

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

**Educating \* Mind \* Heart \* Spirit**

**Saint Thomas Aquinas School Board Meeting Minutes**

**November 12, 2019**

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

**Staff Present:** Theresa Schleisman - Principal

**Other attendees:** Heidi Tesdahl

**Meeting called to order at 5:35pm.**

**Opening Prayer led by Fr. Meyer.**

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

**School's Budget Report:** The budget report was reviewed. The check book balance as of 9/1/2019 is \$77,9222.39. The total income was \$189,534.84. The total expenses were \$208,776.72.

**Finance/Parish Council Report - Capitol Campaign Update:** A feasibility consultant will be interviewing about 35 people in the parish regarding fundraising for the church and possibly school. The kick-off for the campaign is planned for January. There are a set of items for the church and possibly the school. The interviews will take place December 2-4, 2019. The final report is due to be completed on December 12. There will be feedback at that time regarding what amount of money could likely be raised.

**Principal's Report:** The school is currently reviewing new Saxon math book texts for next year. It was decided that the BLAST program will be ending due to low numbers and low income. They are considering for next year with new ideas. There was a SWITCH Conference that the 6<sup>th</sup> graders attended last month. This is a program that will support the school by having the students learn more about what we DO, VIEW and CHEW. The school was given a \$500 stipend to use to start a program. The new St. Thomas Polo shirts have arrived and the students love them. They are wearing them Fridays for mass and school. The Three for me system was a success, 95% of people signed up for something. On November 7<sup>th</sup> there was a strategic planning meeting with Alice Conlon. On November 14<sup>th</sup>, there will be a strategic planning video conference. Also, on November 18<sup>th</sup>, there is a plan for a strategic planning session with the staff on professional development day. The prayer partner mass on

November 8<sup>th</sup> was a success. The Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP) results will be shared with parents after November 11<sup>th</sup>. This was the testing that was done in the spring for the 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders. There has been discussion for possible service projects from the school such as Meals for the Heartland, working with RSVP (serving meals and making center pieces for tables), and clean up day for the elderly. There was also an idea regarding pen pals with seniors for the St. Thomas students.

**Old Business:**

1. None

**New Business:**

1. **Strategic Planning Focus Groups** (potential date of December 4<sup>th</sup>)

**Closing Prayer:** Our Father by the group

**Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm.**

**Next meeting:** December 10, 2019, 2019 at 5:30pm

**Recorded by:** Emily Hill Engstler