

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

2/12/2025

7:00 PM via Google Meet

Attendance:

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

Opening of the Meeting: At 7:00 EST Patrick Powers opened the meeting.

Introduction of the Participants: Each participant was acknowledged. The President welcomed Mike Anile who recently joined the Board as new member following a unanimous email vote.

Acknowledgement of Principal: Kristin Healt

Confirmation of Quorum: YES - 4 - number of voting members were present.

Agenda Approval: Approved/Not Approved.

Approval of Minutes from 2/28/24, 5/22/24 and 8/28/24 Meetings: Discussion of the key action items from the previous Board meetings. The prior minutes had not been approved because there was not at Quorum at the following Board meetings.

Approved/Not Approved. (Motioned to approve the 2/28/24, 5/22/24 and 8/28/24 meeting minutes by Meg Tesmer, Seconded by Jennifer Cossette, vote taken, motion carried).

The February 12, 2025 Board Meeting was held via Google Meet.

Public comments:

None

Financial Report:

Pat Powers presented the Financial Report. He first expressed a welcome and thank you to Alyse DiGeorge who accepted the role as bookkeeper and has been acclimating to the position. Pat Powers along with Alyse DiGeorge, Becky vanLieshout, and Kristin Healt have been working on the budget; a draft is due by this Friday.

Mr. Powers reported that he has rough December numbers but wants to reconcile the tuition on the books to the FACTs system and, once complete, will forward to the Board the six month financials, hopefully by early next week.

Cash flow is currently steady even after three payrolls in January. The next three payroll month is May, which is also when Basket Bonanza is scheduled which should help provide extra cash.

Mr. Powers reminded those present that the school has a large balance due to the Diocese and agreed today to pay \$19,000.00. He would like to pay the remaining balance by the end of the school year.

Becky vanLieshout added that the school is still waiting for some significant payments on various government grants including the MST (Math, Science, Technology) grant, Safety grant and Mandated Services grant. Amy Sansone commented that payments on these grants are behind. She further explained that the MST reimburses 38% of the teacher's salary as long as the teachers (Math, Science, Technology and now Music and Art) do not test on religion. The school can have others come in to test on religion. Fr. Chris, Fr. James, Tara Dixon and Mrs. Healt are dedicated to teaching (and testing) religion so that the school can qualify for the grant, although payments are three years behind.

This concludes the Financial Report.

Old Business

SBA Loan Status – Mr. Powers reported that the SBA Loan is now in regular status. We are making monthly payments in the amount of \$109.

Diocesan Loan Status – The school has an outstanding loan with the Diocese in the amount of \$80,000. Mr. Powers would like to keep this on hold status until the Diocesan bills are up to date, which hopefully between the Basket Bonanza and our increased parish subsidy will be by the end of the school year.

There was no other old business.

New Business

Board Member – Mr. Powers would still like to see more Board members with varied skills and expertise.

Tuition Rates – Mr. Powers advised that tuition rates are tentatively planned to increase again for the 2025-26 school year as follows:

- 1st Student \$5,700 (a \$500 increase)
- 2nd Student \$4,800
- 3rd Student \$4,200
- 4th Student Free

Our tuition is still one of the lowest in the Diocese. Ms. Sansone commented that the school is highly rated as far a value and noted that increases are necessary. She continued that the messaging is important, for example in terms of \$x of a bi-weekly paycheck or x cups of coffee per week.

Ms. Sansone noted that there are other scholarships available including the Cabrini BISON Scholarship, which has been approved for \$500,000 for the Syracuse Diocese School. Ms. vanLieshout noted that the application is challenging. Ms. Sansone advised that many schools work to help parents with the applications. These scholarships are need based with a sliding scale but there is an option to leave a narrative.

There was no other new business.

Principal's Report:

The school celebrated Mass today in the gym led by fourth grade

The Diocese presented a puberty program to the 5th and 6th grades. All but one student attended.

The school just completed iReady testing and the teachers are reviewing the data.

Mrs. Healt has given a few tours. There are currently five students in the process of registering for next school year. She will be advertising enrollment in the local papers.

During Catholic Schools week the students collected items for the local food pantry.

