

St. Joseph's School Home and School Association
Meeting Minutes (Virtual)
7 pm, Wednesday, February 3, 2021

Present

Greg Wesely, Principal
Betsy Joyce, President
Hilary Lamusga, VP
Anna Beery
Michelle Benish
Marie Bitzer

Bri Brekke
Shannon Campbell
Jenna Dwyer
Alex Fitzer
Christy Frost
Shannon Kroon

Brenna Lynn
Leslie Miller
Jolene Owens
Sara Rogers
Cheryl Weimer

Red text = Action item for one or more people

1. Greg led us in prayer.
2. Gala
 - a. \$145,000 net proceeds. Thank you so much for your participation! This is slightly less than last year due to not as many up front sponsors and a few other things.
 - b. \$85,000 raffle proceeds (equal to last year).
 - c. Debriefing meeting will happen next week.
 - d. Betsy wanted to get an idea of how H&S might be able to help with thank yous to donors. Financial thank yous do need to be done internally. Greg feels he missed some opportunities to reach out more to benefactors outside of the school. In the past students have written thank yous, so perhaps H&S could coordinate with teachers to have those written again by students and sending those out to donors.
 - e. It was brought up that some silent auction service items (art, cookies, etc.) may need more clarification and procedures for who wins (both to the winner and the person donating the services).
3. Prayer Chain
 - a. Lisa had suggested (back in November or December) to Hilary that we could have a more formal way to have prayer support within our school. **Suggestions are welcome**, whether we do this virtually (through emails/Friday Letter/sign-up genius) or create an in-person or phone/Zoom prayer group of some type.
4. Greg's updates
 - a. It's great to be back in school. Virtual learning went well but we are thrilled to be back.
 - b. Greg spoke at all the Masses this past weekend for Catholic School Week. We had great feedback from school families as well as parishioners who are proud of our school.
 - c. We had our kindergarten virtual open house and it went really well. Our preschool open house is next week, so please let others know about it. We have a lot of interest in the preschool and all grade levels, which is very exciting.
 - d. Depending on enrollment, we definitely have three 1st grade classes on the table. We'd like to overall stay with two strong classes per grade, but recognize that it will be better for students and families if we can be flexible at times.
 - e. Financial aid applications are due this month. Please reach out if you have questions.

- f. We decided to complete winter MAP assessments this year, and Cathi is currently reviewing those and the results will be sent to parents soon. Our Believe and Read program is going extremely well.
 - g. Parent-Teacher conferences are next week, so please sign up if you are interested. Don't be afraid to sign up for a good news conference!
 - i. H&S takes care of meals for conferences, so we will do what we did for fall conferences. **Lisa will connect with Betsy about how to coordinate that.**
 - h. Lent begins Ash Wednesday, February 17. It's the Year of St. Joseph, and the parish, school, and archdiocese are all working on extra prayers and devotions to celebrate.
 - i. We are really focusing on staffing and enrollment and just generally preparing for next year.
5. Questions/Etc.
- a. Betsy has been in communication with Greg, Lisa, and Julie about a carnival-type, outdoor activity/event sometime this late spring, if we can even do something by May. **This will be an ongoing discussion, so if you have any ideas, pass them along to Betsy.** Greg mentioned that we are also hoping to celebrate our school's 70th anniversary somehow.
 - b. Cheryl asked whose guidance we're following for Covid precautions, including what the plan is for when parents will have the opportunity to attend school Masses. Greg said that we follow the state, then also the archdiocese. There isn't currently a plan for parents to be able to attend Friday Mass, because the spacing for students means we take up the entire church with K-3 as well as grades 4-8, because the students all have to space out (whereas we can fit more people in during weekend Masses, because families don't have to space out among themselves). The last two weeks, school Mass has been live-streamed, but this Friday they will have two Masses in-person for the students (grades 4-8 at 9 am, and K-3 and 10 am). Ash Wednesday's schedule isn't set yet, but we're hoping for two Masses in-person then as well.

Minutes submitted by Sara Rogers

Minutes approved by Betsy Joyce and Hilary Lamusga