



SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 19, 2019  
St. James the Apostle Catholic School

*St. James the Apostle Catholic School is a Christ-centered community where children can grow in faith, values of service and academic excellence.*

Members Present: Mona Lopez, , Eddie Molina, Christine Aguilera, Debra Harrison, Hector Perez, Thelma Campa, Jessica Garcia, Brenda Pina, Angela Ruiz, Raul Espinoza, Giovanni Ontiveros, Sr. Debbie Walker, Dr. Jennifer Grenardo, Ms. Cindy Luna

Members Absent: Matthew Navarrez

### Approval of Minutes

### General Reports

- Report Principal's Report – See below
- PTC Report
  - Family Mass Breakfast Sales: Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> and March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Breakfast on Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>
  - PTC restaurant fundraiser: Total raised to date \$730.00
    - Raising Cane FUNdraiser – raised \$208
  - Urban Air FUNdraiser – Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>
  - Hope for the Future 5K – Sun., Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> at Morgan's Wonderland until 3 pm
  - Kickball Tourn. – Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 5 Diamonds
    - \$150/team - \$10/carload
  - Committee is working on various grant application
- Parish Report
  - Celebrating 65 Years
  - Gala – Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> – purchase tables, tickets and memory book
  - Festival – Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> @ 12 noon – 10 pm
    - School will cover hamburger booth, street tacos booth, fish pond game, and balloon pop game
  - CCD starts Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>

### Old Business

- Strategic Plan – Review and finalize
  - Credit Card fees - Ideas:
    - 1. Charge to consumer
    - 2. Put a minimum charge amount
- Parking Lot solutions:
  - 1. Cone off all parking ends
  - 2. Enter/Exit only signs
- Committee Reports – Compose written goals for the year – table for next meeting
  - Nominating – Christine Aguilera, Matthew Navarrez, Mona Lopez
  - Finance – Raul Espinoza, Thelma Campa, Christine Aguilera, Matthew Navarrez
  - Building and Grounds – Matthew Navarrez, Hector Perez, Eddie Molina
  - Policy and Planning – Eddie Molina, Angela Ruiz, Debra Harrison, Hector Perez
  - Marketing/Development – Brenda Pina, Deborah Harrison
  - Local Grievance Council – Brenda Pina, Thelma Campa, Mona Lopez, Angela Ruiz, Jessica Garcia

## New Business

- Salesian Sisters Provincial Chapter Preparation - Provide feedback
  - Identify with the young people and the laity, the most urgent challenges for our communities.
    - What are the most challenging issues facing the youth of today?
    - What are the most challenging issues facing families today?
    - What are the most challenging issues we face in Catholic Education?
- Annual School Budget - Review and finalize

Next meeting – Thurs., Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>

## Closing Prayer

### A Council Member's Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Before we begin our meeting, let us take a moment to thank the Lord for this opportunity to be here, working together toward the common goal of enriching Catholic education.

Guide us, Lord, so that we may unite in the spirit of mutual respect and exchange of ideas and goals , not as individuals entities, but as Catholic community we strive to be.

In our discussion here today, let us not forget for whom we do this: our school and our students.

As always, we seek your guidance and inspiration in all our thoughts and decisions. Dear Lord, we pray that this will be a productive and successful meeting.

Through Christ our Lord, Amen.



**St. James the Apostle Catholic School  
School Advisory Council – Principal Report  
September 19, 2019**

*Ten Ways to Love*

**SPEAK**  
*without accusing*



“Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.” James 1:19

**#Holiness for You Too**  
September

**Completed by:** Dr. Jennifer Grenardo, Ed.D.

**Enrollment:** 325 students

**Staffing Report:** Welcome!

- Ms. Christa Marin – Technology Director
- Dr. Donella Scarboro – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade ELAR and Social Studies Teacher

**Tuition:**

- Almost all tuition and fees have been collected. There is a remaining balance of -\$4,172 from 2018-2019.
- St. James received \$74,250 from Hope for the Future to assist 43 families.
- St. James is in the process of creating a scholarship fund through grant monies.

**Curriculum:**

- NWEA Assessment – completing 3 week testing period
  - Results will be shared with parents during parent-teacher conferences.
- Email Progress Reports – Fri., Sept. 20, 2019
- Secured Grants for 2019-2020:
  - Chef Bites Program – Pre-K 4 and 1<sup>st</sup> grade will participate in lesson once a month. Our Catholic Charities Grandparent Volunteers will assist.
  - Third and fourth quarter, a Sports Nutrition class will be offered to middle school students.
- Sexual Risk Avoidance Curriculum – Ms. Howell and Mrs. Trevino attended training on the program which aims to assist middle school students to foster healthy relations that coincide with the values of our faith.
- Outdoor Learning Center and HighScope
  - Pre-K 3 and Pre-K 4 teachers will attend five sessions of professional development this fall to learn about the HighScope curriculum
  - Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> design consultants will visit our school to plan an outdoor learning space for our Early Learning Center students.



