

AGENDA OF REGULAR MEETING – IN PERSON (LIBRARY)

1. CALL TO ORDER Brent called to order. Katie is called in
1. OPENING PRAYER (Fr. Jason) 5:02
1. WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS.
1. ROLL CALL: Brent Morlock, Father Jason, Miranda Lawrence, Nate Meier, Julie Rosales, Kris Girskis, Dave Reilly, Fr. Dane, John Fernas, Josh Mercer, Maria Stopuls, Greg Bauer, Alice Bauer, Leanna Holmes, Megan Wilkinson, Erin Crigger, Kristina Katherman, Kate Hanell, Pete Stopulos, Megan Stopulos, Brian Girskis, Katie Selden via phone, Bronya Conner
1. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA motion to accept Nate/Megan

0. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PAST MEETING motion to accept Nate/Megan

0. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS
 - a. Mrs. Katie Selden - enrollment as of August 12 2024 - approx 3 students who haven't arrived yet. Fluid enrollment. AS of this report 308 K-8 74 preschool/prek. Lower that preschool/prek last year. Staffing - welcomed several new staff. Open house coming up. Preschool and prek 4-6pm this friday. MS on one day and K-5th grade the following day. Start in the gym and move to classrooms afterwards.

1. PASTOR'S NOTES
 - a. Pastor (Fr. Jason) - busy summer. Meeting with Fr. Rich several times this summer. Talking about other options for fundraising. New committee for this Fall. SJV wants to focus on Upon this Rock. Hammering that out with leads today and Professor Burns. Working with Claudia on a development plan to continue to raise funds. Working with new staff and pastoral issues and concerns. Down two deacons. Deacon John and Deacon Chuck

2. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS
 - a. Teacher Report - began back to school with LETRs training. Met with St. Pauls. WOrked with Catholic identity. Unpack your backpack was great to see everyone.
 - b. Home and School Report - a lot of activity at the end of the school year and beginning of school year. Engage parents and new volunteers. New document and form for people to submit their interests and ways to connect with people. Continued interest among parents to maximize ways to celebrate and fundraise the last year in this building.
 - c. St. Joan of Arc update - construction is going well. Masonry work is going well. Gym is going well. A lot of steel is going up. Not hitting any material delays. Good weather and we're on time so far.
 - d. Athletic Director Report - NA
 - e. Marketing Report - 2nd uniform/spiritwear store is open. Might be a final one before Xmas.
 - f. Faith Formation Report - NA

0. ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION

Background - The function of the School Board has changed since SCCS has been put in place. The new building has been our focus.

0. ITEMS NEEDING DISCUSSION, BUT NOT NECESSARILY BOARD ACTION (OTHER BUSINESS)
 - a. St. Joan of Arc Building Debt Service - background - there is a larger finance committee between two parishes that have been working on this for a long time - probably 3 years. Katie and Brent were added in about 6 months ago. There's a smaller group that is working on how to pay the debt. The group has prepared a fee structure for that that was dependent on the total cost of the building. Unable to determine the fee cost until 38.3 million . 33.2 building. 2million land. Financing costs. Complicated funding costs. Mortgage costs, bonds. Upon this rock commitment. Campaign raised 17 million. Left to pay is 21 million.
 - b. Based on 85% occupancy -
 - c. SCCS is going to draw more from the ESA accounts to allow for less subsidy coming from the church.
 - d. What school families have contributed so far - at one point it was 10% we made a push for the number of families. \$736,000 (less than 2% of total project cost) pledged. 69 pledges Out of 146 families. Now at 240 families.
 - e. The Loan group is not here tonight on purpose. Next month they will be here to answer more detailed questions.
 - f. John Fernas - ESA money can not be used towards building cost. They're leaving \$500 in ESA account so that there is funds left over for the higher tuition rate for Assumption. Brent - A lot of rule changes in Iowa over the last two years. The law that changed last year for public school teachers set a minimum salary increase. We are going to try and reach 90% of that minimum so we are using most of the ESA for increased teacher salary. John F.: Can we get a breakdown of how ESA funds are used from Andy?
 - g. Brian G. - SJOA website says we will borrow 40% but the math shows that we're borrowing more than that.

