

## Education Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 14, 2024

7:00pm @ St. Peter's School

**Members: Natalie Delmonico, Mike Prokop, Megan Driessen, Laura Driessen, Jessica Hacker, Amanda Bruning, Sara Abrahamson**

Members in attendance: Natalie, Mike, Megan, Jessica, Amanda, and Sarah

Guest Teacher: Mrs. Steffen

Also Lori and Fr. Brendan

**Others: Kari Nilles, Lori Rangaard, Fr. Brendan Rolling**

**1. Prayer by Fr. Brendan**

**2. Minutes—from Sept. meeting—Submitted by Lori Rangaard**

**3. Budget**

**a. Review current budget—Lori**

Outline of budget handed out to members and returned for privacy at end of meeting.

Some lines were unspecified and waiting on Caren Buysse to provide.

Mention of things that were paid on this budget that were purchased on previous.

Lots of discussion was made about how Covid-19/Covid -19 funding affected the budget.

Lori also mentioned that the current budget is not approved and the school has been in limbo resulting (example, ability to hire another para for preschool room).

**b. Parish Financial Reports—Fr. Brendan**

Multiple memos drafted by Fr. Brendan dispersed to members to review.

Topics highlighted on memos:

-Lack of income from weekly offerings and specified groups of each income.

-Deficit in budget set for St. Peter's Parish 7 out of the last 10 years.

-Suggested subsidy for school recommended by Diocese is  $\frac{1}{3}$  which averages \$144,000 per year.

-Suggestion of breaking down expenses as thoroughly as income memos.

-Fr. Brendan is suggesting putting information into the bulletin and hosting a meeting with parishioners once more information (expenses) is drafted.

-Subsidies from other churches were also discussed as St. Leo parish has a few students in attendance at St. Peters school.

**4. Old Business**

**a. Vote for New Education Committee Secretary.**

Megan Driessen volunteered. No opposition was mentioned.

**b. Marathon—Started with goal of \$55,000. As of today, we have raised about \$48,977.**

Lori mentioned that not all pledge money has come in currently. Pledged monies are still short of goal and short of estimated budgeted income for the Marathon.

**c. MNSAA—Need Steering Committee members—At least one member from Education Committee, teacher, parents—Will meet extra times in the next year and a half to revise and add to plans for MNSAA review.**

No members or suggestions were made.

**d. Preschool Early Registration and Open House—Lori**

- **Set for Tuesday, Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> from 4-7pm**

**5. New Business**

**a. Staff Update—Mrs. Steffen—Kindergarten**

Children are doing well with the new English portion of the curriculum implemented this year. They all scored above the 90 percentile on standardized testing. Natalie mentioned that nationwide standardized test scores are averaging in the 40 percentile.

**b. Member update—Sara Abrahamson joining the Education Committee**

- **Need 1 more member to join for full Ed Committee**

Discussion of having 1 more male member would diversify the group and a name was recommended. Mike mentioned that he was approached by a community member to join the board, and will be contacted if needed.

c. **End of Year Alumni Giving Letter—Fr. Brendan**

- **Alumni Fall Report—Lori**

Lori sent out email to Board Members via google docs and were instructed to \* people on the list they can verify their information for.

d. **Football Frenzy Tickets—On sale starting Monday through Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>**

e. **Christmas Program—Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm and 6:30pm**

Discussion was made about 6:30 vs 7pm in the past. Earlier time due to the late night for kids was approved.

- **Set Up Church on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> following 10am Mass**

f. **Fundraiser Review**

Discussion was continued about making current fundraisers more profitable.

Limiting the number of fundraisers to reduce fatigue.

Fr. Brendan suggested getting brochures from other events in the area to focus on the local donors and target them.

Discussion was made about our community and directly asking for general donations and for donations for a cause. Suggestions were made to have direct fundraising for teacher supplies, textbooks, technology, etc.

Upcoming Prime Rib Supper suggestions:

Lori is going to inquire about the cost of Lancer Lanes Event Room and the cost of alcohol and bringing in food.

Suggestions were made that local businesses would donate and have advertisements at supper.

Megan will contact Best Day Ever Decor to see about decorations for the event.

Discussion was made about how to transport food from church to the event room if approved. Most of the food could easily be brought in crock-pots. Meat might be a different matter to be discussed later.

New cooks for the food were brought up as some volunteers are not returning this year. Suggestions were mentioned and will be contacted.

6. Religious Education—Kari Nilles

No report as Kari was not present.