**Honors:**

- Hope for the Future - September Principal of the Month - Film on Wed., Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>
  - <https://www.facebook.com/hopeforfuturesa/videos/1261682897323891/>

**Events:**

- Tues., Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> – Salesian Day
- Thurs., Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> – Student Leadership Council – Natalie DeLeon and Jonathan Espinoza
- Thurs., Sept. 26th-27<sup>th</sup> – Sr. Roseann visits
- Mon., Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> – Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> – Book Fair
- Tues., Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> – Solidarity Day: Wear orange
  - Homecoming Game @ 4:30 followed by FUNdraiser night at Panda Express
- Thurs., Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> – Book Fair Family Night @ 3:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- Sun., Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> – School Family Mass @ 10 a.m.
- Tues., Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> – Pink-out Day
  - Family Rosary @ 6:00 p.m.

*Ten Ways to Love*

**GIVE**  
*without sparing*



“The righteous give without sparing.”  
Proverbs 18:24

**#Holiness for You Too**  
October

- Fri., Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> – Make-up Picture Day
  - Early Release Day, Dept. of Catholic School Professional Development
- Sat., Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> – Gala – Purchase a table
- Wed., Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> – Urban Air Fundraiser
- Thurs., Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> – SAC Meeting @ 6 pm
- Fri., Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> – End of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter
- Sat., Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> – Parish Festival
- Thurs., Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> & Fri., Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> – Early Release, Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Sun., Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> – Hope for the Future 5K Run - <https://www.archsa.org/fun-run-with-a-mission-2019>

### Maintenance:

- Painted railings in Aug. 2019
- Repaired AC in gym and hall in Aug. 2019
- Circuit breaker repair in Aug. 2019
- Purchase new air-conditioners for classrooms in Aug. 2019
- Installed smoke detectors in all classrooms in Aug. 2019
- Waxed cafeteria in Aug. 2019
- Need new electrical panel for ELC

### Policy:

- Tardy Policy – 15 tardies = \$5 fee per tardy, 20 tardies = \$10 fee per tardy
  - Research options
- Breakfast program – 7:00 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.
- Law Enforcement Volunteer Safety Team – serve as peace officers at daily morning assembly and school Mass
- Early Release Days – Students are encouraged to bring a snack. Students can order a sack lunch to go.
- Parking Lot Safety – post signs in afternoon
- Credit Card Charges – research fees



## What is a Nature Explore Classroom?



A Nature Explore Classroom is a dynamic, nature-based outdoor space developed by research-based, field-tested design principles that support children's learning and social/emotional development in all domains.

Designed to meet children's individual learning styles, interests and strengths, Nature Explore Classrooms help children grow into their best selves. Here, educators are able to observe and support children from a place of personal understanding.

In these intentionally designed, nature-rich spaces, children improve math and science learning, cultivate art and music interests, and foster initiative, cooperation, and creativity.

Nature Explore Classrooms can be built anywhere a traditional playground might be considered—with transformational benefits for children. A Nature Explore Classroom does much more than enhance the physical environment; it allows children to explore and develop a connection to the natural world through engaging in open-ended play.

Nature Explore Classrooms can be designed in countless possible configurations for large or small spaces. Each outdoor classroom reflects the interests of the program's families and staff, and uses regional plants and materials. This is one example of how the 10 recommended areas can work in a fairly small space.

**A** An **Entry Feature** gives children a visual cue that they are entering a special place.

**B** A **Music and Movement Area** provides children with a chance to create their own music and enjoy expressive movement.

**C** An **Open Area** gives children room for running, rolling, and other large motor play.

**D** A **Gathering Area** serves as a space to meet with a group of children for more structured programming, or as they enter and exit the outdoor space.

**E** A **Garden and/or Pathway through Plantings** area lets children experience planting and harvesting, and the wonders of nature through the seasons. The area may include a **Pollinator Garden**.



Nature Explore Classrooms support the development of multiple intelligences and individual strengths.

**F** A **Nature Art Area** supports children's creativity as they sketch and build 3-dimensional works of art made of pine cones, acorns, sea shells, and other natural materials.

**G** A **Climbing and Crawling Area** gives growing children the chance to safely master physical challenges.

**H** A **Messy Materials Area** supports cooperative problem-solving and personal mastery as children build with nature's loose parts such as stumps, gourds, and tree slices.

**I** **Storage** in each area allows children ready access to outdoor classroom components and tools.

**J** A **Building Area** complete with organic and geometric building blocks provides space for individual creativity while children strengthen mathematical and visual-spatial thinking.