



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 17, 2023

6:00 PM, Lower Campus Library

Board Member Attendees: John McMahon, Patrick Ellis, AJ Fossel, Joel Postma, Daniel Longo

Special Guest: Dave Faber

School Staff Attendees: Joe Gietzen & Amanda Cusack

Excused Absences: Darrell Beckwith & Father George

Patrick Ellis opened the meeting in prayer at 6:00pm

Patrick moved to approve tonight's agenda and September's minutes, AJ seconded the motion. Approved by consensus.

Dave Faber discussed our growth over the past 12 years. We are now one of the largest Catholic elementary schools in the Diocese, sharing first place with Holy Spirit at 335 students. These numbers are looking at PS3 - 8, if we include all of our childcare we would now be the largest. Mr. Faber credited the leadership of Michael Debri, Joe Gietzen, and Beckie Patterson for this growth.

Mr. Faber congratulated ASA on our progress report results.

Mr. Faber shared the Diocesan Strategic Plan. This plan will be unveiled at the Diocesan Summit on November 8. Mr. Faber walked through the Strategic Plan. The handout shared today can be used as an intention map for individual board committees.

Mr. Faber shared the results of the self evaluation survey taken in the spring. He encouraged the Board to create and maintain a committee on New Members; an ideal chairperson could be someone that works in talent acquisition or human resources. This committee would keep a running list of members that are rolling off and potential new members to bring to Father for consideration. It was also suggested, based on the self evaluation, that the Board's work be shown in school newsletters.

Joe Gietzen opened voting for executive committee members. Discussion and voting was done in executive session. The executive committee for the 2022 - 2023 school year will be:

Chairperson: AJ Fossel
Vice Chairperson: Joel Postma
Secretary: Dan Longo

Joe will give an annual report via email before the next meeting.

Joe gave the principal's report. Middle school students have gone on their class retreats; these have gone well for each class. Upper Campus students participated in Eucharistic Adoration. MAP testing is completed and 8th graders will take their PSAT on October 18. Fifth graders attended Farm School at the Franciscan Life Process Center in Lowell; they will attend again in the winter and spring. Some Upper Campus students were able to participate in Catholic Central's Marching Band Night. The second grade class visited John Ball Zoo to see some of the animals they learned about in science class. Sixth through eighth grade students visited Art Prize with parent chaperones. The University Of Notre Dame of Grand Rapids completed the landscaping for the outdoor Stations of the Cross, the stations are arriving soon and will be installed upon arrival. A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held upon the completion of the area.

Joe reminded the board that accreditation is next week. Interviews of Board Members will be held on Wednesday the 25th at the Lower Campus.

New Board Members are still a necessity. If you know of a candidate, please contact your Parish priest and Father George with your recommendation.

AJ Fossel, Joel Postma and Dan Longo thanked John McMahon and Patrick Ellis for their years of service as Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

Joe Gietzen closed with prayer at 7:18pm