

Saratoga Central Catholic School

Minutes of the Board of Trustees

February 26, 2020

Members in Attendance:

Dawn Martinez, Board Chair
Fran Dingeman, Vice Chair
Mary Fornabia, Secretary
Becky Stauffer
Christian Mathiesen, DMD
Laurie Tomita
Mike Kondratowicz, Interim Principal

Absent: Megan Hennessey, Peter Hart, Father Tom Chevalier

Board Chair Dawn Martinez called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.
Christian Mathiesen, offered an opening prayer.

Approval of Minutes: Becky Stauffer made a motion to approve the January 2020, Board Meeting Minutes and Chris Mathiesen, seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor unanimously.

Introduction of Guests: D. Martinez

- 1- Jamie DeRusso; our interim guidance counselor, while Nicole Mulkern is on maternity leave, introduced herself to us and shared with us how her transition has been.
- 2- Emily Wenke (11th grader), led a presentation with a group of students on why the girls should be permitted to wear leggings on “dress down days”. The BOT had a discussion, and will follow up with Mr. Kondratowicz on a recommendation.
- 3- Maria Izzo spoke about our Annual Giving Campaign and Alumni Association. She told us about the Alumni “Wall of Distinction” and how the alumni chosen would inspire our current students. Our next Alumni newsletter (which is distributed every 2 years) would highlight these alumni. Moving forward, the “wall” will be updated every two years. Our Alumni giving appeal envelopes will be going out shortly. Ms. Izzo did say that there is a struggle to keep the alumni data base updated.

State of the School Report:

- 1- Enrollment stands at 193 students
- 2- Quiz Bowl was held January 30th and a good time was had by all students.

- 3- Principal's Address was held February 3rd. The focus was on the "spirit of the school". Mr. Kondratowicz spoke briefly about the plan for recruiting a principal for the Fall 2020. SCC clubs were represented sharing information with families.
- 4- Albany Diocese Athletic Code of Conduct: This document was shared with the BOT and will discuss at next meeting with the anticipation of implementing.

Committee Reports:

Enrollment: (M. Fornabia, A. Campbell, H. Bott)

- 1- The Winter Gala was a huge success, thank you to the committee and all their hard work.
- 2- Parent Mentor Program: will be facilitated by Ellen Bailey. She will be meeting with parent volunteers on 2/26 to review details of the program. Also, discussed was a "parent hand book" that would include teacher/staff emails, sports/club information, uniform policy, schoology information, etc.
- 3- Partnering with Community: MaryBeth Mantia proposed the idea of partnering with local businesses to raise awareness about SCC. One idea included: wine/cheese night at a local restaurant, to educate business owners about our students and our school.
- 4- Mid-year Climate Survey: This will go out to go out to parents of 6th and 9th graders by the end of March.
- 5- Open House: Thursday, March 19th, 5:30-7:30pm. We will continue to keep student greeters, balloons, new signs, etc. Additionally, we will add tables of our clubs/sports to share with prospective families.

Advancement/Development: (D. Martinez)

- 1- 50/50 Raffles for the Winter Gala that will be held on January 23, 2021 will potentially start being sold in September of this year. A discussion was had about selling them over the summer.
- 2- Career Day: April 24, 2020.

Finance: (M Hennessey) D. Martinez reported.

- 1- A motion was made by Chris Mathiesen and seconded by Laurie Tomita to approve the increase in tuition rates for the 2020-21 school year. All members present voted in favor unanimously.
 - a- Middle School tuition \$7,100 (rate increase of 4%)
 - b- High School tuition \$9,450 (rate increase of 4%)

Financial Aid: Letters are going out for requests on 4/15/2020.

Mission Enhancement: (Cronin B. Stauffer)

- 1- Writing Contest: For Junior and Seniors, "How Can I Be a Person of Virtue?" the Siena writing center would aid with our students. The end of March would be the deadline for the first draft.

Facilities: (P. Hart) M. Kondratowicz reported out

- 1- The paperwork to tap into the diocesan contingency fund is in the process to assist with facility updates.

Additional Agenda Items

Old Business: Principals Address feedback. A discussion was had about this and overall it was a very positive night.

New Business: Fran Dingman was approached by Family Vision Care with a program to aid children with Myopia (nearsightedness). Family Vision Care offers private schools a donation for any student that sign up for the program. The BOT discussed this and feels that by agreeing to this would mean that SCC endorses this procedure and as a school we are not in a position to do so.

Closing Prayer: Dawn Martinez led us in the Lord's Prayer to close the meeting at 6:35pm.

Executive Session: Requested.

Next Meeting – Wednesday March 25, 2020 at 5:00pm