Annual Fund letters will be going tomorrow. This year's goal is \$50,000.

This concludes the Principal's report.

Comments/Questions: Ms. Sansone commented on the puberty program that is offered by the Diocese's Respect Family Office. She noted that it teaches age appropriate messages about the changes in children's bodies and God's design for their life. The program is aligned with the Church's teachings and an asset for our schools.

Teacher Report:

Katie Boone shared the Teacher's Report.

PK	<p>Our PreK class has been diligently working on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● ELA/Phonics: Mastering letter sounds through the "Our Better Alphabet Song," writing and recognizing letters up to M.● Mathematics: Counting to 100 by 1's with Jack Hartman and writing and recognizing numbers up to 6.● Science: Exploring weather, particularly why it snows. We've conducted experiments to make snow, designed shelters for winter animals, and created a book about our favorite winter creatures.● Social Studies: Learning about Martin Luther King Jr.● Religion: Studying St. Nicholas, Christmas, the creation of the world by God, and the importance of treating others with kindness. We are eagerly anticipating our first Mass during Catholic Schools Week. <p>Our students are also enjoying opportunities for social-emotional development through free choice time, dramatic play areas, and center time, which allows them to get to know each other better.</p>
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Kindergarten	Kindergarten is continuing to work on writing addition and subtraction sentences in Math. In Reading we are working on mapping words, reading simple sentences, and building our foundation of super words/ high frequency words. In SS we are learning about MLK Jr and what happens on Inauguration Day. In Science we are learning about how animals adapt during the cold winter months. We have also been working on completing our second iReady diagnostic for Math and Reading.
1	First grade is starting to work on two digit addition and subtraction in math. We are practicing our math facts daily. In reading students are using text evidence to answer questions. They are also sequencing stories they read. We are writing describing sentences and continue to revise and edit our work. We're learning about important people in history and just started our lights and sounds unit in Science. We're very excited to celebrate Catholic Schools Week!
2	2nd grade is working on fluency in reading. We are starting that transition from learning to read to reading to learn. We are working on subtraction with regrouping which is borrowing and reading charts to solve problems. In science we are working on animal adaptations. In social studies we are learning civics as well as geography, in religion we are focusing on how God shows his love for us and then how we show our love for him through our actions with others.
3	3rd grade is starting to work on basic division. We have completed our IReady Reading diagnostic and are working on the Math diagnostic. In science we are beginning to explore Forces and Motion. In Social Studies we are learning about the exploration of North America (pre-colonial).
4	4th grade is learning how to do long division with remainders. We are completing iReady reading and math diagnostic tests. In science we are learning how to send codes using only visuals and sound. In social studies we are doing research about influential African Americans in history. In religion we are continuing to use the gospels to support our roles as christians in our daily lives. We have also learned about various saints as well as participated in Lectio Divinas using the gospel.
5	5th Grade is working on all operations of decimals. We just finished iReady diagnostic assessments and will get ready for our data chats. We are working on an informational essay on the effects of robots on humans.
6	In math we are studying variables and algebraic expressions. We just finished writing personal narratives and reading "Wonder. We are also identifying and analyzing parts of stories. For Science we are practicing the scientific method and designing experiments. In Social Studies we are discussing the early civilizations of India. In health, we are working on healthy relationships. We just discussed ways to give a heartfelt apology, what good friendships look like, and ways to show kindness.

Teacher Report concluded.

PTC Report:

Rachel Pace presented the PTC Report. The Basket Bonanza is scheduled for May 17th. We are a bit behind on business donations. Ticket sales and raffle sales have opened online using Event Brite, and we have currently sold 77 of the 204 available event tickets. Flyers will be going out next week. We also have advertising on the

Coneheads digital sign in exchange for a program ad. The event will feature dinner, dessert, beer and wine all for the ticket price of \$60.

PTC Report concluded.

Final concerns/comments/questions:

The next meeting was originally scheduled for May 14, 2025 but after discussion it was agreed to move the meeting to the following Wednesday, May 21, 2025 so that we can have a report on the Basket Bonanza.

An Executive Board Meeting was scheduled for February 19, 2025, at 7:00pm via Zoom.

Adjournment:

The meeting was closed with a Hail Mary.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm.