

Guardian Angels Central Catholic

School Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 19, 2023

The Guardian Angels Central Catholic School Board met on Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the parish rectory.

LeAnn Ritter called the meeting to order.

Father Weeder began the meeting with a prayer.

Roll call was taken. Board members present included: Matt Ridder, LeAnn Ritter, Ryan Steffensmeier, Ashley Strehle, Michelle Borgmann, Justin Steffensmeier, and Tom Hagedorn

Board members not present: Jeff Timmerman, Danelle Smith

School Administration present: Father Weeder and Paula Peatrowsky

School Administration not present: John McAndrews

School Organization Representatives Present: Paul Ridder (Development Committee)

School Organization Representatives not present: Aliza Brunsing (SPA) and a Booster Club representative

LeAnn asked all present to review the March minutes. Ashley made a motion to approve the March minutes. Justin seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Booster Club: Still looking for a representative

Development Committee: no report

SPA: They are working on end of the year teacher appreciation week and a teacher luncheon.

Facilities Committee: Tom stated that Tom Baumert is helping Mike Doyle with some small projects.

Finance Committee: Justin noted we are 75% through the financial year. Ryan made a motion to approve the March budget. Tom seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Father stated we hired a high school principal for next year. Justin Wardyn, who has been teaching at Columbus middle school. He has 4 kids. His wife is a nurse. Jeff Ohnoutka, the principal at Columbus Scotus, has agreed to mentor him.

We will be doing a facility study. Morissey Engineering out of Omaha will be looking at our facilities and demographics. Nate Scheetz will lead this and will be setting up a meeting. This will be starting in May, and the firm should have recommendations by August. The cost is \$35,000.

For John's report, Father talked through his points. The feasibility study interviews are starting. The surveys will then go out. Father stated he would like the parish council, school board, and endowment committee to meet to hear the recommendations from the study. Discussion followed as to who would be making the decisions based on the recommendations. LeAnn stated that we need to follow a process with motions and approval in the school board minutes to approve a capital campaign so that we are

communicating and transparent with the community as to our intentions. Father stated he agreed that the school board should make a recommendation or motion based on the study.

The student handbook will change a little next year with the biggest change being Land's End now being the uniform provider.

Earlier in the year, John had talked to the accounting firm Bland and Assoc. to help with looking through internal controls and accounting processes. They would then give recommendations. The cost for the proposal was quoted at \$5,000. Father emphasized that currently there are adequate controls along with a regular Archdiocese audit. Discussion took place about finances going forward. On May 15, the school administrators from here, Dodge, and Howells, along with LeAnn as the school board president will be meeting with Vicki, our Archdiocese Superintendent, to discuss administration and resources in regards to the Journey of Faith.

The Archbishop will be here for Confirmation next Wednesday.

Staffing updates: Kim Knobbe will come back part time next year in the high school. Spanish will be online again next year. Junior high English will be fulfilled internally. Mike O'Brien and Laura Holtz will be retiring at the end of the year as custodians. With this, along with a need to have a custodian during the day, especially for bathrooms, discussion took place as to adding a custodial position. LeAnn has a person who is interested in this position. Matt made a motion to add a custodial position which will increase the budget about \$30,000 which will be split between the two schools. Ashley seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Awards night will be May 10. Senior mass will be at 6. Awards will follow. Graduation will be May 14 at 1:30.

Paula stated that Denise Baumert will be staying another year. Deanne Wieneke will be retiring at the end of this school year. This position has been posted. The special education position does not need to be a certified special education teacher. The upper elementary position is still open. Paula will meet with the current upper elementary teachers to come up with a plan.

Paula passed out an aid pay scale that starts with \$15/hr. with a wage increase for years of service and cost of living increase of 2.5%. This will increase the budget around \$7,000. Ashley made a motion to approve the pay scale. Ryan seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried. Matt asked about the lunch workers could get this as well so that all employees are covered with an increase. Father approved this.

Star testing will be taking place. Summer school will not be taking place here. There are 12 students interested in summer school. These students have been given the option to go to the public school for the summer. First Communion will be April 30. The high school musical is April 28 and April 30. The K-6 field day is May 15 starting at 8:30 at the public school track lasting all day. The pre-K graduation will be on May 16.

LeAnn stated that her, Father, Matt, Ryan, Justin Wardyn met with Jeff Ohnoutka of Columbus Scotus about the governance and finance changes taking place for the three Catholic elementary schools and the one Catholic high school in Columbus. LeAnn shared this information with the board with discussion following. This was information only with the idea that changes might have to be made going forward with the ongoing Journey of Faith. LeAnn asked if it would be ok for her to keep moving forward with collecting information from Jeff. Father agreed to this.

The school board nominees are Tracy Schweer, Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong, Carmen Schlickbernd, Mark Wooldrick, and Joyce Stalp with elections taking place this weekend. We need to fill three positions.

The next meeting is May 17, 2023.

Father closed the meeting with a prayer.

Tom made a motion to adjourn. Justin seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Ridder