

SSPJ School Board Meeting Minutes

May 10, 2021 at 7pm

Open School Board Meeting- SSPJ Auditorium

Members Present: Ms. Diane Anderson, Ms. Jennifer Wos, Mr. Matthew Carey, Mrs. Jennine Cullen, Dr. Denice Franco, Fr. Thomas Haggerty, Mrs. Christina Hughes, Ms. Kelly McGovern, Dr. Lisa Stephens Mrs. Tania Willman

Excused: Mrs. Tracy McAlvin,

- I. **Opening Prayer-** Fr. Tom opened the meeting with a prayer
- II. **Introductions-** President Wos, and the members of the school board introduced themselves.

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

- Ms. Anderson reported the following updates:
 - The School Board was able to meet monthly throughout the school year, via Zoom, and although a challenging year, the school has continued to adhere to all guidance regarding covid and still doing well.
 - There have been a low number of positive cases identified in the school, thus far, and in each instance the appropriate quarantine has been followed, along with additional immediate and thorough cleaning
 - There are currently 208 students enrolled for the upcoming academic year, and tours are continued to be provided by the principal on Saturdays
 - Based on recent CDC guidelines and recommendations our goal is to return to all original classrooms, by grade for the upcoming academic year. New guidelines indicate 3 ft. social distancing with masks, and 6 ft social distancing without masks; lunch periods will need to be staggered in order to provide appropriate social distancing and snack periods to be determined
 - There is no decision at present time about a remote option for learning for the upcoming school year- to be determined
 - Google classroom will remain available for quarantine periods
 - There is presently no determination about vaccine mandates for covid.
 - Textbooks- teachers are working with students to minimize the number of heavy textbooks they will be bringing back and forth to school
 - Playground- Thank you to the NJHS students and parents for repairing and fixing up the playground. There is now a playground schedule for each grade to provide playground time. The upper

grades will have access to a volleyball net; basketball hoops are being installed by the Monte Building.

- o After School clubs and extra help is anticipated to resume in the upcoming academic year, before and after school, as well as elective classes
- o We are presently searching for a Spanish teacher for 2 days per week, a counselor for 2 days per week and an AIS teacher for math/ela 3 days a week.
- o 4/5 grade and 7/8 grades will each have two different teachers, rather than having the same teacher for 4 years
- o Faculty meetings are a requirement for all Catholic schools in the Diocese, and we are hopeful that we will be able to offer child care on those half days again.
- o Assignments- all students are provided with an agenda at the beginning of the school year, and encouraged to use it to keep track of assignments and homework; if students are not using the agendas to do so, please reach out to their classroom teacher or principal asap., to address.
- o Libraries/books in classrooms- due to the social distancing guidelines space has been very limited in classrooms this year, hoping to slowly bring back and return to the classrooms, the lower grades do have books available in the classroom.
- o Lunch program- is anticipated to return next year, and we are looking at options for online ordering to streamline the process and eliminate paper ordering; snacks expected to be available for sale again also.

III. Pastor's Report- Fr. Tom Haggerty

- Fr. Tom announced that as per the Diocese all churches are permitted to return to 100% capacity as of May 19, with masks
- Altar servers are returning, and training for new servers as well as refresher training for all servers has begun.
- The parish dream team has begun planning events, the first was held this past Sunday, in which the street in front of the church was closed off for one half hour following the 10 am mass for a community gathering
- The doors to the school as well as the bricks in the front walkway will be repaired over the summer, once school is closed.

IV. Guild Report- Mrs. Jennine Cullen

- Mrs. Cullen reported that we have met and exceeded our fundraising goal of \$75k for the school year, and still have the car raffle as well as the monthly raffles to come.

V. Public Relations Committee- Mr. Carey and Dr. Franco

- Mr. Carey and Dr. Franco continue to work on and develop posts to continue to increase the audience and exposure of SSPJ and all the great things about SSPJ past and present on the SSPJ Alumni and Friends page.

- Every like/comment, share, helps bring more awareness to our school through social media.

VI. President's Report- Mrs. Jennifer Wos

- Mrs. Wos reported Virtus training will resume, and accounts will soon be activated again, as we anticipate the return of volunteers in the upcoming school year, and we will be responsible for reading bulletins and education again to maintain compliance.
- The school board email is: schoolboard@sspjschool.net

Meeting adjourned at: 7:40 pm

Next Meeting: June 14 at 7:00 pm