

St. George School Board Meeting

October 27, 2015

Those attending were Monsignor Higley, Julie Clingman, Shelly Causey, Megan Stiers, Nathan Kopp, Donna Gleeson, Jeff Englert and Anita Ruga. Teri Weber was also present. Casey Heying was present to represent Home & School. Madison Coleman and Maggie Kotthoff were present to represent the Student Council Officers. Absent were Jocelyn Schluss, Sheri Gerlemann and Craig Hemeyer.

Shelly Causey opened the meeting at 7:06 p.m. and led the opening prayer.

A quorum was established with 6 of 7 school board members present.

Minutes: Minutes were distributed via email prior to the meeting. Jeff Englert moved that the minutes be approved as distributed with one spelling correction. Megan Stiers seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mission Statement Review: The board reflected on the Mission Statement and offered examples of how the mission is lived in daily life. There was lots of participation for Serve St. Louis and at the Share the Spirit concert. The attitude of the students is wonderful and there is a sense of family with students helping each other. Monsignor acknowledges the gifts and talents of all students and was very appreciative of the wonderful liturgy planned by the students at the Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows in Starkenburg. A lady from Pacific found some of the balloons from the living rosary and contacted the school.

Student Council Presentation: The Student Council officers requested a change to the St. George dress code to include jackets of sweatshirt material and dry-fit material in addition to the fleece jackets currently allowed. Jackets would have the school logo and would continue to be purchased through the school. After the presentation, Anita Ruga moved that regulation 5340.1 be changed to include dry-fit and sweatshirt jackets in maroon. Jeff Englert seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Information will be published in the monthly newsletter and presented to Home & School for comments.

Home & School Report: Financial Report – Checking, \$45,945.12; CD's, \$13,966.71, \$1,625.57 and \$3000.00. The Christmas Bazaar will be held on December 13, 2015 with the concert at 4:00 pm in the gym. There will be more signage to direct people to the appropriate locations for the meal and bazaar. Children have made posters for the businesses. There will be crafts for children to make for sale. There will now be a fish fry on December 4 so volunteers are needed since it won't be hosted by a specific class. The next Home & School meeting is November 9 at 7:00 pm.

Athletic Report: Financial Report – Checking, \$4,503.5; Savings, \$9,807.78. An athlete/parent meeting will be held on October 29, 2015 at 6:00 pm. Coaches are Paul Winkleman and Kirby Kotthoff, Girls A team, Nick Godat, Kevin Stiers and David Schnell, Girls B team, Craig Hemeyer and Ricky Vise, Boys A team, and Brett Lampkin and Kevin Stiers, Boys B team.

Scrip Report: Financial Report – Checking, \$5,655.10. There will be no Friday afternoon sales in November and after Christmas. Profit to date is \$4,226.

Lunch Report: Financial Report – Checking: \$754.00, Savings: \$1,644. There are \$800 in outstanding accounts from school families for the first quarter and \$1,300 in outstanding bills for October.

Parish Council Reports: Church of the Risen Savior – There are some dead trees to be removed at the Shrine. They are gearing up for Christmas beginning Thanksgiving weekend. A Veterans appreciation Mass will be November 8 with coffee and donuts after Mass. The Fall Dinner is November 1. St. George – The Knights are looking at handicap accessibility for the cafeteria. Non-perishable food is being collected for the Food Pantry. The Parish Mission will be December 6 through 9, with the Tuesday night session at Church of the Risen Savior. The Shrimp Boil will be held on Saturday, February 6, 2016 with profits going toward the cafeteria project. The Vatican and US flags will be hung from the balcony.

Pastor's Report: The Mass and day at the Shrine were wonderful. Overall, things are going well.

Principal's Report: Mrs. Garner's baby boy arrived a few days early; Sharen Speckhals will be substituting until Mrs. Garner returns after Christmas. Mission Week Activities went well. The penny wars raised \$951 which was split between the Diocesan Peru Missions and Dig Deep Project for Navajo Indians. They collected 430 food items and \$30 in cash for the Food Pantry. The Student Council would like to collaborate with the Public School Student Councils to work with the Park Board to raise money for a new playground. Upcoming dates: 11/03, Sandwich Day; 11/06, Fish Fry & Movie Night; 11/09, Home & School meeting; 11/11, Early Dismissal; 11/12, School Superintendent visit; 11/19, First Reconciliation at Church of the Risen Savior and 11/25-11/29, Thanksgiving break. The National Catholic Education Association (NCEA) meeting will be held in St. Louis in 2017. All faculty in the diocese will be attending.

Finance: Account balances as of September 22, 2015: Main Checking, \$6,702.46; After School Care, \$2,368.97; Preschool checking, \$19,377.11; Main Savings, \$76,463.67; Student Council, \$1,902.57. Payment for the Surface Pro-3's has not yet been made.

Non-Catholic Tuition: Committee consists of Megan Stiers (Chair), Chris Theissen and Teri Weber. The committee met to lay the groundwork for the committee and looked at what we know and what we need to know in order to make an educated decision on whether or not tuition can be reduced for non-Catholic families and how this would impact other parishes.

Curriculum & Development Committee: Training for the Surface Pro 3 was held on October 20, 2015 for both faculty and staff. Faculty is adjusting to the Surface Pro 3; the 8th grade is thoroughly enjoying the device. It has been a great addition to the curriculum and has boosted the 8th grade morale. Discussion of a lease agreement so students can take the Surface Pro home is on-going. Mrs. Clingman will contact the diocesan insurance agent to find out the cost of an insurance rider for replacement cost of the devices. The old faculty laptops may be utilized for 7th graders. The school website update has been put on hold until summer. A language arts work day is planned for the future.

Marketing Committee: The Committee would like to retain 90% of the non-Catholic families currently in the pre-kindergarten class. Several projects and events are planned with targeted dates in each month through March.

Building & Grounds: The Playground Committee met and plans to replace the retaining wall of railroad ties, the railing around the sidewalk and the play structure. They are considering installing a railing around the porch, blackboard paint on the wall of the porch, a climbing structure between the stairs and house, removing the large boulder in the corner, adding swings and building a retaining wall around the fence to keep the pea gravel in the playground. They are researching grants to help with the costs.

Long Range Planning Committee: Work on the fence around the parking lot will begin in mid-November. There will be a 2.5-foot retaining wall around the "open" areas and the fence will be set on top of the retaining wall. The wall between the two buildings must be replaced. Bids will be solicited.

Old Business: Mrs. Clingman will meet with Christina Meyer to discuss the results of the Second Language Survey. Salary of the pre-school aide will be discussed during budget preparation. To date, after-school care income is \$1,445 and expense is \$1,461.05. This is a loss of \$28.05. The Board will watch this cost carefully. Policies 5201, 5315, 5370 and 5520 will be reviewed prior to the next meeting.

Goal Reflection: The Church of the Risen Savior Youth Group is doing great things to spread the faith. The Student Council is vital to the school and has taken on a wonderful leadership role.

Anita Ruga moved that the meeting be adjourned; Nathan Kopp seconded the motion. Monsignor led the closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

The next meeting will be November 24, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Ruga

Msgr. Greg Higley