<b>Fundraiser</b>	<b>Budgeted Income</b>	<b>Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>Net Income</b>	
<b>4530 Scrip General</b>	6000	0	<b>6000</b>	
<b>4572 Marathon</b>	49000	1600	<b>47400</b>	
<b>4573 Pop Cans</b>	3500	0	<b>3500</b>	
<b>4574 Capitol Campaign</b>	6000	500	<b>5500</b>	
<b>4575 KC Auction</b>	25000	1000	<b>24000</b>	
<b>4576 Book Fair</b>	2000	1700	<b>300</b>	<b>*Free books for library</b>
<b>4578 Frozen Food</b>	15000	10000	<b>5000</b>	
<b>4579 Football Frenzy</b>	3500	1500	<b>2000</b>	<b>*Starts Monday, 11/18</b>
<b>4580 Spring Fling</b>	9000	3000	<b>6000</b>	
<b>4531 Fundraising Projects</b>	21000	500	<b>20500</b>	<b>CUF Car Raffle, Pancake Breakfast, VB Tourney</b>
	140000	19800	<b>120200</b>	
<i>Past Fundraisers</i>				
<b>4577 Ministree</b>	0	0		
<b>4570 Calendar</b>	0	0		
<b>4571 Magazines</b>	0	0		

## Education Committee Meeting

Thursday, January 9, 2025  
7:00pm @ St. Peter's School

**Members: Natalie Delmonico, Mike Prokop, Megan Driessen, Laura Driessen, Jessica Hacker, Amanda Bruning, Sara Abrahamson**

In attendance: Megan Driessen, Laura Driessen, Amanda Bruning, Sara Abrahamson, Fr Rolling, Lori Rangaard, Jenna Drietz (teacher), Ethan Kockelman (student parent/parishioner), Larry Duis (finance council), and Brian McKeen (finance council)

**Others: Kari Nilles, Lori Rangaard, Fr. Brendan Rolling**

1. **Prayer**— By Fr. Rolling

2. **Approval of Minutes**—from Nov. meeting—Submitted by Megan Driessen

Name spelling correction from Karen to Caren Buysse was amended. No other suggestions.

3. **Old Business**

a. **End of Year Alumni Giving Letter**—Fr. Brendan

Letter being mailed to alumni was reviewed.

Suggested amendments:

-Phrasing of where and why \$146,000 in the first paragraph to indicate dollar amount is subsidy for school.

- Change of 52 students to 50 students as a family moved.

-Suggestion to remove 3rd bullet point

-Wording of 5th bullet point to phrase that donations will be in the aid of retaining quality teachers and keeping Catholic education at the forefront of donations.

-St. Peter Stakeholder Report is titled St. Peter Midyear Alumni Report

-Signed by Fr. Rolling, finance council, and education committee.

- Alumni Fall Report—Lori

No notable update.

b. **Football Frenzy Ticket Sales**—Profit of \$1,696.50 (plus \$700 of prize money given away)

c. **Prime Rib Supper**—“Snow Angel Social”

- **COF not doing Matching Grant as in the past.**

Due to concern of location relation, beverage selections, and COF involvement in planning of event. These concerns were not presented prior to their decision and COF was not involved in planning in years prior. Future plan is to include COF in planning of the event and work as a collaborative group, sub-committee was suggested.

d. **Venmo**

Main discussion included fees, financial capability with account, and location of QR code for parishioners to locate. Bulletin and email were suggested. Square platform was also suggested as there may not be a fee related as long as funds are held by Square for certain length of time prior to deposit. Brain McKeen plans on looking further into fee and which platform would best serve St. Peters Church/School. Conversation of online giving platform WeShare is thought to be purchased by ParishSoft. Current fee of 3% on this platform was discussed about how to inform payers of fee, and how to include fee in the total purchase so the church/school does not cover this expense.

e. **IT Solutions**

Discussion is on hold due to costs and numbers still in transit.

4. **New Business**

a. **Staff Update**—Jenna Drietz—5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>

Classroom is doing well and organized after her maternity leave. Children are working on activities for upcoming Catholic Schools Week events.

b. **Catholic United Financial Car Raffle**—Lori

Raffle tickets to be sent home with students in about 2 weeks time. This is the last fundraising event of the year for the school with 100% proceeds to go to the school. Goal of \$20,000 in funds raised.

c. **Consultant Review**—Lori & Fr. Brendan

Fr. Rolling suggested meeting members review and send questions at another time.

