

SAINT MARY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday, December 7, 2015

Members in Attendance: Marietta Bufalino-Devitt, Jeanne Coogan, Sharon Edwards, Father Dan, Bob Gutierrez, Teresa Li, Jason Miller, Michael Perry, Nikki Raftery, Laura Robinson, and Lacey Rust

Members Absent: Barb Elder

Others in Attendance: None

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Teresa Li at 7:00 p.m.

Opening Prayer: Lacey Rust gave the opening prayer

Approval of Meeting Minutes: The minutes from the November 9th meeting were circulated for review, approval at the meeting and are posted on the school web site

Visitors' Comments:

- N/A

Pastor's Report:

- Father Dan provided a status for the To Teach Who Christ Is campaign. As of 12/7/2015, the Parish had raised \$2.3 million, \$400,000 ahead of the original goal.
 - Projects will need to be staged over the 5 year donation period
 - Given the favorable progress, the sewer project was added to the improvements covered by the campaign
 - A new locking system will be installed over Christmas break
 - Requests for Proposals will be sent for the roof work
 - Lighting will be added in the parking lot over time as funds allow
- Also related to the campaign, there was a report that some donors had not received confirmation from the Parish regarding their pledge. Father Dan encourages anyone who has submitted a card, but not received a response, to follow-up with the Parish office.
- After the campaign, a scrub of the Parish roster will begin in the spring. Once the roster is clean, there will be a survey sent to gain insight into what services, ministries, programs, etc. are important to the current parishioners
- Father Dan also discussed the Year of Mercy, which began on December 8th with the Feast of the Immaculate Conception

“Dear brothers and sisters, I have often thought of how the Church may render more clear her mission to be a witness to mercy; and we have to make this journey. It is a journey which begins with spiritual conversion. Therefore, I have decided to announce an Extraordinary Jubilee which has at its centre the mercy of God. It will be a Holy Year of Mercy. We want to live in the light of the word of the Lord: “Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful” (cf. Lk 6:36). And this especially applies to confessors! So much mercy!” Pope Francis

Principal's Report:

- The Science Fair is Thursday and Friday, December 10 & 11. Judges were still needed at the time of the Board meeting
- Barnes and Noble will be held in Deer Park, given the impending closing of the Lincolnshire store
- Many other school activities going as scheduled: Angels and Shepherds Mass Sunday at 11:30 (12/13); Band Concert on Monday (afternoon and evening) (12/14); Reconciliation (12/15); Lessons and Carols (12/17)
- The ski trip is tentative given the weather – if not on 12/18, then may be rescheduled to February (also dependent on the weather)
- The school Open House will be held as part of Catholic Schools Week on January 31st after 11:30 Mass
 - We discussed how to increase attendance of current students so we can showcase the school to both existing and prospective families
 - Tours will be done by the School Board and perhaps the FSO Board. A FAQ sheet will be compiled to assist with providing information
 - Current preschool families will be solicited for re-enrollment prior to the open house so the number of available spots is known
 - We will consider opening a 5th preschool room if enrollment supports it
- The refund policy around registration fees was discussed, given the amount of time and effort that goes into onboarding a new student that may cancel their enrollment just prior to school commencing
 - The Board agreed it was reasonable to make the registration fee 50% refundable before 6/1, and non-refundable after 6/1
- For Jingle Jubilee, we discussed bringing back a parent chairman/couple to participate in the overall planning and coordination of the event with Debbie Eppel, who has led it for the past 3 years. This could be a two year volunteer opportunity, with two couples each year, one rolling on and one rolling off. This will help bring new ideas and participants to this important fund raising event

President's Report:

- Points covered in notes from other discussions

New Business:

- Laura Robinson informed the group that there is a Trivia Night sponsored by the Women's Club and St Mary FSO on January 16th

Old Business:

- N/A

Liaison Committee Reports:

- **Financial Report**
 - No report

- **FSO:**
 - No report

- **SMAA**
 - No report

- **Jingle Jubilee**
 - Over \$100 thousand was raised and will go toward the multi-year project to update the locker rooms and bathrooms in the Activity center

Closing Prayer: Lacey Rust gave the closing prayer.

Motion to Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, January 4, 2016