

St. Catherine of Siena Board of Catholic Education
Minutes for Meeting of 9/7/2021

Opening Prayer:

Roll Call: Present: Father Stef, Mike Jacks, Judy Newberry, Becky Schill, Kip Perkins, Juliane Brown, Raymond Schlosser, Sarah Weinel, Jenny Tallarigo, Sarah Dinkelacker

Absent: Excused:

Pastor's Report (Fr. Stef)

Father welcomed the new board members. He asked for the board's engagement- he wants to hear questions and comments from parishioners, parents, students, and faculty. Father appreciates honest and constructive feedback.

Principal's Report (Mike Jacks)

Enrollment is currently at 110 children (40 in grades K-2, 49 in grade 3-5, and 21 in grades 6-8).

The pulse of the school is upbeat and positive. Teachers and students are happy and excited to be at school. Teachers are developing a growth mindset vs. fixed mindset approach. Individual meetings between the teachers and Mr. Jacks have been set. MAP testing is beginning this week to measure student growth and goals will be set for the individual as well as the class. The school is currently evaluating the Accelerated Reader program (AR) to determine if it is still the best option for the cost.

Religious service hours have been adjusted and a reflective component has been added.

Mike's annual goals are to increase enrollment, academic rigor, and teacher effectiveness.

Mr. Jacks was a founding member of PLC at Xavier University and is very familiar with the approach. This year, he will be evaluating the school's strengths and areas of growth throughout the year and may implement PLC next year.

On October 8, teachers will be attending Professional Development training in the Kagan Structure Workshop designed to boost student learning through full student engagement.

We currently have 2 active Covid cases among students and 4 students are quarantined. All students, teachers, staff, and visitors are masked based on current diocesan protocols. We have a staff member dedicated to cleaning all high touch surfaces throughout the day. All children now sit 6 feet apart in the cafeteria. Some teachers have requested and received plastic corrals at their desks for added protection. Mr. Jacks is receiving a lot of questions about what constitutes a valid Covid test- home tests are currently not valid.

Religious Education Report (Kip Perkins)

Class starts on Sunday, September 12. Open house went very well- mostly reaching younger children.

99 students enrolled in CCD (Grades 1-8 with some high school students as well). Parish wide, 32 will complete the second grade sacraments and 22 eighth graders will complete confirmation. Numbers may increase slightly. There's been quite a bit of turnover in catechists but replacements were found for all but 7th graders. Katie Jacobs and Sara joined and will be teaching 8th grade. We are still in need of a Virtus trained 7th grade catechist. Kip is teaching 7th grade until we find a replacement.

Kip will email parents about the revised diocesan Covid protocols sent out on September 3rd. Kip and the teachers are sanitizing areas of use after classes commence.

Kip will also email parents about the changes in service hours.

Evaluation/Planning Committee Report (Becky Schill)

New board members will be assigned to one of the following committees: evaluation/planning committee, public relations and marketing (development), or policy review committee. Orientation for new board members is on October 18.

Upcoming board meeting dates are: September 7, October 19, November 2, December 7, January 4, February 1, March 1, April 5, May 3. All parishioners are invited to attend.

Policy Review Committee Report (Raymond Schlosser)

Raymond is finalizing the constitution and will stay on as a non-voting member until the constitution is finished. Article 2 section 2 (mission statement) and section 3 (board member tenure) are in progress. Our last school wide evaluation showed we need to look at our mission statement again – this should be the driving force of the school and school board.

School policies may be revisited by the new board members. Once finalized, a copy of the policies will be provided to the school parents.

Public Relations/Marketing Committee Report (Sarah Weinel)

The goals of the committee are to communicate with the various public about the programs and listen to the public's needs and concerns. The board president (BOCE@stcatherineofsiena.org) and Sarah Weinel (sweinel@hotmail.com) are available if the public wishes to share any questions, concerns, or ideas. Recruitment is a goal - Sarah has a few ideas about recruitment. For promoting the programs of school and parish-based programs, we hired a marketing director 2 years ago and can work with that. St. Catherine School was in the Fourth of July parade and we hope to do it again next year. The St. Catherine parade banner will be given to Mr. Jacks for the school's use. Colts Kudos (someone did something for the school) and Colts quotes from students (what makes St. Catherine special, why was a Catholic education special to them, what they like about St. Catherine) have been added to the bulletin when space is available.

Representative Updates

PTO Update: (Mike Jacks)

Finance Update Report:

Mums sale is in September. This month's PTO meeting consisted of introductions and committee assignments.

Pastoral Council Update: (Judy Newberry)

No Report.

Faculty Update: (Mike Jacks)

No Report.

Closing Prayer: Becky

Adjournment: