

# LaSalle Catholic School Board Minutes

January 21, 2021

**Present:** Susan Hucker, Father Diehm, Angie Katrichis, Cindy Hunt, Julie Deutmeyer, Sara Wilgenbusch, Roberta Smith, Shannon Brimeyer, Jake Cota

**Guests:** Jessica Bries and Beverly Ambrosy

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 and was led in prayer by Father.

There were no changes to the minutes and were approved with a motion from Sara and seconded by Shannon.

## **Finance Reports:**

-Parish subsidies are all up-to-date at this time

-There was some raffle winnings donated back to the school – this will be discussed in more detail in the principal's report;

-The school received \$6,000 from the Department of Human Services for COVID grants for preschools and childcare; this helps payback the funds spent to achieve approval by the fire marshal and certification by DHS

-The school received over \$6000 in reimbursement for meals served through the summer food service program and our lunch account is anticipated to be in the black in the coming months

-There was over \$52K sold in the fall scrip contest which would give the school a profit of \$2010.53; A rebate check went back to the school for the 2019 tuition rebates of \$5625

-The school was notified that our PPP loan was forgiven- there was discussion as to what to do with that forgiven loan amount but it was clarified by the finance committee that the money was already used for payroll; it was money that we did NOT have to pull from our savings to cover costs; there was a motion to let things go as is for now, the forgiven amount will appear on our January financials and 2020-21 budget, with the possibility of issuing a subsidy rebate back to the parishes at some point in the future; Susan will keep us informed if there is a second opportunity/need to apply for a second PPP loan

-Julie gave the board the finance committee's recommendations for the 2021-2022 tuition rates; There was a motion to increase the 4yr. fourth day and the 3yr. full-day preschool rates from \$95-\$100 a month and to increase the half day rates from \$65-\$70. It was decided to keep the k-6<sup>th</sup> grade tuition rates the same. The motion was made by Shannon and seconded by Sara

## **Facilities Report:**

-Jake spoke with Geeze and Zephyr; one came out to give us a quote but we haven't gotten it yet and the other company hasn't come out yet; Jake will follow-up with both

-The walk-in cooler was fixed; coolant was added

-There is a radiator that needs to be broken up and hauled out of the school and a new one is being located for the science room; the radiator in the locker room was leaking and will not be replaced at this time; Jake will check around for access to radiators and try to locate one that will work

-Susan asked for volunteers to install the projector arms for the new projectors; Julie said she would ask Mike to help out

-Susan received 3 bids to replace the phone system; after discussing the pros and cons of the 3, the board made a motion to approve the BTS proposal, pending the 2<sup>nd</sup> year cost after it's installed; this particular system will allow us to have a landline and not have to rely strictly on internet service since it's not always reliable; the funds for this purchase will come from the facilities donation

### **Recruitment & Enrollment:**

- The committee is working on various tasks to complete before meeting with the consultants
- They are also working on a calendar of events
- The next big tasks will include a SWOT analysis; Angie will be sending out an email to board members to complete and answer some questions for feedback for their final analysis
- Any parish member 5 years or younger is receiving a handmade birthday card and book for their birthday; the cards are made by the 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> graders

### **Principal's Report:**

- The school did receive a grant for the SMART room; new items will be purchased
- The school did not receive the DRE grant for PE equipment – this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> time in 6 years that we didn't receive any monies
- Amazon Smile is now set up for the school; this will be broadcast so that the school can start receiving donations via that program
- We do have a new art teacher that we are sharing with Xavier; she will be in the building on Fridays; the other art teacher was a substitute and hopefully she will be back in building to sub, if needed
- There is a possibility that the school will take over the can collection for the parish; Susan and Angie will get in touch with Taylor and see what her plans are;
- Miss Bries gave a short presentation on the SWITCH grant she received and the program the kids are a part of- she received \$250; this program is designed to get kids more active, encourage them to make healthy decisions when choosing foods, and to turn off the "screens"; the program will include taste-testing on Tuesdays; Susan is planning on a press release to include elements of the SWITCH program as well as the upgrades to the SMART room

### **Pastor's Report:**

- Father is again advocating for the school to find more ways to fundraise so we don't rely so heavily on the parish subsidy money as the parishes are having a hard time paying – again, parish subsidy payments are up-to-date at this time

### **Old Business:**

- There is an info sheet regarding this year's income as well as years past from the fall cash raffle; our proceeds were down from last year, but similar to the year before; there was some prize money donated back to the school
- a thank you card was sent around from the school staff for the staff Christmas donations

**New Business:**

-A matching funds soup supper will be held on March 7<sup>th</sup> with serving at Sherrill after Mass and in Holy Cross in the evening; more information for family help and donations will come out at a later date; the teachers are working on this

-Beverly Ambrosy did a short presentation on taking advantage of the "Future Ready Iowa" program and the possibility of starting a licensed day care facility in Holy Cross; Bev spoke with the Holy Cross mayor and they have established a need for the day care and he is in favor of helping out in any way; There is a private donor that has contacted Brian and that person would like to help out with the cost; Brian is thinking about a new building being built in town for this day care but he isn't sure where at this point; There could be possible increased revenue for the city and if it's affiliated with the school, even in proximity, then we could possibly have more kids attend LaSalle; This would entail a possible private/public partnership with the town and school; There was a motion made to allow Bev to create a committee to explore our options; she will get back with us on what she finds. This motion was made by Father and seconded by Cindy

There was a motion, per Archdiocesan Policy #4111.22, the La Salle Catholic School Board requests the administration to conduct a review of staffing needs for the 2021-2022 school year. If necessary, as per policy, staff reduction recommendations must be made no later than the regular March board meeting.

Made by Julie and seconded by Shannon for staff reduction

-Catholic schools week will be held the last Sunday of January/first week of February; more info will go out to parents this Friday; this will include a couple of service projects, a couple of out of uniform days; Susan is putting a focus on what we can do and not what we will miss due to COVID

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 was made by Roberta and seconded by Julie

Meeting minutes submitted by: Cindy Hunt