

Saratoga Central Catholic School
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees held on February 12, 2015

Members in Attendance:

Stan Weeks, Chairman
Jerry Leone, Vice Chair
Mary Gavin, Secretary
Lew Benton
Fr. Tom Chevalier
Jenn Claeson
Kathy Carson
Fran Dingeman
Michael Naughton
Dan Shea
Becky Stauffer
L. Stephen Lombard, Principal

Other Attendees: Tom Gould (arrived at 7:05)

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Weeks.

- **Mr. Lombard offered a prayer and distributed a prayer card to each board member.**
- **Dr. Weeks reported a change to the agenda because the individual scheduled to present to the board on Common Core was unable to attend.**
- **Mr. Leone made a motion to approve the minutes of the January meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shea and unanimously approved.**

State of the School Report was presented by Mr. Lombard

- **Enrollment is 241 (a decrease of 1 from last month).**
- **Mr. Lombard reported on new student registrations (not re-registration of current students, because re-registration packets were just sent out to current families).**
- **Mr. Lombard reported on tuition in arrears, which has increased over last month.**
- **Mr. Lombard reported that about 70% of our seniors have reported college acceptances to-date, with scholarship offerings of more than \$3.3 million. Mr. Lombard expects that the acceptance percentage and scholarship number to grow.**
- **Mr. Lombard reported that the Beacon of Hope Gala is Friday, April 24th at the Albany Country Club.**
- **The Middle School musical will be March 21 and 22nd.**
- **Re-registration packets were sent out on January 29th.**
- **Mr. Lombard reported that the April board meeting is currently scheduled for the 9th, which is the school vacation week. The board agreed to move that meeting to April 23rd, at 6:30 pm.**
- **Mr. Lombard reported that on February 26th at the Knights of Columbus, beginning at 5:00 pm there will be a fundraiser for Danny Mantia, child of Coach Mantia and Mrs. Mantia to raise funds for his care.**

Dr. Weeks initiated a discussion about Strategic Planning. The discussion began with a review of the list of planning items from the 2002 – 2003 academic year. Dr. Weeks suggested we seek someone to re-establish the Parents Club. Mr. Shea suggested that focusing this on middle school parents would be beneficial. The board also discussed the fundraising, facilities and enrollment initiatives of the 2002-3 academic year. It was agreed that these are the same items that we need to address in our Strategic Plan.

Enrollment Committee

- Mr. Naughton reported on the success of the recent Open House, and expressed thanks to the National Honor Society students who assisted
- Mr. Naughton expressed a desire to find a way to enhance outreach to 5th grade parents at St. Clement's and St. Mary's.
- Mr. Naughton reported on a meeting of the technology subcommittee. With the valuable leadership of Beth Moeller, the new website is scheduled for launch in early April.

Development Committee

- Mr. Benton reported the results of the gala.
- Mr. Benton reported that the Alumni Phonathon will be held March 1 – 3rd at Roohan Realty. Based on fundraising results year-to-date, we need to have very strong support and Mr. Benton encouraged board members to take an active role in the Phonathon.

Facilities Committee

- Mr. Shea reported on the Committee's last meeting, during which the committee decided to rank capital projects individually, so that a master list of priorities can be developed.
- A quote was received for repairing the concrete on the base of the school, which was significantly higher than expected. Mr. Shea is seeking donors who might be willing to donate the work.
- Mr. Shea reported that the committee continues to review options for landscaping.
- Mr. Shea reported that the committee continues to look into the possibility of adding variable speed fans to aid in heating of the gym.

Financial Aid Committee

- No report was provided

Finance Committee

- Mr. Leone summarized the results of the most recent financial reports from the Diocese.
- Mr. Leone asked that if any board members have fundraising ideas, they share them with the Development Committee.

Mission Enhancement Committee

- Ms. Claeson reported on the Committee's January 29th meeting. The Committee reviewed the Catholic Benchmarks for Accreditation. The Committee is reviewing ways they can support parents in the Catholic education of their children.
- Ms. Claeson said the committee is going to create a portfolio which helps to identify and document our Catholic identity.
- After Lent, Rosary will begin on Friday mornings. Peer leaders will invite a middle school student to attend Rosary with them.

- Ms. Claeson asked for consent to say Grace at lunch. Mrs. Stauffer suggested that it be a “Final Grace” because the students are all seated.
- Mr. Gould suggested that our efforts in Catholic Identity should include some encouragement for our students to attend Sunday mass in their home parishes.
- Magnets with Scriptures have been posted in the bathrooms.
- “Word of the Week” has begun – posting a Bible verse to encourage reflection.
- Bible verses for the classrooms are being printed and will be posted in the classrooms shortly.
- Committee is working on

School Liaison Reports:

- Mr. Leone reported that the SMSA meeting was canceled because of snow.
- Mr. Lombard reported that St. Clement’s board meeting reported that the new pastor will arrive in August; that they are having a TGI Fridays fundraiser, and he asked that we support it, as well as their Spring Ball which is on March 20th at the Canfield Casino. St. Clements will have a tuition hike bringing total tuition to \$4,950 for next year. Their Finance Committee is considering how much of a discount to offer siblings of students at SCC, in reciprocity for the discount we offer to students who have siblings at St. Clement’s.
- Mr. Shea did not attend the St. Mary’s board meeting and asked that another board member consider taking this role. Meetings are the third Wednesday of the month.

Nominating Committee:

- Mr. Leone reported that the Committee met with a potential board candidate. Her application has been forwarded to the Diocese for consideration. Mr. Leone made a motion that Dawn Martinez be asked to join the board. Ms. Gavin seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

Ms. Dingeman reported that March 23rd at Mingle on the Avenue, they will give 15% of sales to Saratoga Central Catholic. Mention that you are there to support SCC.

The board agreed that thanks be extended to Mrs. McHale for her efforts in recruiting students to speak at Parishes during Catholic Schools Week.

At 8:27 p.m., the meeting was adjourned with a prayer offered by Fr. Tom.

Future Meeting dates:

March 10th

April 23th

May 12th

June 9th