SAN JOAQUIN MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
December 5, 2018
Media Center

BOARD PRESENT
Neil Angelillo ’83, Vice-Chair
Fr. Robert Borges
Edward Fanucchi ’86
Michelle Kusch ’87
Kathryn McDougal
Jeffrey Peracchi ’85
Mona Faulkner, Superintendent (ex-officio)
Msgr. Robert Wenzinger, Rector (ex-officio)
Tom Spencer, Principal (ex-officio)
Shawn Carey, Administrator (ex-officio)
Dennis DuPertuis, Faculty Rep (ex-officio)
Lucina Myers, Secretary

BOARD ABSENT
Susie Byers ’88, Chair
Steven Campos
Jerry Laval
Ralph Muñoz ’85
Doug Sampson ‘84
Tony Smith ‘82

SCHOOL STAFF & GUESTS
Joan Bouchard, Vice-Principal of Academics

Dinner at 5:45 pm.

I. Opening Prayer (6:00 pm)
Fr. Borges led the opening prayer.

II. Call to Order – General Meeting Session (6:05 pm – 6:10 pm)
In Chairman’s Susie Byers’ absence, Board Vice-Chair Neil Angelillo chaired the meeting. As there was no quorum, the minutes of the October 2018 meeting were not approved.

III. Superintendent’s Report (6:10 pm – 6:20 pm)
Superintendent Mona Faulkner reported that St. Helen’s School is fully staff with a new principal and secretary. The new principal is Patti Peterson. Planning for next year has begun. Superintendent Faulkner met with school principals for the launching of “Christian Civility,” a program to improve interactions with adults in our schools. This will be included in next year’s handbooks. Superintendent Faulkner asked how the late start was going at Memorial. Tardiness has dropped significantly. In a student survey (with 289 respondents) 93.8% said the late start has helped them manage their academics better, 87.2% said it helped with participating in extra-curricular activities and 93.1% said it helped them get to class on time.

IV. Chairperson’s Report (6:20 – 6:25 pm)
A. Submission of New Items for New Business
   No new items
B. Dates to Remember
• Board Social, December 20 at Piazza del Pane, 8043 North Cedar Avenue.
• Principal Tom Spencer invited all to Las Posadas, the reenactment of Mary and Joseph looking for a place to stay. It will be Monday, December 10 and Chanel 49 will cover this.

V. School Operations Reports, Joan Bouchard
A. Curriculum (6:25 pm – 6:45 pm)
A committee of Principal Spencer, Vice-Principal of Academics Joan Bouchard, all department chairs and counseling has been meeting to audit, review and update the SJM Course catalog. Prerequisites were updated to support equity and access for all students as well as support college requirements. Comparisons were made to FUSD, CUSD and Central Unified. “Singleton” courses were reviewed and changes were recommended to help with student availability and creating the master schedule:

• AP Composition and AP Literature are now open to all juniors and seniors and can be taken in any sequence.
• World Languages prerequisites changed from a B or better to a C- or better (C students had no class offerings).
• Statistics P course was eliminated (these students can take Trig/Functions, Personal Finance, and/or AP Statistics).
• Biology HP was eliminated (Freshman level class – emphasis is on the foundation, no impact on college admissions).
• Replace Astronomy with Consumer Chemistry or Conceptual Physics to better align with college admissions requirements.
• Replace Algebra 1 Enrichment with Algebra Foundations. Provides elective opportunity for freshmen and builds math success in sophomore-senior years. Focus is on students not ready for Algebra IP.
• Removed GPA pre-req requirement for all classes due to PowerSchool restrictions. All pre-reqs are course specific versus GPA specific.

Course changes will eliminate 8-10 size classes and allow our students to choose more rigorous courses, rather than taking the easier way. AP Seminar is going phenomenally. Course development and A-G approvals for Consumer Chemistry/Conceptual Physics, Algebra Foundations and AP Research still need to be done. The new Course catalog will be available by February 15 and will be used on March 8 for freshmen registration.

SJM currently receives Title II funding from FUSD. We are also eligible for Title I funding ($1,000+ per student), based on where the student resides. Vice-Principal Bouchard is working with FUSD and CSUD to receive these funds for the second semester of 2018-2019. She will also work to build a relationship with Central Unified. Superintendent Faulkner also suggested she add Reedley to the list. Title III funds are for second language learners, based on where the school is located and our international students do count; Title 4 funds are for STEM training. This is all federal money the school districts are getting that we may be entitled to get also.

January 24 there will be an articulation meeting with our partner schools, inviting the principal, vice principal and 7th and 8th grade teachers. In February there will be a math roundtable, again with our partner schools.

