

Our Mission: To provide a world class education in the spirit of Jesus

Educating * Mind * Heart * Spirit

Saint Thomas Aquinas School Board Meeting Minutes

August 13, 2019

Board Members Present: Sarah Staley, Fr. Stephen Meyer, Dr. Emily Hill Engstler, Jeanne Hill, Mike Heller

Staff Present: Theresa Schleisman – Principal

Meeting called to order at 5:29pm.

Opening Prayer led by Mrs. Schleisman.

Approval of previous meeting minutes by Sarah Staley and seconded by Jeanne Hill.

School's Budget Report: The budget report for July was reviewed. There are a total of 70 students enrolled in K-6th as of August 8th. There are 35 students in the preschool classes, possibly 36 as of August 8th. The check book balance as of 7/31/2019 was \$118,393.41. The total income was \$27,883.92. The total expenses were \$54,203.21.

It was noted the BLAST program was about \$2500 in the red last year. There was discussion on if BLAST will be continued this year due to the deficit. Other teachers were asked in their interest to work BLAST as well. Discussion on increasing the cost to the participants as well which was agreed upon.

Principal's Report: Mrs. Schleisman developed a newsletter for the school, and it was well received. She states to email her if any additions are recommended. She also wrote a Back to School letter to the teachers and staff. For their teacher in-service, an Escape room program was set up. The school board also agreed upon to pay for the Friday lunch for the teachers/staff. Mrs. Schleisman will obtain the Radon testing update/report.

Parish/Finance Council Report: The parish is down money from last year. There has been discussion to see if members are able to donate more now than at the end of the year.

Unfinished Business:

1. **STO Update** - Information was gathered that you can donate money without Iowa tax credit to STA.

New Business:

1. **Welcome new member Mike Heller**

2. **Approval of contracts – 2nd grade Amy Culberson and Tech/PE teacher Kaeleen Stoneburner.** These were approved by the board. Jeanne Hill was the first and Fr. Meyer seconded the motion. Mrs. Ricke will be doing the 2nd grade religion class.
3. **PAL meeting August 6th in Cedar Falls**
4. **Ideas to increase enrollment to STA –** Discussion on an outreach program or a way to present to other Catholic churches in nearby towns.
5. **SCRIP –** discussion on increasing use of SCRIP and incentives for families. Mike Heller will investigate further how it is used in other Catholic schools.
6. **STA Parent Teacher Meeting –** Discussion on moving the meeting to September 18th and ways to increase the attendance. Discussed ways on increasing involvement of parents/students in the school and increasing the volunteers.

Closing Prayer: Our Father by the group

Meeting adjourned at 6:39pm.

Next meeting: September 10th, 2019 at 5:30pm

Recorded by: Emily Hill Engstler