

## **Saratoga Central Catholic School**

### **Board of Trustees Meeting      Wednesday, January 27, 2021**

The Saratoga Central Catholic School Board of Trustees met via ZOOM on Wednesday, January 27, 2021. Those in attendance included Chairperson Dawn Martinez, co-chair Mary Fornabia, Laurie Tomita, Sandra Blanchard, Terrill Brown, Francine Dingeman, Michael Kondratowicz, Becky Stauffer, Rev. Thomas Chevalier, Christian Mathiesen, DMD, and school principal Joseph Kilmade.

Chairperson Dawn Martinez called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. Father Chevalier gave the opening prayer. A motion to accept the minutes of the December 16 meeting was offered by Laurie Tomita and seconded by Francine Dingeman.

Joseph Kilmade gave the State of the School report.

The present enrollment is 208. Recently, more than 70 students have been attending remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic which is a significant increase since before the Christmas vacation.

There have been numerous inquiries and planned building tours for families considering enrolling students for the 2021-2022 academic year.

New York State has given permission for high-risk sports to begin in February, pending authorization from each county health department. The athletic season for indoor sports will be compressed with limited rosters and no spectators. The games will be live-streamed. School finances will have to be adjusted to cover transportation and coaches' salary costs.

There has been an increased reliance on substitute teachers recently due more teachers being out because of illness or the need to quarantine.

Mr. Kilmade gave the Enrollment Committee report.

The initial 'Meet the Teacher' program went well.

The mid-year parent survey is being conducted.

The Welcoming Committee reached out to new families.

The planned virtual open house will be postponed until the spring. There will be tours of the school made available with limited attendance by reservation only.

Registration for the next academic year will be available on-line as well as via hard copy.

The committee will be reaching out to local parochial elementary schools in order to encourage students to enroll in the sixth grade of Saratoga Central Catholic School.

Chairperson Dawn Martinez spoke on behalf of the Advancement and Development Committee.

The Raffle for the Non-Winter Gala has sold out, raising \$35,600. The Gala sponsorships have raised \$47,255.

Another fundraiser is being planned for the spring which may include another raffle. It may be structured differently than the most recent raffle.

Mr. Kilmade gave the Facilities Committee report.

Renovations are being planned for the summer of 2021, including upgrading the kitchen in the Parish Center building and changes to the lower level of the school building. The goal is to provide an improved central cafeteria in the Parish Center and a faculty lounge, student commons and student study area in the school building.

The boiler repair is progressing but may require additional work,

Becky Stauffer spoke on behalf of the Mission Enhancement Committee.

There have been two middle school retreats. The sixth grade retreat focused on the theme of Friendship. The theme of the seventh grade was Respect.

A group of girls are starting a faith sharing program with Mrs. Cronin.

The eleventh grade has begun a school project entitled 'Build a Home with Love' with a goal of raising \$3,600 during Lent to build a home for an impoverished family in Haiti.

Mike Kondratowicz gave the report on the Finance Committee.

He stated that the tuition in arrears for families attending school has increased. A more aggressive approach for collecting these funds will be instituted and more sanctions on students may be necessary.

During the committee meeting, there was a review of the December financial statements, including a clarification of the gross tuition line item, unemployment and disability insurance increases and increased copier expenses.

There are increased costs due to upgrading the fire alarm system and reinstatement of athletic programs.

Forgiveness of the federal PPP loan has not yet been determined. The school might not qualify for the next round of PPP loans.

The committee passed a motion to increase tuition by 4%. The registration rate was proposed be \$100 per student rather than the past practice of one fee for an entire family.

The Board of Trustees next voted on the recommendations of the Finance Committee regarding tuition and registration fees. A motion was offered by Fran Dingeman and seconded by Laurie Tomita that the tuition for the 2021-2022 academic year be set at \$7380 for the middle school and \$9830 for the high school and that a \$100 per student registration fee will be established. The motion passed unanimously.

Dawn Martinez spoke on behalf of the Nominations Committee. At least two individuals are being considered as new members of the Board of Trustees.

There was no Old Business discussed.

Under New Business, Fran Dingeman discussed the possibility of a virtual Career Day in April.

Dawn Martinez closed the meeting after Father Chevalier's closing prayer and the Board then went into executive session for review of a legal issue.

Respectfully submitted,

Christian E Mathiesen, DMD