VI. Principal’s Report, Tom Spencer & Shawn Carey (7:05 pm – 7:25 pm)
A. Proposal for consideration of multi-child tuition discount
Principal Spencer handed out a Proposal for Consideration of Multi-Child Family Discount for future review, based on having one, two or three children at Memorial at the same time. Three different scenarios will be considered, showing the impact on revenue and the savings for the families. Financial aid would have to be predicated after these amounts are established. The purpose of passing this out is to stimulate discussion as to what can be done to attract more students. Points considered included:

- If you have one in high school and one in elementary, is there something we can do to help?
- Is there an incentive program where someone who went to Catholic School K-8 would get a discounted rate in high school?
- Board member Jeff Peracchi would like a Diocesan employee discount.
- Superintendent Faulkner asked if it would help if we had a Catholic junior high at Memorial. The junior high would get to use high school facilities. It would make K-12 flow better. Elementary schools are having a tough time manning 7-8 grades. We lose many students during these years. They would be in a separate wing. A feasibility study would need to be done. Neither Garces nor Memorial is full at this time. This would help do that.
- K-12 finance plan.
- Can we accommodate more students without additional cost?
- How many more families would we need to attract to all three layers to make it work?

Principal Spencer passed out the Educational Improvement Plan Draft Overview for the Board to review at the next meeting. Vice-Principal Joan Bouchard and Counselor Lisa Cameron chair the WCEA committee. March 31-April 2 is when the representatives of WCEA will be on campus. The visiting team would appreciate the opportunity to meet with the Board on Sunday, March 31.

B. Succession planning update/New Principal Search Process Update
Carney Sandoe posted the Principal position opening and information about our school on Monday, December 3, 2018. Recommendations for the search committee are: Rector, Msgr. Robert Wenzinger; Board Chair, Susie Byers; incoming Faculty Board Representative, Pete Dalena; and Vice-Principal of Students, Anthony Goston. The committee is looking for parents with history of the school to be on search committee. Carney Sandoe should have some information available the first week in February.

C. Advancement Update
The Advancement Program Report was shared. It includes:

- Three engagement opportunities were held this fall, two football pre-game dinners to honor fellow alumni that have passed away (Justin Garza ’93 and Henry Gutierrez ’76) and the 2018 Hall of Fame Induction Dinner. The 2018 induction class included Bob Wagner ’55, John Supino ’58, Peggy McGuire ’79, Justin Garza ’93, Quincy Pondexter ’06 and the 1977-1980 Girls Basketball teams.
- The Advancement Office is piloting an alumni magazine due to come out in early January. Author of the magazine is Sarah Colwell who was the writer for UC Davis’ alumni and donor magazine for five years. She was instrumental in the alumni and donor communications for the UC Davis $1 billion campaign.
• Peter “Chandler” Marquez ‘14 has been hired as an intern. He is a Fresno State senior and is assisting the department with alumni outreach and social media communications.
• Preparations have begun for the Generosity Meets Gratitude scholarship (donor/student recipient) thank you event to be held April 29, 2019.
• The 40th annual auction on November 3, 2018 netted over $240,000.
• The Fund for San Joaquin Memorial High School has received over $70,000; the goal is $150,000.
• Advancement will be applying for a Wells Fargo corporate grant in January.

D. STEAM Update

STEAM is a national movement. Administrator Shawn Carey passed out copies of the newsweekly “Our Sunday Visitor,” showing how Catholic colleges embrace STEM. And we must too. The STEAM mission statement is as follows:

SJM STEAM, in alignment with our School’s Mission Statement, will transform the experience of learning by challenging and empowering our teachers to infuse the theoretical concepts of science and mathematics with authentic and relevant applications in the areas of technology, engineering, agriculture and the arts. This will be accomplished in our Catholic environment of rigorous academic and service-oriented preparation of our students for the high expectations of colleges and careers.

The power of STEAM is not so much what we teach, but how we teach it. Steam is a 3-prong approach to learning: Educational approach, Cross Disciplinary approach and Expansive approach. Students will break out of the classrooms into the community via internships. We need to allocate time and money for training our teachers. The value of a STEAM Diploma is being recognized. A few states have now adopted a seal for the diploma. The College Board has identified independent research, collaborative team work and communication skills as increasingly valued by colleges.

Joe Olivares and Ed Borges are teaching Capstone. There are 34 students in the class, half seniors and half juniors. Dr. Jesus Larralde (Associate Dean, Lyles College of Engineering, CSU, Fresno) wants to connect his professors with our students and use them as mentors on research projects.

VII. New Business –
No new business.

VIII. Adjourn / Closing Prayer
Msgr. Wenzinger led the closing prayer.

IX. Executive Session (If requested) – None requested.

NEXT MEETING: January 23, 2019