

St. Bernadette School Advisory Board
Notes from Zoom Meeting
Monday, November 30, 2020, 7:00 p.m.

In Attendance:

Tom Tobin, Marty Farrell, Kara Albanese, Brian Andruszko, Jim Cant, Bill Doyle, Scott Fremont, Joanne Gallagher, Catherine Glatts, Kevin Kelly, Dean Kenefick, Denise McDonald, Dan McGeever, Michael McKee, Joanne Montie, Jerry Scamuffa, Tara Sweeney, Mike Thornton, Bob Helmig

1. Opening Prayer

Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go. (Joshua 1:9)

2. Welcome to All

3. Information/Updates/Communication

a. Chairperson: Tom Tobin

- Approval of Notes from October 5, 2020 Meeting
- A very warm and sincere note of appreciation to the leaders, teachers, and staff at St. Bernadette School, as they work in such a committed and dedicated manner to making our students' education the very best possible in circumstances never before faced during the COVID Epidemic. They are our front line workers with our children and they touch our future. Particular appreciation is extended to our principal Joanne Montie, Joanne Gallagher representing our teachers and staff, and to our pastor Father Saban.

b. Principal: Joanne Montie

- Joanne received 2 grants recently: DA grant of \$9500. for enclosing the school playground with a fence; and Safety Grant of \$25,000. to install a new school public address system
- \$20,000 was raised for the purchase of air filtration systems for each classroom in the school. Tara Sweeney was thanked for her efforts
- Student enrollment stands at 300 students
- January 4-8 will be a Virtual Week; PreK will be closed that week and the PreK calendar will be extended for one week at the end of the school year.
- The school follows the direction of the Chester County Health Department when making decisions regarding school being in-session and when virtual learning may be necessary
- Mr. Jerry Scamuffa was thanked for his work on addressing the roof and leakage problems
- Staff is preparing for the Middle States Association accreditation visit scheduled for Fall 2021

c. Advancement: Kara Albanese

- Preliminary results for the virtual Turkey Trot show that it was very successful, surpassing previous years. Kara appreciated the Advisory Board's increased participation this year as Turkey Trot registrants, as those who donated online, and as business sponsors.
- Giving Tuesday is on December 1 and St. Bernadette School is part of "I Give Catholic." Board members are encouraged to go the site and consider donating to our school. Minimum donation is \$25.

4. Committee Reports

a. Development: Marty Farrell

- Kudos to Joanne and Kara on fund raising successes, particularly grants, air filtration systems, and Turkey Trot
- Thank you to Brain Andruszko for working to update the contact lists on Donor Perfect
- We are continuing to work on planning an EITC session. Marty is sending information from Joe McGinn of the “Foundation for Catholic Schools” regarding an EITC session for St. Bernadette School supporters on Zoom on Thursday, December 10th at 12 Noon. (Follow-up from Marty: 15 people attended the ZOOM meeting on December 10th with Joe McGinn.)
- Marty provided figures on financial assistance provided to students in 2019-20 and 2020-2021. See “Comparison of Financial Support” report.
- Bob Helmig noted that in addition to EITC/OSTC funds, there are also dedicated parishioners and the Home and School that contribute toward student financial assistance.
- Also working on Annual Fund Drive--- the date to be determined, but aiming for February 2021
- Jerry Scamuffa, Brian Andruszko, and Mike Thornton are developing a “Brick Campaign” to raise funds. Tentatively, bricks would cost approximately \$100 each, providing a profit of \$80. to go toward the infrastructure of the school and parish.

b. Finance: Bill Doyle

Continuing to work on the development of policy and procedures for the school budget preparation process.

c. Facilities: Mike McKee

See Committee Report

d. Enrollment: Thank you to Dan McGeever for taking on the Chairperson role

See Committee Report

5. Future Steps/Actions

Next steps:

- Facilities - will meet with Father Saban to review committee recommendations and direction for future
- Finance - to develop Budget prep planning process and review with Father Saban, Bob Helmig, Joanne Montie, and Tom Tobin
- Development – EITC Zoom session to be held; Annual Fund to begin in months ahead; Brick Campaign being planned; Donor Perfect continuing to be updated

6. Roundtable

7. Adjournment

Next Meeting: Monday, February 22, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.