

*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**

10/28/2020 at 5:30pm

St. Gabriel's Cafeteria

Attendance: Jeff Mara, Merideth McClendon, Teresa Beers, Michelle Kapfhamer, Mary Huser, Brenda Spindler, Taylor Kapinus, Msgr. Stoetzel, Stephanie Vlaming

1. Opening Prayer: Msgr. Stoetzel, 5:30pm
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes: Jeff approved, seconded by Merideth
3. Teacher Updates
  - a. Mary Huser, Kindergarten: The students are learning upper and lowercase letters. She put the books online since she can't send them home, and the parents seem to like it. Mask tolerance by students is so/so; some good, some difficult.
  - b. Michelle Kapfhamer, Middle School: The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders are selling butterbraids for their DC trip. In Science they're working on an indoor greenhouse project. In History they're studying the Civil War. The students are using their Chromebooks a lot.
4. Principal Spindler School Updates
  - a. Ed Comm Survey: Survey will be delayed until more members are present.
  - b. Technology Update: Chromebooks are being used a lot. Additional units are still on backorder. Elementary would like more iPads. We have some funds left in ESSER to spend on that. Total Tech has been busy at the school. All the Smartboards are up. Webcams are in use. They are looking at using fiber optics to eliminate internet issues.
  - c. Clothing Order Coordinator: We need a volunteer to coordinate clothing orders. We'd like to do an order before Christmas. Teresa volunteered to help with this. Thank you, Teresa!
  - d. Fundraiser: We raised \$21,396. That amounts to \$8,675.30 in profit for the school. We had lots of help and it went very smooth. The boat ride for top sellers will be scheduled in May.
  - e. November 11 Veterans' Day Program: Brittany will run the program since we can't have vets come in.
  - f. We've made it 10 weeks face-to-face! We need more surgical masks, so we are looking for donations. Masks from home are still not allowed, as we can't quality-control the cleaning of those masks.
  - g. Lunch Program: Marsha is doing very well. We qualify for a federal program to receive free lunches, so no one is paying for lunches at this time.
  - h. Washington DC Trip: We are still planning to take this trip. Butterbraids are the current fundraiser, and the basket raffle is next. Michelle and Brenda will chaperone, plus parents. Because of Covid, the travel agency is being lenient on refunds if the trip must be cancelled.

5. Learning Center Updates

- a. The paperwork for licensing has been submitted. The next step is inspection.
- b. Taylor presented a question to the parents in attendance: Will you be willing to schedule snacks again? They have to be store-bought. All parents present were okay with this.
- c. The Learning Center received its own address to aid with emergencies: 111 W Perry St.

6. Msgr. Stoetzel Updates

- a. Mass has been going well on Tuesdays and Thursdays for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and up. They may add 1<sup>st</sup> grade and Kindergarten on a rotating schedule in the future.
- b. Confession – please work with your 2<sup>nd</sup> graders so they're ready.

7. Old Business: None at this time.

8. New Business: None at this time.

9. Other

- a. There will not be a Christmas Program this year. Mr. P is thinking about doing something virtual with the band. He still needs instruments, especially trumpets.

10. Next Meeting Date: ~~November 18~~ – Cancelled

~~December 16~~ – Cancelled

January 20, 2021, 5:30pm

11. Closing Prayer: Msgr. Stoetzel, 5:55pm

***Addendums due to cancelled meetings:***

- 1. November 23 Update from the Learning Center: Our Smartboard and projector is up and running! We are moving forward with the licensing process. We had a building inspection and are waiting to hear back. We had a meeting with our rep to start our licensing checklist.
- 2. December 21 Update from Principal Spindler:
  - a. We received our 25 new Chromebooks and have been giving them to kids in quarantine to use for their zoom classes.
  - b. We received 6 new iPads – we now have a class set.
  - c. We are looking into a new religion curriculum – Principal Spindler is looking at new books to align them with the standards in each grade.
  - d. We made it to Christmas face-to-face – our new goal is Easter.
  - e. All Smartboards are up and running.
  - f. Things we are looking for in 2021
    - i. Charging station for the new Chromebooks
    - ii. Vaccinations should be coming in January for staff
    - iii. Looking for some counseling support from outside sources for kids with mental health issues and trauma