in the near future.
- d. Security/Safety Committee Update-Mrs. McAlvin and Mr. Nicaastro provided an update regarding the status of the Security/Safety Committee:
- i. VIRTUS trained safety volunteers have begun volunteering during shifts throughout the school day, in blocks of time, between the hours of 8:30 am -3:00 pm
  - ii. Additional volunteers are needed and welcome, there is a sign up genius, available, all VIRUS Trained parents/family members of the parish and school, are encouraged to sign up and volunteer.
  - iii. The Security/Safety Committee continues to look into options to continually progress Security, beyond the safety and security measures already in place, to ensure the safety and security of the school.

3. **Principal's Report** - Ms. Diane Anderson

- a. Ms. Anderson reported that there will be a Candle Light Rosary and procession on Monday October 7th at 6:00 pm, all school/parish families are encouraged to attend.

4. **Pastor's Report** - Father Tom Haggerty

- a. The Parish is hosting Italian Night on Saturday October 26, 6-10 pm, in the Auditorium, all are encouraged to attend, as it will be a wonderful evening of community, and delicious food.
- b. The Children's Liturgy of the Word is seeking Volunteers as Monitors and Catechists, at the Saturday 5 pm and Sunday 10 am masses, to help orchestrate the CLW for the 2019-20 school year; VIRTUS Trained volunteers may volunteer as often as they are able to, and any and all help and participation is appreciated and needed to continue the ministry.

**Next Meeting:**

Monday November 4 at 7:00 pm.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:50 pm