



# Saint Michael School

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

## St. Michael School Board Minutes

April 30, 2024 at 6 p.m.

I. **Opening Prayer:** *Karen Heavenly Father, we gather here today in the spirit of community. As we come together for this meeting, we acknowledge the strength and guidance that Your presence provides. May our prayers throughout this gathering be a source of unity and inspiration. May Your wisdom illuminate our minds and hearts, leading us to make recommendations that align with Your will and serve the greater good.*

## 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.**

## III. Roll Call

A. Karen Gostomski, Fr. Tom Boufford, Chuck Morrison, Dee Powell, Amber Snow, Michelle Charron, Niki Ray, Mikki Edwards

## IV. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve - Chuck  
Second - Dee  
Approved

## V. Comments From the Floor

None

## VI. Discussion Topics

### A. Finance/Budget Update

- a. Getting caught up on overdue tuition (Niki)
  - o Currently \$12,203 in outstanding tuition (spread among 9 families). This is a work in progress.
- b. About \$140,000 from Home and School has not been transferred, nor the support from the parish (about \$40,000) (Karen and Amber)
- c. Clarification of questions about tuition commitment forms with wording and adjustments (Karen)
  - 5 families affected by the change in tuition adjustment that was made to correct an error from previous years. 4 of the 5 have returned their tuition commitment forms for next year already, without issue (Karen)
  - Discussion on the wording from tuition commitment form and the parent handbook. Concerns that removing the word "required" from the forms will keep families from volunteering. (Chuck) Request was made to review this tuition commitment form every year. (Dee) Reminder that as a school board, we are an advisory role to Karen for decisions such as these. The first year of a new job is very challenging and Karen has had to make some decisions about things to try to improve in areas where we can. We can give the wording a try and see. It would be helpful to see previous year's home and school's

- contributions and budgets from the last 5-10 years, to help us have a better understanding of the history to help shape the future. (Amber)
- Concerns brought up about inaccuracies of information in communication from Karen about numbers from auction and fish fry, and Karen spoke to the fact that we had lost all last summer in raffle ticket sales. Compared to the previous year (2022-2023) The auction brought in \$20,000 less this year, but it was still a successful auction. (Chuck and Karen)
- d. Questions about an application/vetting process for accepting new families enrollment to make sure that they will be a part of the school community and understand the commitments and expectations that we hold our parents and students to. (Dee)

## **VI. Action Items**

### **Committee Assignments 2023/2024**

#### **• Finance/Budget Suggestions**

- The initial conversation from Jess and Mike was a 5.1% cost of living increase, but then they came back and lowered that to a 3% multiplier, which is what the diocese recommended. (Karen and Amber)
- The finance committee meetings have been productive and enlightening and there are questions about next year's budget because of so many changes (GSRP, enrollment changes, etc.), but conversations have been positive and a collaborative effort (Amber)
- Next year's proposed budget is only \$30,000 more than Jerry's budget for this current year, and that includes GSRP and the other programs.

#### **• Personnel Update - shared time recommendation**

- Question about a personnel discipline action (Chuck).
- Almost to four students in GSRP - MOISD assures us our numbers will be there. We have to have at least 12 by August 1st.
- Currently at 10 and 11 in our 3s and 4s - Miss Jessica is feeling very good about these numbers. We spoke about them yesterday.
- Trying to figure out classrooms working with Tadpoles. There will not be a wall put up in the library because the cost of that is \$20,000. Working with Amy to figure out possible solutions to regain a classroom.
- The 3rd grade teacher applicant has not let us know yet whether she has accepted the position, but will be doing so. If she declines, we will still be hiring for that position.
- We will not be hiring for the part-time para position that we were looking at, but will be able to keep our current staff members.
- The specials teachers all need to become certified, over a three year period, and there is professional development money as part of the shared-time contract to assist them with that.
- The interventionist position will be teaching Spanish twice per week, supporting religion instruction (specifically to Kindergarten), offering school-wide retreats during Advent and Lent, and will continue teaching sacramental prep. It will equal out to about 2 days/week of Spanish, 2 days/week of intervention, and 1 day/week of religion. The intervention role includes helping with testing, identifying individualized needs based on data, and giving students intensive academic interventions as needed (Karen and Niki)
  - A job description for this position has been requested so that all parties fully understand. There is confusion about where money is coming from to fund the position (coming from shared-time, general fund, and potential Title funding).

## **VIII. Principal Update**

- Dr. Grover has resigned at Chippewa Hills, HS principal Michelle Newman will be taking over and working with Karen on the shared time agreement.
- Shared Time Contract- Karen provided contracts from Jackson Public and CHSD to review and compare.
  - We are able to maintain the position that there had been concern about having to eliminate before due to losing art by not hiring a part-time para-pro. That teacher will still be teaching art to 5th and 6th grades and that will come out of the shared time budget. Other of her titles (including library) will come out of the general

budget.

**IX. Father's Comment**

- None

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**X. Dismissal prayer:** *"Awesome God, as we leave this place, we put our trust in you because we know you will never shame us. We hope continually in you and praise you more and more. May we tell of your righteousness as we leave this place and even when we come back. Be our guide in everything that we do and lead us to the rock that is higher than us. Help us to abide in your word and let it guide us in all that we do. We shall continue to look up to you because we know that you are our shepherd, and we shall not lack anything. In Jesus' name, we believe and pray, Amen."*

Next Meeting: May 2nd and 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. We are having supper from 5-6 here at the school - chicken alfredo, salad and dessert.

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

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