

St. Patrick's Elementary Elementary School Foundation, Inc.

8/28/2024

7:00 PM via Zoom Video Conference

Attendance:

President	Patrick Powers	Present via Zoom
Board Member	John Jones	Absent
Board Member	Melissa Gwilt	Excused
Board Member	Jennifer Cossette	Present via Zoom
Board Member	Margaret (Meg) Tesmer	Absent
PTC/Parent Representative	Rachel Pace	Absent
Teacher Representative	Katelyn Boone	Excused
School Principal	Kristin Healt	Present via Zoom
Consultant	Rebecca vanLieshout	Present via Zoom
Superintendent of Catholic Schools	Amy Sansone Ed.D	Present via Zoom

Opening of the Meeting: At 7:00 EST Fr. James Buttner opened the meeting with a prayer.

Introduction of the Participants: Each participant was acknowledged.

Acknowledgement of Principal: Kristin Healt

Confirmation of Quorum: **NO** - 2 - number of voting members were present was not a quorum, therefore the meeting is for informational purposes only.

Agenda Approval: Approved/**Not Approved**. **No quorum**

Approval of Minutes from 2/28/2024 Meeting and 5/22/24 Meeting: Discussion of the key action items from the previous Board meetings. Approved/**Not Approved**. **No quorum**

The August 28, 2024 Board Meeting was held via Zoom Video Conference.

Public comments:

Consultant Becky vanLieshout remarked that the board would likely benefit from new members, with varied experiences and strengths noting that the current board had been in place since the inception. She suggested that a letter could be drafted in the first few weeks of school and sent home to parents.

Financial Report:

Pat Powers presented the Financial Report. He highlighted that tuition was up for the year by \$41,019, a 10% increase, and was also expected to increase for school year 2024-25 because of an increase tuition rates. Basket Bonanza profit also increased by \$10,571 for a total profit of \$24,907. Gifts were also up by \$42,738, with \$10,000 received from Spirit of Hope for the payment to the Victims Trust Assessment, and \$20,000 from

the Guardians Foundation to help with cash flow. Local Parish support will increase from \$140,049 to around \$200,000 due to other school closures.

Salaries and benefits are up for this school year by \$17,978. We continue to lose teachers to public schools as our salary scale is just too low in comparison. We will have a textbook expense of \$10,849 this year. Repair and maintenance expenses are up due to the installation of a protective door film and cameras. Our operating loss of \$39,954 for school year 2023-24 is much better than the prior year. This figure doesn't include the payment of the Victim Trust Assessment, so in reality it is likely closer to \$50,000.

Our SBA loan is in hardship status. We have agreed to pay \$100 per month for the next year. Pat Powers would like to pay additional amounts toward the interest as cash flow allows.

Alyse DiGeorge was hired as new bookkeeper and is doing well.

We continue to need to look for donations and endowments where we can and should focus on an alumni mailing list to begin solicitations.

Mr. Powers also commented on a need to follow up on our past due tuition. Currently \$14,000 is due from the 2023-24 year and 3-4 families are already behind in tuition payments this year. Mrs. Healt advised that two families need to go to collections. Ms. Sansone advised that Notre Dame uses the Rothman firm in Syracuse. Mr. Powers will contact them.

This concludes the Financial Report.

Old Business

New Board nominations are needed.

The Guardians Foundation paid for digital signs advertising enrollment for the 2024-25 school year.

There was no other old business.

New Business

Pat Powers advised that a camera was installed in the Rosary garden.

There was no other new business.

Principal's Report:

Currently the school has 115 students enrolled:

- 23 – Pre-K 3 & 4
- 16 – Kindergarten
- 17 – 1st Grade
- 13 – 2nd Grade
- 16 – 3rd Grade
- 13 – 4th Grade

- 20 – 5th Grade
- 7 – 6th Grade

Our Pre-K 4 class enrollment is down due to the free Pre-K program offered through the public schools. We have students joining us this year from Rome Catholic in grades 1, 3 and 5.

Mercedes Genai was hired to fill an unexpected opening. We are in need of a part-time music teacher.

Meet the teacher will be held on August 29th at 6pm. It is no longer a ‘window washing’ but simply a chance for parents, students and teachers to meet. Orientation is on the morning of September 4th and the first day of school is September 5th.

This concludes the Principal’s report.
Comments/Questions: None at this time.

Teacher Report:

Becky vanLieshout shared Katie Boone’s Teacher Report in her absence.

PK4	PK4 ended the year with tremendous growth in identifying and writing their letters and numbers. Each student can count to 20 and they can sound out each letter of the alphabet. They have a great understanding of the church and can sit through mass. We ended the year with a couple field trips. We visited the zoo and went to the local rec center to play all day. We planned out our graduation and practiced our songs. We had tea and biscuits with mom’s for Mother’s day and made them paper lanterns. For Father’s day we had donuts and coffee and made them tile coasters. We are KINDERGARTEN ready!!!
Kindergarten	In Math we practiced using base ten blocks and telling time. In SS we compared life in the past and today. In Science we discussed pushes and pulls and “work words”. In writing we did some informational writing about ladybugs. We read the Mercy Watson series about a pig named Mercy and his adventures. We had a Piggie Palooza day with special guinea pig guests, pig crafts, pig directed drawing and writing, measurement activities, and Mercy’s favorite snack...Hot buttered toast with a great deal of butter. We also practiced a great deal for graduation to prepare for the celebration.
1	We finished the year strong! For the month of June we counted down to summer with themed days. Popcorn day, lollipop day, dance party day, the students loved it. Students finished the year strong showing growth in their final math and reading i-ready assessments. We did lots of fun activities such as directed drawings, show and tell, and memory books.

2	Second grade finished out the year strong with everyone showing improvement in Math and Reading in their final i-ready assessment! We ended Social Studies with focusing on the roles of government, and Science focusing on properties of matter. We celebrated one of our friends in second grade with a first communion mass on June 18th. Gunnar Richlin made the choice to be baptized into the Catholic Church on Easter and then take separate classes to make his first communion before the end of his second grade year. We were all so proud of Gunnar and his commitment to his faith. All these kiddos were ready to head upstairs to 3rd grade!
3	Third grade completed their i-Ready assessments and NYS tests and did well on both. Students have really enjoyed math this year and focused on working in group.
4	4th grade continues learning about the 10 commandments in greater detail. In ELA we are reading books in small groups based on our reading level and answering questions about what we have read. In math we are working on adding and subtracting fractions and being more fluent in multiplication facts. We learned about conductors and the flow of electricity by making flashlights. In SS we are learning about The Revolutionary War in NYS
5	In ELA, we're reading "Unplugged" by Gordon Korman. We're enjoying the "extra" time we have to spend delving deeply into our book.
6	In ELA, we're reading "Wonder" by R.J. Palacio and in writing, we finished a creative writing project called, My Restaurant. The 6th graders got to be creative as they developed their restaurant from the ground up!

Teacher Report concluded.

PTC Report:

Rachel Pace was not present to present the PTC Report. Mrs. Healt reported that we have a lot of new families this year who are excited to get involved.

PTC Report concluded.

Final concerns/comments/questions:

Ms. Sansone advised that teachers will participate in four ½ days for professional development with teachers in the same grade and content area.

Adjournment:

The meeting was closed with a Hail Mary.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm.