

**SKDS School Board Meeting
January 21, 2014**

Attendees: Beth Jens, Barb Haase, Heather Eggers, Tracy Gundert, Mark Roedl (Parish Council Liaison), Hector Ramirez, Jennifer Merrill, and Tricia Cargen.

Meeting called to order at 7:04PM. Beth Jens led us in prayer.

December Meeting Minutes

Tracy Gundert approved the minutes; Beth Jens seconded the motion.

Audience Eyes and Ears

No comments.

Correspondence

Barb Haase shared that we received our annual accreditation from WRISA.

Pastor's Report

Barb shared information from a conversation with Father Mike. There are discussions regarding having families make a financial commitment for the school year, prior to the school year starting. For example; requiring the first tuition contract payment due by August 1 would assist with cash flow with regard to ordering materials and other budgetary requirements. One suggestion was to add an option to the contract for 12 monthly payments starting July 1 – June 30. (This needs to be discussed with the Parish Business Office.)

Father Mike is working on creating the family reflection sheet for Lent. Families will be asked to attend Mass during Lent and reflect on the experience and their insights.

Administrator's Report

Brenda White, Associate Superintendent from the Archdiocesan Office for Schools, is coming on April 1 to the Parish Council meeting to present information about School Choice and answer questions. The School Board will also attend the meeting which will be at 7:00PM in the Parish Center – Mission Hall.

Wisconsin Tax Deduction for Tuition Expenses for the 2014 tax year was presented. A copy will be going home in the Family Folder

Catholic Schools Week – Everyday has a theme and activities planned. We are very lucky to have Mark Van Guilder from the Milwaukee Admirals as our guest speaker for students on Wednesday. A flyer will be sent home in the Family Folder that outlines the activities for each day.

There has not been a large response from families to assist with the kick-off Mass and following activities.

4th Grade Band Initiative – this year fourth graders are being invited earlier to try out the instruments and learn more about instruments, music etc. The goal is that students will have a better feel for what they want to play and what being in band means.

We receive E-Rate funding for technology and telephone funding – this is a Federal funding program the public and private schools receive. We have to develop a Children’s Internet Protection Act policy indicating that our children do not have access to inappropriate items on the internet; the internet is closely monitored, etc. Barb will develop the policy and present the information to the School Board and families at the next School Board meeting. All families are invited to the February School Board meeting to review the policy and information. This policy information will also be sent home.

No break taken.

Committee Reports: No committee reports

Parish Council Update: Barb Haase, Beth Jens, and Jill Kauffmann attended the Parish Council meeting on behalf of the School Board. Barb reported the following from the meeting. Topics covered included: Mass attendance - if families are receiving the member tuition rate then they should be attending Mass and supporting the parish financially, school family Mass reflection sheets were discussed, voucher programs, integrating school families into FIRE ALIVE events.

Discussion around youth Masses – possibly offering Mass later in the day on a Sunday, when sports, etc. are done for the weekend. Other parishes have moved to this model and are experiencing success with this.

Communications/Technology – Parish Council attended a meeting at the Archdiocese last week to discuss technology and communications. Our parish is right in the middle compared to other parishes. The outcome of this conference is that we need to take a step back and make a strategic plan for the future on how we will move forward and advance our technology. We need to work as a team to develop a list of what needs to be done that aligns with our five year plan.

Old Business/New Business – None

Meeting Adjourned: 8:40PM