

All Saints Catholic Academy

School Board Meeting Minutes February 18, 2020

School Board Members Present:	Christi Kluzak, Katie Coglianese, Marlon Lutfiyya, David Dieter, Matt Smilak, Megan Thies, Mike Devine, Anne Marie Cronin
Ex-Officio Members Present:	Melissa Santos, Chris Johanneson
Others Present:	Patty Bajek, Diane Huber, Wayne Klein
Minutes	The January meeting minutes were approved.

Nonvoting Committee Reports

<u>ASPA</u>

- The last meeting was January 21, and the next meeting is scheduled for April 27.
- The Executive Team is scheduled to meet with Mrs. Santos on March 24.
- The association continues to plan for upcoming events, including: the junior high bowling event scheduled for March 17; the Daddy-Daughter dance scheduled for April 25; and a bingo event scheduled for May 8.

Pastor Report No report

Trustees Report

- Wayne Klein provided the report for the Board of Trustees (BoT).
- The BoT is currently working on: making calls to support the Annual Appeal (the amount collected to date is approximately \$8,000 short of the goal); and increasing the visibility of the school within the respective parishes.
- The BoT is reevaluating its purpose and structure, and has considered functioning as a subcommittee of the School Board.
- It has also discussed the feasibility of a school governance model that would (1) relieve the principal of responsibilities for fundraising and (2) reallocate those responsibilities elsewhere—for example, to a "pastoral president" role, which would need to be created.
- The BoT has consulted with Fr. Scott and Fr. Belmonte, who have recommended that it make no changes to the school governance model until the school has officially hired a new principal.
- The School Board has decided to pursue the governance model considered by the BoT.
 - The decision aligns with the Board's strategic plan, which includes goals related to the revision of the school's governance structure.
 - A subgroup of the School Board, with Wayne Klein's assistance, will initiate conversations with Fr. Paul, Fr. Danaher and Fr. Scott to investigate the ability of the supporting parishes to fund a pastoral president position.

• The subgroup will also develop recommendations related to the position, such as a job title, responsibilities, and a schedule for communication with the parishes.

Principal Report

- Recent Illnesses
 - With the large number of absences ASCA has experienced recently, it has been in contact with Districts 203 and 204 regularly, and with the DuPage County Health Department daily.
 - ASCA has taken several actions to help fight the spread of illness. For example, it has paid to have every classroom disinfected regularly.
 - The school is also frequently conducting analyses of absences to the determine the percentage of those due to illness.
 - Many of the absences have been due to other reasons: travel, injuries, precautionary measures, etc.
 - The school has not yet decided to close. But it continues to assess the situation so that it can make the determination most appropriate for the students, and it continues to keep all options open.
- Calendar Confirmation
 - Mrs. Santos has been in contact with St. Raphael and Saints Peter and Paul to discuss their 2020-21 school calendars. The proposed ASCA calendar is the same as the calendars for Saints Peter and Paul and the schools in District 203.
 - The School Board voted to approve the ASCA calendar (referenced in last month's minutes) that Mrs. Santos proposed.
- Information from Winter Seminar
 - Teacher Shortage
 - Illinois is experiencing a teacher shortage, and districts in southern and central Illinois have been impacted the most.
 - To address the shortage, Illinois has relaxed licensure requirements.
 - Among other things, it has also: expanded opportunities for individuals with bachelor's degrees to achieve substitute licensure; and established reciprocity with other states with respect to the requirements for teacher licensure.
 - The Diocese of Joliet is also considering increases to the teacher salary schedule.
 - Culture
 - The Board is considering ways to encourage a positive culture at ASCA, especially among ASCA parents, since culture has a significant impact on teacher retention.
 - A negative culture can drive effective teachers to public schools, which pay more.
 - The Board encourages respectful parent-teacher interactions, and is brainstorming ways to communicate related best practices.
 - Funding Teacher's Students
 - Catholic school teachers who have children in Catholic schools can be at a disadvantage relative to public school teachers who do, due to the difference in salaries.
 - Teachers at ASCA receive a 50% tuition credit for each child (teachers at Benet can send their children to Benet for free.).

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- ASCA is reviewing ways to offer additional help; that will help incentivize teachers to come to All Saints.
- Fr. Jeff Meeting
 - The School Board is scheduled to meet with Fr. Jeff (Diocese of Joliet) on March 17.

Agenda Items

- Enrollment Update (Patty Bajek)
 - As of February 16, enrollment for the 2019-20 school year is at 437 students.
 - The school is still enrolling students for the current school year. Two students enrolled in February—a PK4 student and a second-grade student.
 - Ninety-seven students at ASCA are new as of the 2019-20 school year.
 - The re-enrollment of current students for the 2020-21 school year began on January 24.
 - Excluding the class of 2020, 44 students have not re-enrolled.
 - Eighteen of those students will not return to All Saints.
 - The school is waiting for a decision from the other students.
 - The open house that the school conducted in January was very successful.
 - The event drew 36 new families and 47 potential students.
 - About 1/3 of the families that attended the open house (11) registered for the next school year.
 - In all, 27 students registered for the next school year. Many of them (10) will be in kindergarten.
 - Enrollment for next year is currently at 360.
 - Forty-seven students have applied for Tuition Tax Credit Scholarships for the 2020-21 school year.
 - Through Empower Illinois, the school currently has enough funding for six students.
- Principal Search Update (Patty Bajek)
 - ASCA has conducted first- and second-round interviews of candidates.
 - The Search Committee has settled on a candidate, who will visit the school to meet with Fr. Paul. At that time, the school expects to extend an offer.
 - If the candidate accepts, Mrs. Santos will be available to work with the candidate on the transition of responsibilities.
- Vice President (of the School Board) Nominations
 - The Board is considering candidates for the role of Vice President for the 2020-21 school year.
 - Anne Marie Cronin will roll off the Board after the end of the current school year.
 - The current Board members are in the following years of their terms:
 - Kati Coglianese (2nd)
 - David Dieter (1st)
 - Marlon Lutfiyya (2nd)
 - Anne Marie Cronin (4th)
 - Gina Gilmore (1st)
 - Matt Smilak (3rd)
 - Mike Devine (1st)
 - Christopher Johanneson (4th)

- Megan Thies (2nd)
- Finance Budget Reforecast (Christopher Johanneson)
 - $\circ~$ A reforecast was completed on December 3.
 - A line item for bad debt expenses was added.
 - The bad debt is manageable, and the school does a good job reducing it each quarter.
 - The school does not need to direct revenue toward maintenance costs for parking lot expenses.
 - The school went from a surplus at the beginning of the year to a deficit, due in part to less-than-expected enrollment and, accordingly, less revenue.
 - Salary and wage costs also increased: a social worker and IT employee increased their hours per week over the school year.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 17.