

# **Saratoga Central Catholic School**

Minutes of the Board of Trustees

October 31, 2018

5:00pm

## **Members in Attendance:**

Dawn Martinez, Board Chair

Fran Dingeman, Vice Chair

Mary Fornabia, Secretary

Father Tom Chevalier

Megan Hennessey

Becky Stauffer

Peter Hart

Shelia Murphy

Christian Mathiesen, DMD

L. Stephen Lombard

Mary Guarnieri

Board Chair Dawn Martinez called the meeting to order at 5:03pm.

Fr. Tom Chevalier offered an opening prayer.

Megan Hennessey made a motion to accept the September Board Meeting Minutes and Becky Stauffer seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor. The Board voted in favor unanimously.

**Guests: Coach Brett Simpson**

**Coach Phonsey Lambert**, Athletic Director

Coach Simpson: teaches Health to both 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades. He shared how the 10<sup>th</sup> grade health class worked on a project that supported the summer reading, “Frankenstein”. The class created posters (Coach Simpson shared with the BOT) that researched diseases and medical treatments that were used during the 1700’s, the era that the book Frankenstein took place.

Coach Lambert: teaches P.E. to grade 8, 10, 11, and 12.

: Some of the sports covered are flag football, soccer (with 2 balls), Pickle ball, Basketball, Knee hockey and bowling. Some students don’t like to play team sports so a “walking map” was created for students to walk.

: Coach Lambert gave an overview of our fall sports teams and how well they did this season. The Varsity Volleyball team had a 12-2 season. The Golf Team was Tri Champs with Greenwich and Hoosik Falls. Cross Country finished overall 500. He credited Coach Fantazi with coaching the Cross Country team and on Friday 11/2 they will run in the State Championship Meet.

: For the first time in SCC history we will be combining our Modified baseball team with Catholic Central High School. Neither teams had enough players for an individual team so they are joining forces to form one team. There was a conversation about how student athletes are

overall decreasing in all schools and students are specializing in only 1 sport.

: Megan Hennessey made a motion to approve the merger for the Modified Boys Baseball with Catholic Central High School in Troy. Becky Stauffer seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

### **State of the School Report, by Principal Lombard**

- **Enrollment** – 202 students.
- **Tuition in Arrears** - \$11,781. It was noted that in November of 2017 the tuition in arrears was \$13,000.
- **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Night**– 13 of 18 families participated.

Overall it was a very positive night Mr. Lombard shared that he felt the most important statement a parent said that night was “ there is a disconnect between St. Clement’s and Saratoga Central Catholic.” A conversation was had about the relationship between the schools and students either choosing SCC or another school.

- **Secondary Schools Night:** October 23, 2018 at St. Ambrose School, Latham. Seven schools participated:
  - \*Catholic Central High School
  - \* Bishop Maginn High School
  - \* Notre Dame-Bishop Gibbons High School
  - \* La Salle Institute
  - \* Christian Brothers Academy
  - \* Academy of the Holy Names
  - \* Saratoga Central Catholic High School
- Seven family contacts were made that will be followed up on.
- It was shared that many families were not from the “north country” therefore not looking to SCC.
- The Secondary Schools Night came about when it was realized that teaching time was being taken away from students when schools came into visit and share information about their school. So a “college night” was created.
- Additionally, SCC has permission for our students to visit our partner elementary schools. There will also be “lunch time” visits from our students.
- There was a conversation on creating an SCC packet that will include testimonials from parents and students.
  
- **Open House, October 24<sup>th</sup>.** – 27 families participated. This is the second highest family participation since 2015. Most families came from our partner schools

and heard about the Open House through their child's school.

Overall, most parents had questions about curriculum, catholic identity, cost, and athletics. SCC has already received 3 applications for the 2018-19 school year. It was reported that the teachers did a great job interacting with potential families and sharing of their curriculums.

- **North Country Vicariate Fall News Letter-** This is paid for through the the Higher Power Learning Grant. The BOT has been asked to review and give feedback to Mr. Lombard at the next meeting. A second News Letter will be published on or around Catholic Schools Week, and a third at the end of the school year in June.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Diocesan School Board Liaison – Josephine Pienkoszcz will be invited to our monthly BOT meetings.
- Diocesan Schools web page **higherpoweredlearning.org**  
The BOT are encouraged to review this web page.

### **RECOGNITION**

- SCC raised \$1,400. For the Molly Wilmot Radiation Oncology Center on Pink Day.

### **Save the date/Upcoming Events**

- Please check our school calendar at [SaratogaCatholic.org](http://SaratogaCatholic.org)
- All BOT are encouraged to review the Master calendar on our website to see what events, sports, etc. are coming up.
- “Socktober”, during the month of October bags of socks for local organizations were collected for families in need.
- **November: Walk-A-Thon** (fundraiser for the Angel Fund, to help give financial aide to families in need) and **Giving Day** will be consolidated this year. The idea is to give back to the community. Students will walk in the morning and Giving Day will occur in the afternoon.

## **Committee Reports**

**Advancement/Development:** No meeting. This committee with focus on the Gala and the Walk-A Thon

**Gala Update:** \$6,500 in Sponsorships

: Advertised on the website as well as emails sent to alumni and SCC families.

: 50/50 Raffle. \$60. per ticket. Only 300 tickets will be sold. This will be widely advertised.

**Mission Enhancement:** No meeting

**Finance Committee:** Meeting was held on 10/22/18 with Joanne Gamello, Director of Financial Operations of the Diocese. There was a review of the Financial Reports

from September 2018 Comparative Balance Sheet and Comparative Income Statement. Also discussed at the meeting were the following topics:

- 1- Diocesan Elementary School's enrollment is declining
- 2- There should be a focus on enrollment.
- 3- Forming a Social Media Club, that would be run by the students and monitored by teachers. The idea is for our students promoting the school thru Facebook, Instagram, etc. .
- 4- The importance of updating our website and adding testimonials to it.
- 5- The Annual Winter Gals 50/50 Raffle was approved.

**Enrollment:** No meeting. Update on attending partner school social activities. A list has been created of the social activities in our 3 partner schools and the committee is reaching out to parent volunteers to attend and share our school information.

**Financial Aid:** no update.

**Nominating Committee:** No recommendations were made.

**Additional Agenda Items:**

**Old Business:** None

## **New Business:**

- All approval letters were sent to new Board Members. Congratulations!
- Current BOT members introduced themselves to new Trustees.
- Regents Testing Comparisons: Overall SCC students are scoring higher in Math, Algebra, ELA and Sciences than schools in our area. All Regents were compared but we focused on math. It was agreed upon that Algebra 2 was the most difficult and specific areas of concentration were being discussed with teachers. It was concluded that SCC students are competitive in our area.

**Closing Prayer:** led by Fr. Chevalier, which concluded the meeting at 6:58pm.

**NEXT MEETING IS NOVEMBER 28, 2018 AT 5:00PM**



