

Nativity of Mary School Advisory Council

Minutes from March 10, 2016 Meeting

Members present: Father Zehren, Mindy Reeder, John Povolny, Noelle Hawton, Laura DePoint, Brian Comeau, Dan Riley, Liz Terrio, Jody Lazo and Susie Valentine.

Administrative

- Opening Prayer
- February 2016 Minutes Approved

• Discussion Topics/Updates

Principal's Report

- 2016/2017 Enrollment
- 186 (58%) students registered by March 9th
Preschool: 2 Day = **12**, 3 Day = **9**, 5 Day = **14**,
K=**25/28**, 1st=**17/24**, 2nd=**24/33**, 3rd=**20/35**, 4th=**17/29**, 5th=**18/33**, 6th=**15/26**, 7th=**11/29**,
8th=**12/27**.
- Ended Enrollment: 320 for 2015/2016 (started 309); Targeted growth (2016-17, eight new students, 328.
- Preschool is close to capacity. Researching options for additional space to expand.
- Suggestion made for parents to reach out (call) preschool families that have not registered for Kindergarten.

• Curriculum

- Teachers updating curriculum areas, making year adjustments and ensuring aligning with Minnesota State Standards. K-2 reviewed Mid-Year Dibels testing results for interventions and grouping adjustments. This spring K-3 will be meeting with assessment representatives to review new K-3 possible assessment programs to implement in 2015 for these grades. Grades 3-8 uses NWEA/Map assessments and will continue to do this in April.
- Reviewing if we will continue with Dibels.
- **Faith:** Focus on Lent. Special time for Adoration on Friday. Classes present Stations. Service Projects.

• Technology/STEM/Makers' Space- Enrichment

- Experienced Google Expedition, 3D virtual field trip. One of only 100 schools selected.
- Ordered mini –robots for 1st grade classes.
- Maker's Space to be created in technology center.
- Writing Club started for Middle School.
- 4th Grade Float/engineering cars on Friday.
- Requested Robotics presentation and clubs for 2016. More updates in April.
- In the process of re-arranging the Tech Center.
- Dibels testing in math completed (K-2) midyear assessment.

• Staff

- Strategic Plan writing and action steps, waiting for feedback from surveys.

- Formal observations in Middle School complete with teacher meetings; current observing Intermediate Grades.
- 40 completed surveys received to date.
- **Accreditation**
 - Preschool representative will review all materials, ready to submit after final recommendations.
 - April 13-15, 2015 is review date. Team selected. Need SAC to assist in hosting with staff.
- **Marketing**
 - **30** tours since September start date.
 - Kindergarten Visit Days – 6 students, 2 enrolled immediately.
 - Marketing pieces: Working on website, signage; K brochure.
 - Press Release success for Science Fair; Sports and Google Expeditions.
 - Looking for creation of mini grade level videos.
- **Budget /Fundraising**
 - ‘Read-a-thon’ in process – reached goal of \$40,000 with donation for gab. Celebration event will push us over our goal with \$10 ketchup fun. Feedback from committee for next year.
 - Spirit of Spring in process, looking for sponsors and silent auction items.
 - If Spirit of Spring reaches goal, should end year with small surplus.
 - Current month (March 2016) is showing a small surplus.

Accreditation

- April 13th is the Accreditation Visit.
- SAC members to attend Breakfast for a Meet & Greet. Time 7:30~8:00AM.
- Information will be provided to help prep for visit.
- April SAC Meeting will be pushed out one week (April 21).

SAC Member Recruitment

- Current SAC members believe we lack visibility. Parents unaware of the roll of a SAC member.
- Mindy provided a revised SAC Application for the review and discussion.
- Suggestions
 - Add current SAC member names to the Application.
 - The SAC members present candidates for consideration.
 - Mindy believes diversity most desirable (members from a variety of grades, family income levels, etc.)
 - Include one or two teachers as part of the School Advisory Council.
 - Current SAC present at the March 10, 2016 meeting voted and motion passed to have two teachers included on the 2016/2017 SAC.
 - One teacher (K-5) and one teacher (middle school).
 - Teachers for consideration to complete a similar SAC application.
 - Discussion to continue regards to teachers present for the entire meeting or just for their report.

Fundraiser/ Tuition agreement

- Considering moving the Read-a-Thon to a different time of the year moving forward (possibly November).
- Considering bringing back Raffle Tickets as an option for fundraising.

- Some opposition to strictly gather pledges to raise \$300 per student. (Option for \$150 in pledges/\$150 in raffle tickets.
- Dan Riley will bring stats to the April SAC meeting that will help aid in continuing discussion on this topic.

Jefferson/Kennedy Sports

- Varsity Sports that are offered at both High Schools – NOM students are expected to play at Kennedy due to our school's location. Students that want to play for Jefferson would need authorization from Kennedy HS to do so. Once a decision is made all students would follow this decision for this activity.

Spirit of Spring

- Current Co-Chairs have given notice this will be their last year.
- We need a plan to transition this fundraiser to future Chair members. Mindy will meet with current Chair members to put a transition plan in place.
- Discussion –consider two grades (all parents) Chair/host the Spirit of Spring Fundraiser due to the amount of work and commitment involved.

Full cost to educate a child

- Dan Riley is working on a model and will present at the next SAC Meeting.
- Teachers need to be made aware and promote the 'Power of Enrollment' as well.

- **Uniform**

- Laura and the Uniform committee continue to work on uniform selections.
- Change to Jumper design (Drop waist) SAC voted and approved this change.
- Older styles (Jumper, etc.) will still be an option in order to be cost sensitive for families.

- **Miscellaneous**

- NOM students – Lack of visibility during weekend masses.
- Suggestion to incorporate students on a regular basis in various roles (Lectors, Ushers, Choir, etc.)
- Noelle suggested NOM School and church need to become more inclusive – everyone is a member of the whole entity.

Next Meeting: **April 21st at 7am**