

St. Bernadette School Advisory Board
Meeting – November 30, 2020

Enrollment Committee Report

Enrollment Committee Meeting Date: 11/18/2020

Meeting Participants: Dan McGeever, Joanne Gallagher, Dean Kenefick, Catherine Glatts

1. Competitive Tuition and Fees

The committee reviewed tuition rates for St. Bernadette in comparison to other local Catholic schools and discussed keeping tuition rates at St. Bernadette competitive with these schools. The committee also researched early childhood tuition rates in the area and provided a report to Principal Montie in order to help in the process of setting tuition rates for the upcoming school year while keeping them competitive with other early childhood programs.

2. Current Enrollment and Boosting Future Enrollment

The committee reviewed the enrollment data for the current school year, noting that enrollment in the grade school has been steady while the early childhood enrollment has suffered due to the restrictions associated with the pandemic. The committee discussed ideas for rebuilding the early childhood enrollment once the pandemic subsides and retaining the current kindergarten students for the 2021-2022 school year. Ideas for boosting enrollment that were discussed included archdiocesan transfer grants, family referral discounts, and boosting the EITC program. The committee also discussed the success of the host family program for prospective students, the process of visiting the school during the pandemic and the possibility of creating a video for prospective students while they cannot visit the school, and the success of a previous program where the school reached out to the families of babies being baptized in the church to create contacts with prospective families. The committee plans to continue to develop some of these ideas throughout the year.

3. Automatic/Continuous Enrollment

The committee reached out to Kara Albanese to learn about the new automatic/continuous enrollment process being implemented this year, which should make the process of enrollment easier for both the school and parents. The automatic process should help parents re-enroll their children sooner, cutting down on the administrative process for the school and making planning for the upcoming school year easier. The system is pretty much in place with the biggest obstacle being setting the tuition and registration fees for the upcoming school year. The committee hopes its research into local tuition rates will help in the process of setting tuition rates for the upcoming school year and in the implementation of the automatic/continuous enrollment process.