



Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 19, 2023
Administration Office

Members Present: Fr. Brad Pelzel, Jennifer Rose-Bass, Rhonda Bridges, Teresa Fitch, Fr. Tim Friedrichsen, Rick Bertrand, Dan Kriener, Jacki Kelly, Ben Uhl, Teresa Fitch, Fr. David Hemann, Nick Hegarty, Fr. David Esquiliano

Staff Present: John Flanery, Kelsey Schomaker, Marisa O'Connell

1. Opening Prayer – 5:00 p.m. Fr. Tim Friedrichsen
2. Approval of August Board Meeting Minutes
Motion by: Fr. Tim Friedrichsen
Seconded by: Jennifer Rose-Bass
Abstained: Fr. David Esquiliano
All in Favor : Aye
3. Laurie Dougherty, Director of Enrollment
 - Discussed enrollment trends and the future opportunities for BHCS to make improvements in the ESA process.
 - ESA feedback from families
 - Concerns regarding ESA dollars going to schools instead of reducing parents out of pocket tuition expense. Families state that they are still paying close to last year's minimum tuition amount. Some parents feel as if ESA's have not been beneficial to them.
 - ESA committee will discuss how to improve marketing or communication regarding the ESA process.
 - Federal poverty level will be different for 2024-25 school year
 - Will ESA program continue (clarify that ESA's are not a yearly vote in state; would take all 3 bodies of government to remove)
4. Committee Reports
 - a. Academics – Nick Hegarty
 - No meeting held.
 - b. Catholic Identity – Jacki Kelly – see attachment
 - Planning weekend retreats in both fall and spring semesters.
 - Will observe a tiered retreat at Skutt and possibly change up retreat days to go as a tiered retreat rather than by grade.
 - Discussed how to teach Catholic education without Catholic teachers?
 - c. Enrollment and Marketing – Jennifer Rose-Bass – see attachment.
 - Laurie to have a new student check-in with lunch.
 - Enrollment as of September 12th - 1623 students.
 - Approved ESA number is 663.
 - Create a uniform guideline video for high school and elementary by October Marketing Meeting.
 - Family Survey still needs to be distributed.

- d. Finance – Kelsey - see attachments
- Tuition receivables – \$6,081,535 outstanding balance with \$1,284,215 payments received in August.
 - Reviewed tuition billing statistics including \$15 million in tuition billed. 15 students from the 2022-23 hold list were not enrolled due to remaining, unpaid balances from prior years.
 - Parish receivables
 - Did not receive monthly payments from Holy Cross
 - Discussed in length the impact the ESA program would have on monthly parish investment payments
 - Executive Committee and parish priests/representatives will meet on Tuesday, September 26th to discuss parish investments.
 - Follow-up meeting will be held on November 7th
 - ESA Updated Numbers and Payment
 - 663 ESAs approved, or \$5,062,005 in ESA funds
 - 40 approved ESAs still have not been paid by Odyssey
 - No definitive dates have been released for parents to accept the 2nd semester of tuition
 - ESA committee
 - Will reconvene in October to discuss parishes & ESAs
 - Finance Request – safety options and other items
 - Security expense - \$150,000
 - \$60,000 ballistic shields or film/coverings for doors and windows
 - \$45,000 panic buttons and corresponding alert system
 - School Bus
 - \$45,000 expense
 - 42,000 miles, fits 44 students
 - Needs to be painted school bus yellow
 - Will see if EANS funds can be used
- e. Leadership & Governance - Melissa Uhl – see attachment
- Committee reviewed first draft of the Naming Rights Policy and Tuition Scholarship Policy
 - Next policy creation will be Recruitment & Selection for Teacher's policy

5. President's Report

- a. Advancement
- 2023-2024 year-to-date numbers reviewed with documentation.
 - Fall Formal Legacy Campaign event on Wednesday, November 8 at the Warrior Hotel. More information is coming soon.
 - MLTF has been slow for BHCS and across the Diocese. Most have raised about half year to date over last year funds.
 - Siouxland Big Give – Tuesday, October 3 – Legacy Trophy case is the project with a goal of \$18,000.
- b. EANS Update – the deadline to encumber funds was moved from June 30, 2024 to November 15, 2023. All funds must be spent by May 31, 2024. Please submit any and all requests for the schools as soon as possible.
- c. ISASP test scores – review the documentation. Great scores for our students and teachers. We did not see any decline which is unique in our area as well as nationally.
- d. General updates
- Hall of Pride on Saturday, September 30 at the Convention Center. Six new inductees in the class of 2023.
 - Homecoming is the week of October 2-7.

6. Other Business

- Discussion of budget access
 - A prior request was made by board members for distribution of the spreadsheets for a detailed review of the 2023-24 budget that was approved in June. Discussed historical practice and need for confidentiality of wages/benefits. A request will be made to the Diocese for guidance on best practices.
- Suggestion was made to have a teacher appreciation night at a football or basketball game. John Flanery will follow up with the athletic directors.

7. Motion to Adjourn 6:15 p.m.

- a. Motion – Jennifer Rose-Bass
- b. Seconded – Rhonda Bridges
- c. All in favor – Aye

Next meeting Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.