

## St. Gerald School Advisory Board

2016-2017 School Year

Approved Minutes

May 9, 2017

School Library – 7:00 p.m.

### Opening (Nancy Kochanowicz)

Opening Prayer

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

Welcome Visitors: Bridget Wilson

Approval of April Minutes- Allison Balus provided a motion to approve the April minutes as changed. Phil LaSala to second the motion to approve. The April SAB minutes were approved with a unanimous vote of the Board.

Member/New Member Introductions (All members)

### Principal Report (Michaela Goerke)

- Calendar Events
  - Thursday, May 11:
    - Casual Day for students who bring in one bag of candy for the St. Gerald float in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade.
    - St. Gerald Arts Showcase **NEW TIME 1:30 in the gym!**
    - Last Day to use Middle School Coupons!
  - Friday, May 12:
    - May Crowning/Mother's Day Mass
    - This is considered a half-day...absences will be recorded
  - Saturday, May 13:
    - Confirmation Practice 9:15
    - Confirmation 7:00 PM
  - Monday, May 15:
    - Walk of Pride Award Pajama Day! Students may wear school-appropriate pajamas to school. Tennis shoes must be worn-no slippers. No tank tops, short shorts, or spaghetti straps. Students may also just wear casual clothing if they prefer!
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Rotella's field trip
    - 2:00 Ablaze assembly in gym with Father Michael
  - Tuesday, May 16:
    - Middle School Choir Casual Day
    - Family Night Out-Mama's Pizza 5-8
  - Wednesday, May 17:

- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Activity Day at Family Fun Center and Last Day of School
    - 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Field Trip to Zoo
  - Friday, May 19:
    - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Pioneer Day
- Homework
 

SAB had a healthy conversation with Mrs. Goerke and Ms. Keenan about homework requirements, amounts, coordination of projects, efficiencies, etc. Some suggestions included minimizing busy work assigned by teachers, scheduling of “success study halls” throughout the school day, and encouraging 4-8<sup>th</sup> grade teachers to coordinate tests and projects with each other. The group recognizes that there are many external factors that contribute to each individual student’s ability to complete homework in a “timely manner”.

Mrs. Goerke also referenced the survey results of the recent Accreditation Survey that went out to school families. The survey indicated that 83.52% of families feel that the amount of homework is appropriate for my child’s grade level.
- New Staff
 

Mrs. Goerke reported that Mr. Donald Bier was recently hired to partner with Mr. Brett Kotrba to teach computer/math classes. Mr. Bier is a Creighton University graduate with a Masters in Mathematics curriculum and Instruction. He has three years’ experience teaching 6-8 Math at St. Thomas More.

Ms. Julianne Schmitt will be the new Kindergarten teacher. She is a graduate of Duchesne and Chicago-Loyola. She has six years teaching experience at Sacred Heart in Chicago.
- Ignite the Faith grant is being applied for again to be used for Technology. Deadline is June 1, 2017.

#### Assistant Principal Report (Christy Keenan) Assisted with Principal Report

#### Pastor Report (Fr. Mark Nolte)

T.J. Ernst has accepted the Director of Stewardship and Development position. Mr. Ernst will join the parish staff on May 15<sup>th</sup> and may be able to assist the Recruitment Committee with some of their goals. Recruitment Committee should reach out to Mr. Ernst upon his arrival. Athletic Department was also discussed.

#### Committee Reports

- Home & School (Nikki Batenhorst)
 

Achieved the WOP Goal of raising more than \$41,000!!!  
H&S is currently recruiting new members-goal is to have at least 10 individuals sit on H&S.
- Recruitment Committee (Natalie Whitman)

Working on 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade

Discussing the possibility of combining the Recruitment Committee with the H&S Committee.

Uniform Sale is August 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> after the 5:00 mass on the 5<sup>th</sup> and after 8:00/10:00 masses on the 6<sup>th</sup>. RC to speak after masses to promote the event. If you are interested in helping please contact Jen Tselentis.

- Maintenance Committee (See April minutes)
- Finance Committee (None) Nancy mentioned that Tim presented the 2017-2018 budget to the committee and it was approved.
- Parish Council (Katie Digilio) Katie reported that Pastoral Council continues to work with Father Mark to identify some of the duties that Pastoral Council can assist him with. Next meeting is 5/11. Parish Council is also seeking three new applicants.

#### Other Business

- School's Policy Review Update (Phil LaSala) Phil, Allison Balus and Michaela Goerke will set a date to sit down and go through the school policies.
- Christy Keenan will send Nancy the 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduates names and schools attending so that the church bulletin board can be updated with this information.
- Constitution & By-Laws (Nancy Kochanowicz) By-laws were approved on 3/14/2017. Signatures have been obtained and an electronic copy of the document is on St. Gerald Church website under School Advisory Board. Electronic copy has also been sent to the school secretary, Michaela Goerke and Christy Keenan asking that they put it on Sycamore under "Documents". Everyone on the Board has a paper copy for their use. Original document is filed in the School office under "School Advisory Board".
- School Advisory Board Application (Nancy Kochanowicz) The link to the Constitution & By-Laws for SAB has been added to the application. An electronic copy has been sent to the school secretary, Michaela Goerke and Christy Keenan for future use by the Board.

#### **SAB 2017-2018 Bulletin Board Schedule**

	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Theme Ideas (tentative event dates)</b>
<b>JUNE 2017</b>	Nancy Kochanowicz	Graduation/Field Day/Scholarship Recipients
<b>JULY</b>	Allie Balus	4 <sup>th</sup> of July Parade
<b>AUGUST</b>	Phil LaSala	
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	Home & School	Back to School Night
<b>OCTOBER</b>	Carisa Dillon	Grandparent's Lunch/Terra Nova testing

NOVEMBER	Katie Digilio	Pumpkin Patch/Halloween Parade/Vocations Day/Vet's Day/Thanksgiving
DECEMBER	Natalie Whitman	Jesus is the Reason for "every" season
JANUARY 2018	Natalie Whitman	Open House
FEBRUARY	Allie Balus	Catholic Schools Week
MARCH	VACANT	Angel Auction/Middle School Play
APRIL	H&S	Walk of Pride
MAY	Carisa Dillon	Outdoor Ed
JUNE	VACANT	Graduation/Field Day/Scholarship Recipients
JULY	Allie Balus	4 <sup>th</sup> of July Parade
AUGUST	Phil LaSala	
SEPTEMBER	H&S	Back to School Night
OCTOBER	Carisa Dillon	Grandparent's Lunch/Terra Nova testing
NOVEMBER	Katie Digilio	Pumpkin Patch/Halloween Parade/Vocations Day/Vet's Day/Thanksgiving
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Closing Prayer

Adjournment

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 13th, 2017 6:30 (SAB Year-End)