



# Saint Michael School

Tel: (989) 967-3681 [www.stmikes.us](http://www.stmikes.us)

## St. Michael School Board Minutes

April 4, 2024

### I. Opening Prayer: Karen

### II. Mission Statement Recital

**We are committed to providing students an exemplary education centered on traditional Catholic values, inspiring them to walk with God, learn, grow, and serve.**

It is time I get your input for review of the mission statement. This is something we should do each year. Do you have anything you would like to share with me? Included is a link to a survey about the mission statement.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdizNRodS36H8kkoidj0\\_Tktsmzn\\_YfeVWKpjtFBaFq76Bo5w/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdizNRodS36H8kkoidj0_Tktsmzn_YfeVWKpjtFBaFq76Bo5w/viewform?usp=sf_link)

### III. Roll Call

Karen Gostomski, Chuck Morrison, Dee Powell, Lisa Smith, Michelle Charron, Amber Snow, Mikki Edwards

### IV. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve - Chuck

Second - Dee

Approved

### V. Comments From the Floor

None

### VI. Discussion Topics

#### • Approval of minutes from March 7, 2024 board meeting

- Motion to approve
- Second

#### • Finance/Budget Update

- I had a phone call from Dr. Grover and two board members about shared time services. It was a positive meeting, but Dr. Grover still expressed some concerns. If we went with Chippewa Hills, we would have to make the change from Art to Spanish and staffing changes. It would also require that we use their curriculum.
  - The board has requested that we see both Brighton's and Chippewa Hills' contracts and compare/contrast them. Karen will get these to us.

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- The finance council asked Karen this morning to critically look at significant budget cuts for next year's budget.
  - Switching from Art to Spanish would save about \$25,000
  - It is difficult to know where else we could cut
  - Concern was expressed about why we were asked to cut so much from our budget, when looking at an increase in students for next year
  - Shared time will save between \$60,000 - \$80,000
  - Preschool has run \$40,000 in the hole for the last couple of years. The GSRP program would cover this.
  - Karen's proposed budget for next year includes cost-of-living increases for each of the teachers for the coming year, along with adding a 3rd grade position, and a Kindergarten position.
  - We would like more information from the finance council on this. There is another meeting next Thursday. Karen will update us with more information afterwards.
- We have been awarded the 31aa grant at \$18,120 which is up by almost \$3,500 from what was originally requested - this is safety money.
- We received the matching grant from Giving Tuesday of \$1,000. This is safety money.
- We are NOT allowed to apply for the FEMA grant that would have been so beneficial to us. This is a directive from the Diocese.
- **Personnel Update**
  - We need a GSRP teacher. Karen met with another prospect Thursday morning. She will meet with the MOISD tomorrow to go over credentials and all that this candidate brings to the table.
    - The sign-on bonus from the MOISD will cover separating the room into two, wages for this teacher, and all necessary updates and equipment for the new GSRP teacher and classroom. The MOISD will take 15% of the FTEs per student, so we will be receiving approximately \$8,000 per student.
  - We are very interested in a 3rd grade teacher, but it remains to be seen.
  - We have two new students who just started in our school and we have 12 more (new to us) enrolling for fall. Our numbers are on the rise - we just would like more in some of the areas where we are low. Karen has been challenged to begin recruiting further to try to get another 15-20 more besides the 12 for fall. Any other ideas for recruitment?

## VII. Action Items

### Committee Assignments 2023/2024

- **Building, Grounds & Safety** - Karen would like the board's input on the Safety recommendations to begin this summer before going to the finance council and Father Tom.
  - We have raised \$61,128.75 to date for the Safety Campaign
  - We plan to use the following security features from the Lockout Company, Five Star Window, 180 Design, and Statewide Security:
    - silent boots, ballistic shields, rapid response placards, safety templates, staff/student training, and critical mapping from the Lockout company (just under \$39,000)
    - 3M film over our windows from Five Star Window
    - privacy screening for the entrance coming into the elementary from 180 Design
    - door controllers and card readers from Statewide Security
  - \$57,332 remains in the safety fund, as we have already spent some of our \$62,000 on

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the panic buttons and some things with the cameras

- Motion to approve the above purchases
  - Motion - Chuck
  - Second - Mikki
  - Approved
- **Marketing & Communications** - Our website is up and running. We are using social media non-stop. Karen has contracted with the Pioneer to do a media blitz for Kindergarten and Preschool round up. School Board members are each requested to send in information for a bio outline on the school website
- **Development - Foundation/Recruitment** - We have our round up for preschool and kindergarten on April 12th. At that time, we should have a nice view of what our numbers are looking like K-6. Preschool enrollment will continue through the spring and summer, as will all of our enrollment. Karen has made the announcement about our new preschool and about the continuation of our half day preschools.
- **Finance** - We are currently working on next year's budget and making cuts
- **Planning & Policy/ Mission Effectiveness** - Karen has been looking through this. We have our mission statement, but we do not have our vision statement. We probably need to embark on a board review with our vision, mission and implementation goals.
- **Technology** - *We do plan to institute a technology fee for all students K-6 of \$200 per student. We are not raising tuition and this is a special fund. This is still a discussion item - Karen was sharing from other groups. This is being re-visited from last meeting.*
- **Home & School** - The fish fries have been amazing. We should make approximately \$14,000. The leftover supplies are being sold off. Jill Charron did an absolutely amazing job. Karen will be meeting with Dennis Wolfe (and Chuck has offered to help) to meet about St. Mike's on Spikes and Dennis would like us to take on some more of the responsibilities of the fundraiser. Karen will be meeting with him tomorrow.

#### VIII. Principal Update

- Safety updates are above
- March 19th was Non-public school policy day with the legislature. The governor's proposal is now removing safety funds from non-public schools. It is also still not providing lunches and Karen is concerned about the treatment of incoming teachers and teachers choosing to teach in a non-public school. There are no updates as of yet.
- There is talk of making Kindergarten mandatory. Not sure how this will look, but Karen will keep us posted. This will impact shared time if this happens.
- Given the recent upheaval in Beal City and Mt. Pleasant and some of the petitions that have been proposed for the Beal City priest, there have been some very positive comments about Fr. Tom Boufford. The staff has also been amazing through all of these community issues and their commitment to love our kids.

#### IX. Father's Comment

None

#### X. Dismissal prayer: Karen

Next Meeting: May 2nd

Dave Faber will be here. He will be here most of the afternoon if you would like to be with us from 2 p.m. on.

School Board Committees: building, grounds & safety, marketing & communications, development, finance, mission effectiveness, planning & policy, technology, foundation, home & school.

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