



St. Brendan School Advisory Board Meeting – **May 14, 2024 @ 6:00pm, Wellnitz Hall**

Agenda Topics		Topic Owner
1	Call to Order <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting called to order - 6:09</li> <li>Attendance: Kate Cavello, Chuck Boyle, Christine Mack, Averel Meden, Erin Owsley, Marie Adams, Matt, Adams, Rhonda Timko, Ted Nix, Shaun Casterano</li> </ul>	Averel Meden
2	Opening Prayer	Erin Owsley
3	Approval of <b>January 16, 2024</b> Meeting Minutes Motion to approve: Christine Mack Second: Ted Nix	Averel Meden
4	Pastor's Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diocesan tuition models – Diocesan Financial policies are not available right now because they are being rewritten to consider EdChoice. Going forward there will be no tiered subsidies for families because these reduce the amount that can be awarded through EdChoice.</li> <li>School families will not see a large increase this year and this will become evident once tuition invoices have been sent out.</li> <li>New tuition models will consider in this order the following: Ed choice/Jon Peterson, Emmaus Road, Diocesan assistance, and Parish grants.</li> <li><b>With the exception of EdChoice/Jon Peterson, everyone must apply through FACTS</b> in order to be considered for any of the above monies. This is mandatory starting this year, and the school is paying the FACTS fee for families. (See also Fr Bob's letter explaining this back in April).               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FACTS - Only 3 people see your financial information: Principal, VP, and Pastor. The rest of the school and parish administration do not see it and cannot access it.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Parish Offertory contributions are what provided subsidies in the past. These do not grow as fast as school budgets. Most parishes cannot sustain the old tiered models.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The goal is for all schools in the diocese to be self-sustaining - ST. B has been for 2 years - due to increased enrollment, controlled cost, and stewardship</li> <li>Any surplus in tuition each year will go to a School Parish Aid Fund at the diocese for our school's needs. None of it goes back to the parish.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Emmaus Road Results - 130k donated. The diocese allocated; now we can adjust as needed.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>80 families applied thru FACTS (Roughly 300 families) Keep in mind some families get all tuition via Ed Choice; some on old Ed Choice.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Fr. Bob Penhallurick

**OUR MISSION:**

St. Brendan School is dedicated to educating children in a Catholic community where spirituality is fostered, uniqueness is valued, and potential is realized.

**OUR VISION:**

St. Brendan School will be an affordable school of choice within the community which develops and fosters well-rounded individuals of high moral character based upon Catholic values

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Diocesan teacher contracts are negotiated. We always have to wait for those to be approved before we set tuition since they are 87% of our tuition.</li> <li>● Parish Support: Although school is operationally solvent, there are many capital improvement costs met by the parish. See examples below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ RTU unit died on top of school last Oct. - \$22k</li> <li>○ Lighting in church from 90's being upgraded this summer. Benefits school masses and other school events - \$120k</li> <li>○ Airflow handler for AC is 45 years old and will be replaced this summer - \$200k</li> <li>○ Parking lot repaving &amp; striping - \$100k</li> <li>○ All school bathrooms &amp; one in church being renovated- \$60k</li> <li>○ The parish will continue to support the school in these ways.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Question posed: With Catholic schools getting EdChoice money, is there a chance that the state will force us to teach secular ideas? Fr. Bob says absolutely not. If the state tried this, the Bishop would not take the state money and would restructure tuition models. The dignity of the human person is above all else.</li> <li>● 1st Holy Communions going well. This year we used a different method of formation: boxes going home to encourage family formation. Parents are the first educators of faith for kids. Fr. Dooley will decide if the format for 1st Communion services stays as is or changes.</li> <li>● Confirmation went well. Bishop was happy with how well kids were prepared.</li> </ul>	
5	<p>Principal's Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● School Enrollment- mostly complete. Same numbers as last year generally. Some classes are coming down to the comfortable 60 range. Still waiting lists in every grade level.</li> <li>● 7 staff replacements this year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ K-5 teachers required to be Catholic since they are teaching religion</li> <li>○ Middle school teachers are preferred Catholic but not required</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Standards Based Grading - being re-evaluated at the diocesan level for middle school. Should have decision soon (probably June).</li> </ul>	Kate Cavello
6	<p>President's Report:</p> <p>Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Have 6 candidates for SAB for next year. There are 2 open positions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ We will be sending out an electronic ballot soon</li> <li>○ Averel, Rhonda rolling off - Thank You!</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Spanish - it became an enrichment activity. About 30% kids took placement - only native speakers ever passed and tested out of Spanish I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Don't have space (Pendolfi had to use a cart). This is problematic.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Averel Meden

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 90k added to tuition</li> <li>○ Is it fair to only benefit a portion of kids that everyone pays?</li> <li>○ IEP has mandatory study hall - they used to not get Spanish</li> <li>○ There are other schools that don't offer Spanish. It's a decision for the Pastor and Principal.</li> <li>○ At this time, it doesn't make sense for our school since we were not seeing value.</li> <li>● SAB Ideas for next year - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Have the election sooner</li> <li>○ Have monthly meetings</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
7	<p>Vice Chair's Report: Athletic Association</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● K-3 soccer, 128 participants</li> <li>● Track, 74 participants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 4th/5th boys CYO CHAMPIONS</li> <li>○ 8th boys CYO runners-up</li> <li>○ 6th/7th boys CYO runners up</li> </ul> </li> <li>● 2024 New School Records <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nash Hoying 4/5 Boys Softball Throw and Shot Put (diocesan record)</li> <li>○ Will Schloss Reserve Boys 800m</li> <li>○ Danica Timm Varsity Girls 100m Hurdles and 200m Hurdles</li> <li>○ Andrew Fultz, Ethan Pineda, Eli Hiss, Charles McAnespie Varsity Boys 4x400m Relay</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Softball/Baseball <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Total participation grew this year, with 34 baseball players grades 4-8</li> <li>○ Softball had 20 players total; several players playing for other schools.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Fall Sports and Summer Soccer registration now open <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CYO extending flag football opportunity down to 1st Grade with newly created leagues for 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders</li> <li>○ Flag Football games to be scheduled on Saturdays to avoid conflict with K-3 soccer on Sundays</li> <li>○ Football registration fee was raised from \$150 to \$200, this increase was to bring us in line with multiple other parishes across the Diocese.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Shaun will find out if there is any check and balance with grades, absence issues and sports eligibility..</li> </ul>	Shaun Castorano
8	<p>Home and School Association Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Kindergarten playdates set: June 11, July 17 &amp; Aug 1</li> <li>● Golf outing registration now open - August 2nd</li> <li>● Very successful Art Show and Parent Social. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Great job Mrs. Starkey. Beautiful displays of the artistry being taught and created at the school.</li> <li>○ We had wonderful attendance from families. Kids Zone indicated they had 99 children signed in.</li> <li>○ Lessons learned: need more wine. Also we should coordinate socials with school events.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Matt Adams
11	<p>Adjourn 7:31pm</p> <p>Next meeting: 2024-2025 Calendar TBA</p>	Averel Meden

**Please Note: All committee and other reports for upcoming meetings are to be submitted as word documents ten (10) business days before the meeting to School Advisory Board president. The agenda and reports will be distributed by School Advisory Board president at least one week before the meeting.**