**Holy Trinity School Advisory Commission**

**Minutes of the Holy Trinity School Advisory Commission**

**Meeting Date**: March 7th, 2024

**Members Present:** Amanda Longden (Principal), Luke Piwoni, Maggie Lijewski, Amanda Carter, Elise Zupan, Christa Susen.

Also present: Rhiannon Olsen (Parish Liaison), Dani Knorr (Home & School)

**Members Excused:** Michael Lake, Sara Weninger

**Meeting Minutes:**

1. **Opening Prayer**: Maggie called the meeting to order at 5:03pm with the Our Father.
2. **Visitor Comments:**
   1. Concern: Work on communication between church and school.
3. **Approval of January 4th, 2024 Minutes:**
   1. Motion to Approve January 4th, 2024 meeting minutes: Approved by Christa and Luke.
4. **Old Business:** 
   1. Advisory Self-Assessment/Succession Planning
   2. Safety Drill Discussions
   3. Tuition/Registration paperwork went out
   4. Accreditation Review
5. **Reports and Committee Updates:**
   1. **Principals Report – Mrs Longden:**
      1. Pancake breakfast this Saturday; 79 tickets sold so far. Can buy tickets the day of.
      2. 130 students enrolled for next year currently, still waiting on a few families. Nine new students (three new families). Three from 3K not returning, one from 4K not returning, two from 4th grade not returning.
      3. Staffing Updates: Angela Schickert retiring after this year.
      4. Iowa Testing is going well. Students enjoy the snacks.
      5. Spirit-Wear Order is in the works and will be out soon.
      6. Spring Concert preparation is going well
      7. The ’24-’25 School Calendar is being worked on; working on finalizing it. Tentative start date for next school year is Monday, August 25th, 2024.
      8. Playground Update: Concrete work was pushed back due to contractor delays but hopefully will be done this summer. Concrete slabs for 4-Square and Kickball. Also plan to add volleyball poles, soccer nets etc. Hopefully all will be complete by next school year.
      9. Library Remodel: Working on it still. Hopefully done by next school year maybe.
   2. **Pastoral Council Liaison Report: Rhiannon Olson:**
      1. Father wants to maybe end the Scholastic Book Fair to align more with the church’s beliefs. Looking at more options.
      2. Father looking into maybe a new website for the church and school; potentially combining the parish and school website into one instead of having two separate websites. Unknown if it’s too in depth of a project to do though.
   3. **Advancement Committee Report – Angie Kern:** (Angie not present; sent email with updates prior to meeting):
      1. Chili Luncheon went well. Full page ad on Statemen from it, as well as bulletin inserts.
      2. Student testimonials went out. Would like to get testimonials out more regularly.
      3. HT featured twice in the Catholic Herald during Catholic Schools Week.
      4. Link for virtual tour.
      5. Looking for more reviews to be done via Facebook/Google etc.
      6. Advertise for the Pancake Breakfast.
   4. **Home and School Report – Dani Knorr**
      1. Chili Luncheon went great. Made roughly $1,400.
      2. Bingo on 3/22/24 coming up. Pizza/prizes/snacks. People have been RSVP’ing.
      3. Flower sale flyers coming out next week. Variety hanging baskets and variety planters.
6. **New Business:**
   1. **New Policy Regarding Teachers:**
      1. After many discussions and talking with other principals at both public and private schools, proposing new policy effective as of the start of next school year that teachers should not be allowed to have their own children in their classroom, applying to grades 2nd and above. Concerns due to testing, academics, fairness, how to effectively grade your own child, concern of conflicts of helping studying for tests etc. Proposal is to pursue this policy. If a teacher has an incoming student that is their own child, they would be temporarily moved to a different grade. If that teacher has multiple students in the school and there are additional children that may come through that grade, said teacher would stay moved to a different grade until both children finished that original grade. Then that teacher could be moved back to the original grade.
         1. Recommendation was given to pursue a policy for this. All members present approved a recommendation for a policy. No members opposed.

**Closing Prayer at 6:18pm, meeting adjourned.**