

# All Saints Catholic Academy June 16, 2020 School Board Meeting Minutes

School Board Members Present: Kati Coglianese, Anne-Marie Cronin, Mike Devine, David Dieter, Gina Gilmore, Christi Kluzak, Marlon Lutfiyya, Matt Smilak, Megan

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Ex-Officio

**Members Present:** Melissa Santos, Chris Johanneson

Others Present: Marjorie Marshall, Patty Bajek, Diane Huber

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting will be approved via Google Forms.

#### **Agenda Items**

• Introduction to Mrs. Marjorie Marshall

- Melissa welcomed Margie to the school board meeting. Margie's tenure officially begins July 1.
- Budget Presentation (Chris Johanneson)
  - Bishop Pates will ask each of ASCA's supporting parishes to contribute at least \$60k to the school's budget, for a total of \$300k. A parish's current contributions to the school would count toward the \$60k. Parish priests have been receptive to the idea of additional contributions from their parishes, but no agreements have been made. Bishop Pates has not provided a specific timeline for when he might arrange for contributions from the parishes.
  - Contributions from parishes would help cover an estimated budget shortfall of \$300k+ for the 2020-21 academic school year. Based on the bond loan structure with the order of Catholic Foresters, the budgeted bond interest expense for the 2020-21 school year is approximately \$128k. ASCA is now also responsible for the bond principal expense, which is approximately \$200k for the school year (for a total north of \$300k).
  - The Finance Committee has not yet met to discuss the draft budget in its current form. Normally, the committee would have reviewed the budget already, but the pandemic has forced it to wait to account for uncertainties. Mike Bava, CFO of the Diocese of Joliet, asked ASCA school administrators to present the draft budget to the board anyway, with the idea that it will need to be fine-tuned in accordance with relevant developments.
  - The current draft of the budget includes certain assumptions, among others:
    - Maintenance of two student sections in grades K-7, and three sections in grade 8.
    - A curriculum that includes Spanish; and a librarian.
    - The elimination of a dedicated PT Tech Teacher (we still have a PT-IT/Data resource staff member), and the continued integration of



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education about information technology into classroom instruction at each grade level.

- An enrollment of 406 students.
- A preschool enrollment of 52 (enrollment for the 2019-20 school year ended at 53).
- No increase to preschool or K-8 tuition.
- The continuance of a multi-child tuition discount for full-time kindergarten through eighth grade families.
- The board discussed potential ways to reduce anticipated expenses for the 2020-21 school year, including a refinance of the school's capital loan. ASCA would need to work with Mike Bava to refinance the loan (the loan was granted to the diocese).
- The school board will receive another budget update at its meeting in July.

### Enrollment Update

- ASCA finished the 2019-20 school year with 432 students. The school had budgeted for 442 students.
- To date, 43 students new to ASCA have enrolled for the 2020-21 school year.
- Total enrollment is currently at 379.
- Fifty-one students have applied for Tuition Tax Credit Scholarships through Empower Illinois for the next school year. Forty students are currently on the waitlist. Six students from three current ASCA families have received awards. Additional awards in the amount of \$8k total are still available.
- The Catholic Education Foundation has awarded \$21k to 17 ASCA students.
   The school is working with the relevant sponsoring/supporting parishes on financial assistance award packages.
- ASCA received three additional preschool registrations after the resumption of in-person tours in June.

### Diocese Update/Fall School Opening Update

- The diocese has announced that schools in the diocese will reopen in the fall (August). The school and school board are brainstorming ways to market the reopening.
- ASCA has received a template from the diocese for a reopening plan. The template is due June 30. Melissa, in consultation with Margie, has already spearheaded the development of a reopening plan. Margie will transfer the plan to the template by the deadline.
  - After the diocese reviews the plan, it will likely offer suggestions.
- ASCA continues to focus on contingency plans for remote learning in the event of a disruption to the current plan for reopening.

#### Teacher Update

- o Mary Fodor (Grade 6 language arts) has resigned.
- The school is looking for someone who can work part-time as a language arts teacher and provide IT instruction part-time.
- ASCA hired a new junior high math teacher.



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- $_{\odot}\,$  The incoming second grade class has 25 students. The budget for the 2020-21 school year assumes two teachers at that grade level. That may change.
- Current Board Member Status/New Members
  - o Matt Smilak will roll off the board at the conclusion of the 2019-20 school year.
  - Ann-Marie Cronin will roll off the board at the conclusion of the 2019-20 school year.
  - Christi Kluzak will become an ex officio member of the board next year.
  - Chris Johanneson will continue to provide support to the board through Margie's transition, and at school board meetings next year.
  - The board discussed potential changes to its process for soliciting nominations for new board members. Margie will look to Fr. Paul and current members of the board from some guidance and insight as she transitions into her role.

The next 2019-2020 regularly scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, July 14.