

**Lourdes Catholic School – Board of Education**  
**Tuesday, May 17, 2022 – 5:30 PM**  
**Minutes**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

- President Dave Reilly called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.
- BOE Members Present: Dave Reilly, Sandra Adamson, Teresa Bechen, Chelsea Bush, Father Crossen, Tyler Edwards, Brian Nikulski
- BOE Members Absent: Tom Quinn, Kurt Tressel
- Non-Voting Members Present: Brett Adams, Jennifer Alongi, Anne Camarena, Dan Colbrese, Sheryl Lackey, Father Lamansky, Gloria Mesick
- Non-Voting Members Absent: Jen Foley

**2. OPENING PRAYER**

- Father Lamansky opened the meeting and led the Board members and other attendees in prayer.

**3. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

- President Reilly asked all those in attendance at the BOE meeting to introduce themselves.
- Guests in attendance: Brian & Kristine Girskis, Tim Wilson, Erin Crigger, Angie Kaney, Nate Meier, Melissa Nelson

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- President Reilly asked for a motion to approve the agenda for the 4/19/2022 meeting. Motion to approve was made by Tyler Edwards/Seconded by Brian Nikulski to approve the agenda as written. Approved.

**5. AGENDA ACTION ITEMS**

- BOE calendar for 2022-23 School Year
- Nominations of new members to the BOE
- Vote for the Executive committee for the 2022-23 school year.

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- Prior to the approval of the minutes, President Reilly identified two corrections. Sandra noted corrections.
- President Reilly asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the 4/19/2022 BOE meeting. Motion to approve the minutes with corrections was made by Sandra Adamson/Seconded by Tyler Edwards. Approved.

**7. OPEN FORUM**

- a) President Reilly asked guests if they had any topics to present to the Board. He reminded guests that Open Forum is a time for the Board to hear/listen and to determine what action needs to be taken.
- b) Kristine Girskis shared concerns about class sizes and staffing for the 2022-23 school year. Although the threshold for class size is set at 30 students, larger classes are unable to provide the social and emotional needs of students as well as meeting success in reading and math classes.
- c) President Reilly thanked Kris for coming forward and sharing.
- d) Additional comments were made regarding supporting or not supporting a new school.

**8. OLD BUSINESS**

- President Reilly spoke about some of the comments and questions, that were brought up at the April BOE meeting and that it might be beneficial to hold a “Town Hall/Open Forum” meeting where parents can ask questions.
- Schedule a large Open Forum meeting prior to the start of the next school year where parents ask questions and can meet and get to know the new principal, Mr. Hughes.
- Parents/Teachers have staffing concerns going into the new school year.
- Guests are encouraged to bring topics to the BOE that they would like discussed/considered.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

- No new business

## 9. FATHER JASON CROSSEN REPORT

- **LAND**
  - a) Talks continue about acquiring land. He is waiting to hear about the purchase of that land. Hopefully, he will hear this week.
- **CLASS SIZES**
  - a) With SCCS, St. John Vianney and Lourdes working in more of cooperative way with Catholic schools, we can hopefully afford to have smaller classes.
  - b) Father spoke about the reasoning for class size/staffing.
  - c) Enrollment is difficult to judge as it relates to staffing. There are benefits to having parents take advantage of early enrollment. This helps with staffing.
  - d) Focus on marketing.
  - e) Church and School must work cooperatively and together to have the best possible system. Contact Father with your questions and concerns.
  - f) We are a great growing community and have one of the best resources in the Catholic community.
- **FIRST COMMUNION/CONFIRMATION/GRADUATION**
  - a) First Communion and Confirmation went well.
  - b) Father is looking forward to graduation.
  - c) Couples are preparing for marriage
- **DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION**
  - a) Emily Andes is stepping down as Director of Religious Education. Her position needs to be filled.
- **LOURDES ENSEMBLE**
  - a) The Lourdes Ensemble is retiring. Father is looking into music positions.
- **EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL**
  - a) Father is working with the Diocese with the newest, biggest Diocesan event called The Eucharistic Revival which comes from the Vatican to try to encourage Eucharistic communities in the Church to grow.
- **WELCOMING COMMITTEE**
  - a) Father has been working with staff, stewardship and parish council to beef up the welcoming committee and to improve welcoming people to the parish and be sure that we are keeping connections. We would be building community in a better way.
- **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**
  - a) Board member, Teresa Bechen, spoke about class sizes and offered some suggestions about using a full-time staff person in key areas of reading and math to assist in any grade level. Someone who would move to a classroom when/where needed.
  - b) Anne Camarena stated that teachers need to be creative. How do we restructure within the financial guidelines/responsibility? We have to be creative with what we have and use it the very best we can.
  - c) Parents are concerned about staffing if enrollment increases for the 2022-23 school year as well as the difficulty in finding teachers in August.
- **FATHER LAMANSKY**
  - a) Father Lamansky is being reassigned to be the Parochial Vicar at Clinton on July 1st. He has also been assigned to be the school chaplain at Prince of Peace School in Clinton. He will be teaching Religion to juniors and seniors. Congratulations! We will miss you!!

