

St. Gerald School Advisory Board

2015-2016 School Year

Approved Minutes

October 12, 2015

School Library – 7:00 p.m.

Opening: Opening Prayer

Roll Call-Attendees: Dennis Rinkol, Buffy Larson, Kris Sigmund, Nancy Kochanowicz, Allison Balus, Phil LaSala, Michaela Goerke

Approve minutes from last meeting: Phil LaSala provided the motion to approve the September minutes. Buffy Larson to second motion to approve.

Welcome Visitors: No visitors.

Principal Report:

- Keep Karen Zurek and family in your prayers
 - The funeral was last Friday for her grandson, Miles
 - St. Gerald raised over \$1100 for the family
- Picture Retakes will be on Wednesday, October 14; pictures went home on October 12
- Rosary on Thursday mornings through October for families, staff, and students
 - 7:25 AM in the chapel
- Field Trips this month;
 - Hitchcock 1st grade: Thursday, October 15th
 - OWH/Boys Town 4th grade: Friday October 16th
 - 7th Grade on Tour of the City in Ollie the Trolley – last week
- Mrs. Goerke is attending an AdvancEd Workshop on October 19-20 ESU #3
 - Will provide another level of accreditation for the school
- First Quarter Report Cards – October 26 – electronic only except K and 1
 - Unless a parent requests a hard copy
- Halloween Parties: October 28
 - The schedule is a little different from what was on the calendar at the beginning of the year
 - Parade at 1:45 p.m.
 - Parties at 2:15

- No noon dismissal
- Parent-Teacher conferences will take place on October 29
 - Using online scheduling again
 - For middle school parents, they can sign up to see three teachers but during that time period can meet with any teacher who is available
 - ½ day of school (noon dismissal) followed by conferences from 1:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- Quarter Break: October 30th – no school
- Saints Wax Museum by the 8th Grade will be at the Church after 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses on November 1st; at the school on the morning of Thursday, November 5th
- November 9: No School – School of Faith and Six Traits Writing Sessions
 - Had the first Six Traits Writing Session last Friday – it was excellent
- November 11: Veteran’s Day Mass and Assembly
- December 10: Christmas Program K-5 at 7:00 p.m. at the church at 96th and Q
 - Carpooling is suggested
 - In the past, when the program was at the church, there has been concern about disrespectful behavior at the church before and after the program.
- December 13: First Reconciliation for 2nd grade
- December 17: A Christmas Carol middle school performance in the gym
 - We do not yet know the time
 - This will be instead of the spring middle school performance because we want to do Living Stations in the spring during Lent.
- Preschool Update
 - Tobi put together a draft preschool survey through SurveyMonkey.
 - A discussion was held on revisions to the survey.
 - A link to the survey will be placed in the Bulletin, on the website, in an email to school families, and on Twitter.
- Athletics
 - There’s been some issues with volleyball, coaching, playing time. Mrs. Goerke’s message to parents has been that she has nothing to do with athletics. Chad Rourke is the Athletic Director, so he is the one to go to with any issues.

Assistant Principal Report: None because Mrs. Keenan was absent.

Committee Reports:

- Maintenance: None
- Home and School: (Buffy L.) They had a meeting two weeks ago. Discussed Halloween parties. Talked about Bake for Books. Starting to plan the Walk of Pride.
- Parish Council: None because Katie D. was absent.
- Finance: None

- Recruitment: (Kris S.) The size of the Committee has dwindled to five. Home and School has too many members, so Buffy L. will ask Home and School committee members to volunteer to switch to Recruitment. The Committee is trying to prioritize. It met with Fr. Korte to discuss goals. The next agenda item for the Committee is the Sunday before Catholic Schools Week and Open House.

Pastor Report: Father could not make it and did not provide a Report.

SAB President:

- Mrs. Goerke and Mrs. Keenan have been trying to find a time to meet with Dennis R. The goal is to identify 3 or 4 things they would like the Board to accomplish. The Board will then strive to complete 1 or 2 of those things before the end of the year and carry the remainder over to be completed the following school year.

Subcommittee from Parrish Planning Retreat (Phil LaSala)

- The next Subcommittee meeting is October 14, and the next Parrish Planning meeting is October 21. The goal is to provide specific ways to develop a stronger Christian community. These were the ideas discussed for the school:
 - Promote service learning for our kids. This builds on what we talked about last month.
 - New Castle was in touch with Mrs. Wanek. They have needs for certain items, especially in their Alzheimers unit. The school will set up a drive. But the school also plans to make things for the residents and may get a group to visit, something like our Veterans Committee visiting veterans there.
 - Also, there is a student working on his eagle scout project. He is going to do something like the mitten tree in November. The school does not want to do the food drive at the same time so it will perhaps do a food drive with student council in the spring.
 - More clearly communicate different prayer methods the kids are learning with Father Korte to encourage families to improve the quality of their prayer lives.
 - *Pride Report* highlights of our Christian faith in action that could promote ideas for other families on what they can do to put their Christian faith into action within their own homes.
 - We discussed setting up a school board email address for the purpose of the board receiving and filtering entries and then passing selected ones along to Mrs. Goerke.
 - Mass greeters and ushers. How to encourage systematic student participation?
 - Ushers should be limited to 5th through 8th graders.

- Dennis R. will connect with Katie D. to find out who is in charge of scheduling greeters and ushers and invite them to a future SAB meeting.

Next Meeting: November 9, 2015 (Monday) at 7:00 p.m. in the school library