

St. Gerald School Advisory Board

2016-2017 School Year

Approved Minutes

November 10, 2016

School Library – 7:00 p.m.

Opening (Nancy Kochanowicz)

Prayer-Lectio Divina- I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you. Psalm 32:8

Roll Call- Attendees-Kris Sigmund, Nancy Kochanowicz, Phil LaSala, Michaela Goerke, Christy Keenan, Carisa Dillon, , Natalie Whitman, Sarah Cunningham, Tobi Mathouser
(Absent: Fr. Mark Nolte, Katie Digilio, Nikki Batenhorst, Allison Balus)

Approval of October Minutes-Phil LaSala provided the motion to approve the October minutes with one change indicating that Allison Balus was not present. Natalie Whitman seconded the motion to approve. The minutes were then approved by a unanimous vote of the Board.

Principal Report (Michaela Goerke)

- **PreK enrollment** for current school families begins next week. After Christmas, registration will be open to new families.
- **Guided Reading Professional Development Opportunities for Guided Reading.** As we are moving toward adopting Guided Reading, and acknowledging the importance of differentiated instruction and the movement toward Balanced Literacy with Guided Reading, the Catholic Schools Office is offering the First Steps in Guided Reading through three PD sessions running from 3-4:30.

Session I- November 30th: Balanced Literacy and Gradual Release of Instruction....This session will focus on how to move toward more responsibility of learning placed on the student.

Session II- Jan.19th: Differentiation – Daily Five* and breakout sessions based on grade taught....Movement away from whole group instruction and how to set up Reading Rotations/Stations in a classroom.

Session III- Feb. 9th: Next Steps to Guided Reading-Administrators Only...Discussion on PD trainings needed to move forward, Benchmark Kits and Book Rooms.

*The Daily 5 is a framework for structuring literacy time so students develop lifelong habits of reading, writing, and working independently. How does it work?

Students select from five authentic reading and writing choices, working independently toward personalized goals, while the teacher meets individual needs through whole-group and small-group instruction, as well as one-on-one conferring. These choices include

- Read to Self,

- Work on Writing,
- Read to Someone,
- Listen to Reading, and
- Word Work

The benefits of The Daily 5 for teachers and schools included the following

- Students develop independence, stamina, and accountability;
- Less time consumed by classroom management leaves more for instruction;
- The framework adapts flawlessly to district-adopted curriculums and state mandates;
- Improves school-wide literacy achievement; and
- Independence transfers to other content areas.

- **Veterans Mass** and Assembly tomorrow
- **Accreditation Visit** A visit from head of external team is scheduled for 11/15. Expectations of the actual Accreditation visit will be discussed.
- **State of Nebraska Textbook Loan Program** New changes to the loan program, inclusive of consumables and e-books, may benefit St. Gerald. Michaela will work with Ralston School District to identify what is available to St. Gerald.
- **PreK-5th Christmas Program** December 15th 7:00PM 96th & Q

Assistant Principal Report (Christy Keenan) None

Pastor Report (Fr. Mark Nolte) None

Committee Reports

- Home & School (Sarah Cunningham)
Finishing up details on Teacher Conferences, now working on Saint Nick's Day. For those interested in helping distribute/donate candy, please contact H&S if you'd like to volunteer. H&S is considering ridding of the Bake for Books sale. There is a lot of work required for this event and little money is raised. H&S may look at replacing this event with another fundraising activity or consolidating fundraising events.
- Recruitment Committee (Natalie Whitman)
No meeting has been held. Open house is tentatively planned for the last Sunday in January. Recruitment Committee is currently gathering availability of members so that a meeting date can be set.
- Maintenance Committee
SAB provided no comments on the October minutes.
- Finance Committee

None

- Parish Council (Nancy reported for Katie Digilio)

Parish Council is on Chapter 2 of the Maintenance to Mission book entitled Divine Renovation.

Pending Business

- School's Policy Review Update (Phil LaSala)

Phil reported that we are still waiting on the Archdiocese's revised policies with final edits. Patrick Slattery stated that it may be closer to Christmas. Phil will follow up after the New Year.

SAB President:

*Stewardship Fair: Nancy Kochanowicz

Should SAB have a presence? It was decided that we will not have a presence this year. It is more effective for SAB, which are elected positions as opposed to voluntary positions, to set up individual tables during the time of year when we are recruiting for open positions, typically in April. At this time, we will approach H&S and Recruitment Committee to see if they would be interested in having a presence as well. We will also request that an announcement is made at the end of mass.

*School Bulletin Board at 96th & Q for December: Nancy Kochanowicz
January 2017: Natalie Whitman

Ideas for Bulletin Board: Photos of Boxes of Joy, Mitten Tree Gifts, Middle School Play (March 2017), New Cassel Retirement gifts, Veteran's Day Mass, etc.

*Schedule December Social at Kris Sigmund's house – December 13th 6:00pm. Drinks will be provided. Please bring snacks to share. Kris will send address out as we approach the date. Invitation to follow.

Closing Prayer

Adjournment

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 6:30 School Library