Main discussion included if Mueller Education Solutions LLC could provide specific examples of how to fulfill each suggested standard or a list of contacts from parishes that have worked with Mueller prior. Mrs. Rangaard pointed out that most suggested standards in their recommendations will be a good reference point while undergoing current school accreditation.

d. **Catholic Schools Week**—Lori

Calendar with events was reviewed.

e. **From State of the Parish meeting with Fr. Steve Verhelst on Dec. 1: parish baptism report, parish funeral report**—Fr. Brendan

Baptism 97 children and 55 funerals indicating growth of parish. Fr. mentioned numbers might be slightly skewed as out of parish persons may have been baptised or funerals performed by St. Peters.

**f. From the last Ed. Committee and State of the Parish meeting, template for expense report for input—Fr Brendan**

Suggestion to design expense report such as Nov 11th, 2024 income report memo and only include parish expenses as school already has detailed budget report of income/expenses already accessible.

added to new business:

report of Nov 4th school round up: 4 new families attended and 3 registered, 1 of which was an established family. Next roundup scheduled for March 3rd from 4-6pm.

Snow Angel Social

- \$60 per ticket was approved

- Mrs. Rangaard looking into if we could put an icehouse near bowling alley to help with food transport and storage.

- Canby Chiropractic, Bette Steffen, and Lori Rangaard each donated an hour of time to offset venue fee, leaving only \$75 for venue location fee. 2 drink ticket expenses will be calculated at end of event.

- Estimating 8 tables of 10 people. More information will be available when event tickets are turned in.

**5. Budget**

**a. Review current budget—Lori**

Budget reviewed. Questions were raised of what new expenses the school has seen over the years. Most expenses have been stable per Mrs. Rangaard, however unique Covid monies and payments have been forwarded onto different year budgets and skews each year.

**b. End of year giving—Finance Council Members**

Increased donations, but not enough to offset current deficit.

**c. Parish Sunday offering update and projection—Finance Council Members**

Discussion of how to schedule priests to cover weekend masses to have a consistent mass schedule. Discussion of mass time changes and concerns. Suggestion of incorporating CCD students along with St. Peter students to cover a “children's mass” a certain weekend per month. Suggestion of having “for pete sake” second collection during those masses.

Fr. Rolling mentioned second collections were supposed to be occurring during certain masses and it was noted that they have not been occurring.

**d. Total Parish Budget Projection—Finance Council Members**

Finance council reviewed memo with current and projected shortfall of \$122,426.54 by 6/30/25. Discussion concluded that expenses were going to be further reviewed when the report is made available. Increase of tuition will be discussed when tuition meeting occurs for next school year to offset subsidy. Savings was suggested to cover costs for current shortfall, but will not be sustainable much longer. Note that all accounts were back to zero as of August 2024 due to withdrawal from parish savings on 7/17/24 and 8/26/24.

**6. Religious Education—Kari Nilles—RE Update submitted by Kari**

**a. Upcoming sacraments/sacramental prep:**

- January 26 at 1-5 in Ivanhoe Confirmation Retreat
- February 1 at 10-12 in Ivanhoe First Reconciliation & retreat for 2nd graders
- February 23 at 10:30 in Wilno Confirmation Mass with Bishop LeVoir (Bishop Zielinski has a conflict)
- April 5 at 10-12 in Ivanhoe First Communion Retreat & Practice
- April 26 5:00 First Communion in Lake Benton
- April 27 10:00 First Communion in Tyler
- May 3 5:00 First Communion in Ivanhoe
- May 4 10:00 First Communion in Wilno
- May 4 1:00 First Communion in Canby
- May 11 8:30 First Communion in St Leo

**b. We have 23 students being confirmed from Christ the King AFC and one (currently 3 as of 2/10/25) students joining us from Minnesota/Ghent. We have 31 students making their First Reconciliation and receiving their First Communion.**

**c. Other upcoming events/activities:**

- February 23 at 4-8 in Olivia COR Night (in December we took a bus and had 36 students & 8 adults)
- April 13 Palm Sunday Fundraiser Waffle Feed/Silent Auction/Bake Sale for Religious Ed (pays for Totus Tuus & COR Night)

I'm waiting on dates for Totus Tuus, hoping we will get the first 3 weeks of June as we did last year and hosting it in Canby, Tyler, and Ivanhoe

**7. Next Meeting Date: Thursday, Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm**

**Future Meeting Dates**

Education Committee

- Thurs., March 20
- Mon., April 7 or 14
- Thurs., May 22