## 10. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – Jennifer Alongi (See Full Report)

- **EANS MONEY**
  - a) Principal Alongi shared good news that Bettendorf, our third-party provider of the EANS money, were mistaken when they said LCS would only get to carry over 10% of the EANS money not spent. We will have the full amount to spend until September 2023.
  - b) LCS will have 3 part-time interventionists for next year using the EANS money. These expenses will not affect the school budget.
  - c) LCS should have at least \$5,000 of the EANS money left by the end of May 2023. This money will be able to be used next summer since it does not need to be spent until September 2023.

- **SIAC (SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE) (See Full Report)**
  - a) Ms. Alongi submitted the SIAC Report which she will make available to the new principal in June.
- **STAFFING CHANGES**
  - a) Principal Alongi shared information regarding staffing changes. She is looking for a replacement for one teaching position and a teacher's aide position.
  - b) Principal Alongi mentioned that the new principal will be completing his duties at his current job at the end of May. He stated that he would like to participate in the interview/hiring process at LCS.

**11. BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT – Sheryl Lackey (See Full Report)**

- Sheryl highlighted aspects of the Manager's Report.
- A new sign will be installed in June. Compliments of Starry Night.
- The gymnasium will be painted in June and will be funded with Starry Night funds.
- Sheryl went over changes/notes on page 5 of her Financial Report.
- For the month of April, the Church Subsidy was (\$25,216) and Budgeted amount was (\$27,383). Year-to-Date Church Subsidy is (\$302,946) and as compared to the budgeted amount (\$266,579).

**12. RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REPORT – Emily Andes/Brett Adams (See Full Report)**

- Sacrament season is coming to a successful close (1<sup>st</sup> communion, confirmation)
- Emily Andes stepping down from her position as the Director of Faith Formation.
- Middle School year programming is complete.
  - a) There were 14 youth night meetings throughout the school year. Approximately 75-80 percent of Lourdes students in grades 6 through 8 attended a youth night meeting, participated in the Lenten Bible Study and soup supper that was hosted for youth ministries.
- Brett mentioned that he is in the process of building "Peer Leadership" at the middle school ministry level.
- There will be a high school senior blessing on June 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Ensemble's last day will be Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. Mary and other members of the Ensemble are retiring.
- Steubenville Youth Conference
  - a) For outgoing 8<sup>th</sup> graders through grade 12 students
  - b) Date: July 15-17, 2022
  - c) Location: Mayo Civic Center (30 Civic Center Dr SE, 100 Mesa Rd. Rochester, MN)
  - d) Cost: (including lodging and meals while at the conference) will be around \$300 per participant. The only additional cost would be whatever is needed for transportation.
  - e) Brett encouraged parents to view the promo video's – links provided in his report and will be available on the website
  - f) Looking for Chaperones. Contact Brett Adams as soon as possible.
- Vacation Bible Study – is there going to be a VBS this year? Looking for volunteers. Information will be shared as soon as it is available.

**13. SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP REPORTS:**

- **BOOSTERS/AD REPORT – Dan Colbrese**
  - a) No updates at this time.
- **HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION – Jen Foley (See Full Report)**
  - a) President Reilly shared updates to Home & School.
  - b) New members were elected and announced. Denise Howell is the newly elected Home & School president and will be at the June BOE meeting.
  - c) There are excess funds (\$15,000 - \$20,000) still available through Starry Night. There will be discussion with teacher's/staff to determine if there are any needs.
- **TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE – Anne Camarena/ Gloria Mesick (See Full Report)**

