

Our Lady of the Lake Catholic School

School Board Minutes

March 6, 2014

Attendance: Rick Epple, Danny Patterson, Rhonda Eurich, Melinda Young Dr. Constance Krocak, Linda Johnson, Molly Price-Munson, Mary Ament-Johnson, Cheryl Hibbard, Jen Reier, Fr. Tony O'Neil and Tara Collins

Absent: Mike Reier, Kirk Geadelman, and Jesse Neve

Opening Prayer

- Fr. Tony
 - We are ambassadors to Christ
 - Always communicate with faith

Minutes

- 1-23-14 minutes sent – I don't recall voting to approve

Alumni Campaign

- Already have a \$10K donation
- It is off to a soft start
- Goal to be complete by end of March
- Mike Mahota is investigating grant and working with someone in NY

Technology – Fund-A-Need

- Before money can be put toward chrome books there is a need for updates and work on existing technology – such as updating net books
- Need to further understand needs to take blended learning to the next level – Dr. Krocak shared that there was a consultant in, and that the consultant offered to do an assessment with recommendations – the cost for this is being done by WESTCo
- May need to go back to donors so they are aware of the plan for the funds donated. Who needs to decide this and who is going back to each individual donor – we have a list.
- Action item for the technology committee to meet and update their goals based on the ever-changing tech landscape at OLL. Some of the tech maintenance concerns that Connie briefly mentioned need to be addresses in detail in that subcommittee.

Frequency of Board Meetings

- 2 meetings in January, left us with no planned meeting in February – time between meetings resulted in some important things not moving forward, such as survey and state-of-the school follow up – discussed increasing frequency.
- Bylaws state that it is at Kirk's discretion as the Board President, to call any and all board meetings, so if someone feels that a board meeting is needed, please reach out to Kirk and he will make the call.

Fundraising Update

- Currently we're at about \$155K – with the Alumni Campaign and OLL BLAST still left to come
- Question was if we can sustain this level of fundraising year-over-year?
- Need to have a detailed event chair playbook, so things are well documented for future events

- It is our job as school board members to encourage involvement from as many parents as we can – invite those not normally involved to get involved.
- We also need to be sure that we are playing an active role in all events
- If our enrollment numbers increase, we will not need to rely so heavily on fundraising, so our number one goal should be increasing enrollment while continuing to put together successful fundraisers.
- Discussion regarding a separate board meeting with the sole purpose to agree to next year's events, get them scheduled and have chairpersons identified. Action – who should call this meeting?

Survey Results

- Connie reviewed her survey summary in depth, and there was a lot of discussion around comments, action items and etc.
- Survey was reviewed during a faculty meeting, and all faculty was allowed the opportunity to respond and help in the action planning process
- Question – is there additional follow up to parents planned? Previous communication indicated that, so let's make sure we follow through on communication from Feb. 21. Connie, please keep us in the loop in regards to the Coffee and Conversation attendance. Personally, I like the concept, just not sure the time of day will work for many.
- The most important thing to come out of the survey is the action items to address current parent/student concerns
- There is a survey also ready for the teachers – need to determine teacher retention, and possible needs for the following school year, specific discussion around adding a science teacher if enrollment/fundraising allows

Enrollment

- 2 new preschoolers brings our enrollment numbers to 102
- On March 6 – 54 students were registered for the 2014/2015 school year
- Early registration extended through March 16 - \$50 discount/child (versus the original \$100 discount/child)
- Five individuals are not returning
- Need to reach out to non-registered families and learn if there are concerns, or learn what may be their reason(s) for not registering

Communication

- Fr. Tony discussed that any issue with some heat behind it should be discussed over the phone or in person, rather than email.
- We need to always be respectful
- Lead by example and communicate with faith
- We are the ambassadors for our school

OLL+

- Is flat lining with no new students utilizing it before and after school
- Discussed sending a communication to offer before/after care at \$300/student for the remainder of the year. Question – who is leading this communication – any help needed?

BLAST UPDATE

- Bodeans in breach of contract with planning an event within the 60-day clause – working with them on concessions – such as a lower overall fee, agreeing to a sold out crowd and anything less will buy out, etc.
- Board voted to empower Kassie to negotiate the best deal she could with the BoDeans given our discussions.
- Website is live – please “like” the OLL BLAST on Facebook, like and/or comment on the posts, and share all updates
- Heavy marketing/advertising focus on social media this year
- Blast meetings are being held at 9:30 every Saturday (with the exception of the next two Saturdays due to spring break), everyone is welcome to attend

Parish Council Concerns

- There were concerns raised from the Parish Council about the viability of the Blast.
- Everyone was in agreement that discussions about a fundraiser's viability should be brought up at the beginning of the year, not a few weeks before the event.
- We certainly want to hear any feedback/advice on how to make fundraisers better.
- Bob shared that he thought all the Parish Council concerns had been addressed in during the Blast discussion of the meeting and he would report back to the Parish Council.
- Any specific feedback or advice regarding the Blast should be brought up in the weekly Blast planning meetings (all are welcome to attend).

Closing Prayer /Meeting adjourned

Next meeting – April 3, 2014