

St. Columban Parish – Education Commission

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

7:00 P.M.

Call to Order: Adrienne Stella

Opening Prayer: Nick Warnecke

Attending: Father Larry, Jo Rhoten, Joe Crachiolo, Stephanie Quehl, John Zazycki, Sarah Thompson, Adrienne Stella, Christine Hiller, Nick Warnecke, Nick Berning, Andrea Flagg, Katie Marshall, Jenn Stacey

St Columban Parish Listening & Visioning Session: Nick Warnecke

Nick Warnecke led a listening and vision session for the Parish Vision Team. He started by reading a Prayer to Guide Our Planning Process. The group discussed moments when their eyes were first opened to God at St. Columban Parish. Everyone was asked to share three visions they hoped to be recognized at St. Columban by 2021.

The Vision Team will lead a total of 10 listening sessions. They reconvene on November 6 to review data gathered from the listening sessions and identify 3 final priorities. The Vision Team may come back to groups who participated in listening session for additional conversations.

Updates

A) Parish Council: John Zazycki

- Parish Vision Team was discussed
- Interfaith Hospitality Network hosting dinner is next week. Next week is the last week of the year for Interfaith Hospitality Network.
- Parish Council is stepping back from goal setting to see what comes out of the Parish Vision Team

B) PTO: Sarah Thompson

- Issues with school kits missing supplies. Some boxes only had 3 out of more than 20 supplies. 3rd graders didn't even receive their school kits books. All issues have been resolved. All students who ordered school kits now have all their supplies. Looking at different companies to order supplies kits from next year.
- Fun Run is Friday, October 6.

- Pledges are tax deductible. Email Sarah Thompson for receipt. Receipts will be sent home with students at the end of the program (mid-November). Collection dates for pledges are October 13th, 20th and possibility a third date if needed.
- As of today, 88% of students registered for Fun Run (same as last year)
- 42% (of the 88%) made pledges (lower than last year)
- Current Pledges: \$21,000
- 6th - 8th grade participation is lower than last yearbook
- Pledging Goals met:
 - o Pledges from 5 countries – Silly String Father Larry
- 8th grade did meet their goal and received \$1,000 for the 8th grade trip
- A door decorating contest was held. 3 classes will get a pizza party of Friday

C) Pastoral: Father Larry

- Thank you to all the people who helped with Grandparents Day
- Staff working on Vision Project
 - 6 month project to be completed in March 2018
 - During October all groups will meet with Vision Team
 - 2 general meetings will be held and are open to everyone. Dates will be in the church bulletin
- Staff took a 2 day retreat
- Working on budget for next year

D) School: Jo Rhoten

- In service day for teachers on Monday, October 9th
- 4 main school goals
 - o Goal #1 – Accreditation
 - We are starting Year 1 of 6 year cycle
 - Year 1 – collecting data
 - Survey created by archdiocese for parents to completed
 - 166 of 354 families fill out the survey
 - Have received data from surveys
 - Year 2 – Review Data
 - Years 3-6 – Processing and Implementation
 - o Goal #2 – Completing the requirements for Pre-K
 - Site Visit
 - Purchasing additional materials for instruction
 - Making any changes necessary to improve the program
 - o Goal #3 – Optim-All
 - Jo Rhoten, Joe Crachiolo and 2 teachers joined a non-profit that provides services to help schools work with exceptional learners
 - Exceptional learners included students who are struggling, gifted and in the middle

- It is a 2 year commitment
 - 1st year – we receive 5 hours of support
 - 2nd year – we receive 15-20 hours of support
 - Goal #4 – VOCARE Certification Process
 - Mrs. Rhoten and all religion teachers have to go through the VOCARE certification process
 - 2 year program
- First year of PreK
 - Wonderful addition to school
 - Class is full with 40 students
 - 6 students are on the waiting list
- Auxiliary changes
 - Requested psychologist on-site 4 days a week, but did not get it
 - 2 intervention specialist did not come back this school year
 - Hamilton County is helping to fill the void by providing 2 different psychologist each 1 day a week. A school counselor will be on-site a 3rd day each week
 - They will help with 2nd step, bullying, minor testing, intervention as well as other situations

E) Pre K / Kindergarten Social Action Committee: Jenn Stacey, Katie Marshall

- Held 2 activities this summer for the PreK and Kindergarten
 - Kids played for hours and parents met
 - Received positive feedback
 - Teachers and administration attended events
 - Slushie truck provided
- PreK had a second get together
- Events helped families to get to know each other
- Since the fall is so busy, not a lot of interest in another event
- Truck or Treat
 - 1st year
 - Activity for PreK and Kindergarten as well as new families in other grades
 - Open to everyone
 - Mr. Drinnen and 8th graders will be in charge of parking
 - Knights of Columbus will provide hot dogs and popcorn
- No need for this committee going forward
- Activities should continue next summer
 - Discuss adding a position with PTO - “Grade Level Liaison”
 - 2 positions – one for PreK and one for Kindergarten. The PreK person moves up to K and a new person steps into the PreK position
 - 2 year commitment
 - Looking for people who enjoys connecting people

F) School Building/Grounds Committee: Nick Berning

- Going through list with Phil

G) Tuition Assistance Fund: Adrienne Stella and Andrea Flagg

- Looked at possibility of helping with Amazing Race and Flying Pig
 - o Would only make \$500-\$800 and it would take a lot of man power to volunteer at the Flying Pig
 - o Multiple other groups from parish volunteering at the Amazing Race
- Looking for ways to earn money outside of St. Columban as to not take away funding from other groups
- May talk to Primetimers about funding tuition assistance
- Will approach Knights of Columbus about tuition assistance and golf outing
- Discussed possibility of sponsoring a child
- Looking for input

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 7, 2017; 7-8:30 P.M.

Closing Prayer: Adrienne Stella

8:45 P.M.