

St. Leo the Great School Board

Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2019

The meeting was opened by the V. Reverend Peter Hahn, who offered an opening prayer.

Members in attendance: V. Reverend Peter Hahn, Christine McLean- Principal, Julia Parrish, Alan Schwartz- Development, Frank Kuchinski- Parish Manager, Lara Koppmann, Michelle Zachery- PTO, Sean Francey, Tim Ryan, Mark Magyar, Matt Sahd, Terry Trego, Gina Bonafede, Amy Altimare, Gretchen Reasner, Ellen Eschenwald, Katie Odell, Jan Bixby & Deb Miehler - faculty representatives.

Molly Hughes, Sarah Ganse, Meghan Farrell, Cori Becker, Sarah Keating, Karin Lancelotta - School Community/Public

Open Session:

- I. Approval of the March meeting minutes- approved.
- II. Standing Committee Reports:
 - a. Planning: Construction not anticipated this summer; new date is May 2020. May 21 is the last day of the 2018/2019 school year. August 21 is the first day of school of the 2019/2020 school year. The 2019/2020 school year will run similar to the 2018/2019 year, condensed schedule.

Mrs. McLean noted that if vacations are already planned and they conflict with the start of the 2019/2020 school year, they will be excused.

Work continues on the playground. Picnic tables and mats were installed under the pergola.
 - b. Policy: Diocese of Harrisburg Catholic School Parents MOU was discussed. The MOU will be sent with the family contracts. The MOU simply reaffirms our school beliefs. One edit will be made, change the "I" to "I/We".

The 4th/5th grade guidebook on grades is being developed over the summer.
 - c. Public Relations: The last newsletter of the 2018/2019 school year will be out in May.
 - d. Nominations: Under Closed Session.
 - e. Spiritual Life: Living Rosary will occur in May.

- f. Security and Safety: Mrs. McLean has been in contact with other schools in the area using Ident-a-kid and is reviewing quotes. The goal is to have a system in place by the start of the 2019/2020 school year.

III. Ad Hoc Committee Reports:

a. PTO

1. Let's D.A.N.C.E sponsorship - raised approx. \$7,000 to date. Registration is ready and people are signing up. This year will be focus on sponsors vs. the auction.
2. PTO is reaching out for a new V.P., Lara Koppman is moving into the president position at the end of this school year.
3. Because the Christmas collection went so well, the PTO is employing the same method for end of school year, faculty and staff collections, which will include a luncheon with staff.
4. 8th grade graduation chairperson position being created vs having it run by a group of volunteers. This position will help with enrichment during the 8th grade year and guide the volunteers as they prepare for the 8th grade end of year graduation celebrations, etc.

b. Development

1. Annual appeal has brought in approximately \$145K.
2. EITC calls have started, (brings in about \$149K).
3. Golf outing planning is underway – usually generates approximately \$15K.
4. SEED donations - approx. \$41K
5. Total approximately \$150K in fund generation.

- c. Finance: Not as much money was needed from the savings account as originally anticipated. Frank is preparing the budget for next year. The Parish/School runs on the July 1 – June 30 Fiscal year, as a result the budget is due at the end of April.

IV. Principal's Report: See attached. Parent survey results will be presented at the May meeting.

V. Pastor's Report: No Report

VI. Public Comment:

- A. Wendi Oliveros emailed a comment but could not be present at the meeting regarding 7th grade parents funding the 8th grade graduation. Request was made

that the school increase the amount of money it can contribute to the function. Currently they have \$500 in SEED money to use. The new coordinator will help guide the graduation festivities etc. Father Hahn to take under advisement.

B. Ellen Eschenwald raised a concern about summer assignments and the amount of workload. Mrs. McLean noted the school did have a math requirement in the past over the long summer (prior to phase 1 of construction) to prevent "summer slide". This summer there will not be as heavy in the math assignments.

C. Molly Hughes – the Parish Picnic will be September 22, 2019. Trying to increase school involvement.

VII. CLOSED SESSION

Closing prayer was offered up by Father Hahn.

The next school board meeting will be held on May 6, 2019 at 7:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amy Altimare



Principal's Report to School Board and Parish Council

April 8, 2019

Student Life

- Spiritual Life
 - 4th grade class retreat will be held this Friday. Topic: Children of Grace: Mary and the Sacraments
 - 6th grade raised \$100 for the Catholic Relief Services.
 - Theology of the Body program will start for 8th grade girls and boys at the end of the month. Mr. Schwartz will teach boys; Mrs. McLean will teach the girls.
 - Ethnic diversity has tripled at St. Leo the Great Catholic School in the last 5 years. Our 6th grade class welcomed a new classmate on Thursday who comes from Vietnam. The girls are using a translator app on their Chromebook to communicate with her.

- Academic
 - Interim progress reports were sent home on Friday, for students in grades k-3rd
 - ITBS test are being administered this week. We hope to get the results back in time to give them to our families on the last day of school along with each student's report card. If we do not get the test data, we will mail the results home.
 - All 8th graders tested into Spanish 2 again for their freshman year.
 - Almost 90% of our 8th graders will attend Lancaster Catholic High School
 - Five 8th graders won Academic scholarships to LCHS
 - Outdoor classroom: Mr. Swope will be building a weather station school before the end of the school year. Instruments include: thermometer, barometer, anemometer, rain gauge, hygrometer, and a pyrometer
 - Upcoming fieldtrips: 8th grade: Aztec Restaurant (practice Spanish skills) and Washington DC. 7th grade: Philadelphia, 6th grade Sight and Sound Theater, 5th Grade; 4th Grade; State Capitol Building and Ephrata Cloister, 3rd Grade; Hershey Museum 2nd Grade; Lancaster County Park 1st grade: Hands on House and Oregon Dairy

Other

- Mrs. Tucker, middle school ELA teacher, will retire at the end of this school year.
- Officer Nagel from the East Hempfield Police Department will assist in a Lockdown; Intruder Drill tomorrow at 2PM.