- a) Gloria reported that in honor of Blessed Mother Mary, students have been saying the Rosary on Mondays.
  - b) Variety Show 5/17/2022 – The students are very talented.
  - c) Anne Camarena reported that teachers received the ISASP report. The student scores are amazing. The investment into staffing with EANS money helps to provide interventionists and additional resources for LCS kids. The rewards are seen in the test results.
  - d) Pre-School and PK are finishing up this week.
  - e) Pre-School participated in outdoor Yoga and created gigantic bubbles on the lawn. These activities were a lot of fun for students.
  - f) 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders are learning about Earth and how it can change over time slowly or quickly with floods, earthquakes or fire.
  - g) 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders are learning about Immigration. Students participated in an activity and enjoyed food from three different countries.
  - h) 5<sup>th</sup> Graders are preparing for Biz Town which will be held on May 24<sup>th</sup>.
- **PARISH COUNCIL REPORT** – Teresa Bechen
    - a) No report at this time. Parish Council to meet next week.
  - **ASSUMPTION HIGH SCHOOL REPORT** – John Leinart
    - a) No Report

#### 14. **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS: (See Full Report)**

- **FINANCE** – Sheryl Lackey
  - a) No additional comments.
- **POLICY & PROCEDURE**– Kurt Tressel
  - a) No updates at this time. Policies & Procedures completed for the year.
- **PUBLIC RELATIONS/MARKETING** – Tyler Edwards
  - a) The committee has not met.
  - b) Scott County Catholic School is integrating logos into the social media platform.
  - c) Suggestions to update student pictures.
- **ST. JOHN VIANNEY** - Update – Brian Nikulski
  - a) Brian stated that it is encouraging that the financial relationship between LCS and St. John Vianney is improving.
- **EXECUTIVE** – Dave Reilly
  - a) President Reilly asked for a motion to approve the BOE meeting schedule for the calendar 2022-23 school year calendar. It was agreed that meetings are to be held the third Tuesday of each month with the exception of December. The proposal is for the December 20<sup>th</sup> meeting to be moved to the second Tuesday (December 13<sup>th</sup>) and to begin at 5:30 p.m. There was a motion by Brian Nikulski to approve the BOE meeting schedule as presented and to be held at 6:00 p.m. Motion was approved.
  - b) The election for the Board of Education members is a 3-year term. There are three current members who are finishing up their terms. President Reilly thanked Tyler Edwards for his service. President Reilly has completed his 2<sup>nd</sup> term, but because he took over for President Melchert, there is an additional year to be fulfilled. Father Crossen approved Dave Reilly to remain as President for one year. Finally, Tom Quinn has elected to not run for a 2<sup>nd</sup> term.
  - c) Nominations to the Board are: Angie Kaney, Brent Morlock, Nate Meier.
  - d) President Reilly asked nominated individuals to give a quick introduction of themselves to the BOE and guests.
  - e) President Reilly asked for a motion to approve the three nominees to the BOE. Motion made by Teresa Bechen/Seconded by Brian Nikulski. Approved.
  - f) President Reilly stated that Tyler Edwards would run the Executive Committee voting process.
    - i) The results of the election for the Executive Board are as follows: President – Dave Reilly, Vice-President - Chelsea Bush, Secretary – Sandra Adamson  
All accepted positions. Congratulations.

- ii) Father would like Ms. Alongi to ask the school secretary to take notes at the BOE meetings during the next school year. This would allow the BOE secretary to more fully participate in the meeting. Father and Ms. Alongi will work out the details moving forward.
- g) President Reilly would like to see more involvement in the various committees. There is a lot of desire for more people to help with the various committees. He will send a list of the proposed committees, some of which President Andy Craig spoke about, to help with the transition to the Scott County Catholic Schools system. He asked BOE members to think about where their skills, involvement and passions lie. In June, the Board can determine which committees BOE members would like to serve.

**15. CLOSING PRAYER**

- Father Crossen led the BOE and guests in a closing prayer.

**16. Adjourn Regular Session**

- Motion to adjourn meeting offered by Sandra Adamson/Seconded by Brian Nikulski. Approved. Meeting adjourned 6:36 p.m.

**17. CLOSED SESSION IF NEEDED**

**18. ADJOURN**

**BOE School Board Meeting Dates. Time for all meetings is 6:00 p.m. and is held in the LCS library unless posted otherwise.**

- ✓ Tuesday, August 17, 2021
- ✓ Tuesday, September 21, 2021
- ✓ Tuesday, October 12, 2021
- ✓ Tuesday, November 16, 2021
- ✓ Tuesday, December 14, 2021
- ✓ Tuesday, January 18, 2022
- ✓ Tuesday, February 15, 2022
- ✓ Tuesday, March 29, 2022
- ✓ Tuesday, April 19, 2022
- ✓ Tuesday, May 17, 2022
- Tuesday, June 21, 2022