

The Mission of Prairie Catholic School is to nurture Christ-centered students through spiritual growth, academic excellence, and service to others in a safe and caring environment.

Education Commission Meeting Minutes

9/16/2020 at 5:30pm

St. Gabriel's Cafeteria

Attendance: Juli Smith, Merideth McClendon, Jeff Mara, Colleen Martin, Jenny Campbell, Janelle Diehl, Janet Steiner, Lori Hemmer, Brenda Spindler, Taylor Kapinus, Teresa Beers, Msgr. Stoetzel, April Campbell, Stephanie Vlaming

1. Opening Prayer: Msgr. Stoetzel, 5:35pm
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes: Juli approved, seconded by Merideth
3. Principal Spindler School Updates
 - a. Fundraiser: Turn in is September 17. We did better than last year.
 - b. Men's Club update: The Men's Club bought a new refridgerator for the teachers' lounge. They also donated money for 2-3 warmer units and one cold unit for the kitchen. Quotes from Ed Steger.
 - c. Technology update: "Total Tech" up and running – updating our wi-fi, installing Smartboards, and upgrading old operating systems. We are working on a subscription for the Smartboards. Chromebooks are backordered at this time; we borrowed 11 from the high school in case we go virtual. Web cams and mics are being purchased.
 - d. Lori Hemmer, 1st Grade, informed us her students are doing well with social distancing and masks. The classes rotate spots at recess. She currently has 14 students.
 - e. Janet Steiner, 4K, informed us her students are also doing well. Three students are turning 5 this month and will need to start wearing masks. She currently has 11 students in the morning and 7 students in the afternoon. The new aide – Brittany Schaefer – is very adaptive.
 - f. Breakfast is up to 30 students. Cut off time is 7:50 to allow the students time to finish eating.
 - g. The Social Studies curriculum for 5th and 6th grade has been updated and can be done all online.
 - h. The Washington DC trip for the 7th and 8th graders is still in the works. A meeting is scheduled for September 29 at 5:30pm in the cafeteria with the travel agent. Fundraising will begin after the meeting.
4. Learning Center Updates: Taylor Kapinus
 - a. First Aid training is scheduled in October to renew licensing.
 - b. Because of full capacity, schedules from parents MUST be provided on time.
 - c. New staff: Kate Frier (already working) and Brooke Engelhart (starting 9/21).

5. Msgr. Stoetzel Updates
 - a. Mask mandate ends on September 28, but we will continue wearing masks to prolong face-to-face instruction as long as possible.
 - b. The school is running low on L and XL gloves to protect hands while bleaching – we are looking for donations. A suggestion was made to add a section to the school newsletter about things that are needed for the school.
 - c. The music teacher is looking for donations of instruments.
6. Old Business
 - a. Smartboard update: See above in “technology update”
7. New Business
 - a. Updated Mission Statement: The students need to memorize the mission statement, so the teachers tried to keep it simple. The updated statement is “The Mission of Prairie Catholic School is to nurture Christ-centered students through spiritual growth, academic excellence, and service to others in a safe and caring environment.”
8. Other
 - a. No sub yet for Mrs. Curtis.
 - b. Catholic Schools Week Book Fair: Our regular rep, Liz Naumann, can’t hold it in person this year, but can offer an online option. Several ideas were discussed, such as advertising during November and December for Christmas sales or having an order page available perpetually to order books anytime. Library funds are okay if we skip the Book Fair this year due to Covid.
 - c. The lunch salad bar was discussed, as it is not being offered during this time. Parents asked if individual salads could be made available. Salad bar was not supposed to be a substitute for the hot lunch, so more discussion is needed.
 - d. First Communion is scheduled for April 11, 2021, at the 10am Mass. Jenny Wachuta is directing it this year. First Confession will be held in January.
 - e. CCD is starting September 23.
9. Next Meeting Date: ~~October 21~~, 5:30pm **Changed to October 28.**
10. Closing Prayer: Msgr. Stoetzel, 6:15pm