- h. Pete - current enrollment is 308? 250 in 2023. What happens if this enrollment is affected by the fee structure? Brent: We believe that we are maxed out in this current building and we believe that we will continue to grow. Father: We will be scrambling to fundraise. Megan: When will parishioners know? Father: I've been working on a pastoral letter, its draft format but I keep getting sidetracked. I think it's going out next week. Joint finance council is meeting tomorrow.
- i. Pete: Is there any thought to deferring this for one year to get people in the building, experience the building the product and get people on board before you ask people to pay a fee. Allow some time for more giving and let people experience the building before you assess a fee?
- j. Brian: What and why the 60% we broke ground. Fr. Jason: Fr. Mac is very negative and we know that he's trying to make catholic education fail. We could have built in phases but everyone advocated to do the project in one phase. There was much participation in the studies. The studies said we were going to get it done but it would be difficult. There was going to be some kind of fee to pay off the debt. The diocesan leadership and our leadership overrode the general good practice of not breaking ground. We made the best decisions with the information that we had at the time. With risk brings concern. I did raise concerns, and we can continue to look back, but we need to also move forward. There was a lot of change happening at the same time. SCCS and ESA. Hindsight is 20/20. Trustees are on for 8 years. Brian: These numbers are very different - we are borrowing 55% vs 40% the amount we have to charge in the fee would be very different.
- k. When did this idea come around? There has always been an idea that we would have to pay a fee to pay down the debt.
- l. There should have been transparency from the beginning that there would be a fee. There is going to be a huge effect on new families who came here because ESA was going to cover all costs. They may not have come here if they knew that there was going to be a fee.
- m. Pete:
- n. If someone refuses to pay: low priority. So we can't kick them up but their priority in enrollment is involvement and stewardship in the school. HOw are we collecting the fee? However parents want to do it - mail in a statement. Is the option to sell Lourdes still being talked about. It's still being talked about but not on the table. It's all collateral. What is the cash value or leased value for the extra land? Cash value is stagnated but I don't think the trustees are fond of disposing of it yet. That would be the first that would go.
- o. John: SCCS rents the school? Are we charging SCCS a premium for the newer school? Right now, no. May not be a lot but can we consider that?
- p. Dave: Is the lease aspect? Intent is usage fee? Is the brand new gym hosting - can we charge for usage. I do believe with data I have the opinion the data is there, there is a lot of money sitting out there there is a lot of money out there that hasn't been received. We haven't gotten the help from a lot of people who are out there.
- q. Megan: What's the chain of command for fundraising? Claudia has all of the systems in place to collect fundraising money?
- R. Are pledge monies coming in? Yes pledge money is coming in? New families are coming, we need to be proactive w/ fam.
- s. 99% of the work is being done by 1% of the families.
- t. Asks for where the communication has been since December 2023
- u. Fr. Jason talk about measure for why the communication has not been available until now
- v. We need other solutions presented from the Board of Trustees
- w. Building school has about 5 years left before it is considered not usable
- x. Scholarships could help up to 50 families with Building Fee
- y. Current Building Debt Service Payment showing worst case scenario
- z. Non-board members raising concern that there is no other options being proposed
- 1. Refusal to pay?
 - o. Not kick out of school but will go down to low priority if we run out of room at the school
- 2. Question brought up around what Claudia's responsibilities are and where the proposals are for new campaigns and funding ideas
- 3. Could we charge SCCS for higher rent?
- 4. What about a higher Use Fee?
- 5. Consider per parish family fee?

0. PUBLIC COMMENT / OPEN FORUM: See above

0. CLOSED SESSION (IF NECESSARY)

0. CLOSING PRAYER: Fr. Dane

BOE Meeting Schedule: 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm (except as noted). Please note that with the planned move in next summer we have decided to forgo the June meeting and meet in July to prepare.

<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>
August 27 (5 P.M.)	January 14 July 15
September 17	February 11
October 8	March 11
November 12	April 8
December 10	May 13

