

Saratoga Central Catholic School
Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
5:00 PM on February 27, 2024

Present: Dan Kumlander (Chair), Christopher Signor (Principal), Nikki Hartmann, Jeff Pompa, Rose Place, Fr. James Ebert

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Kumlander at 5:04 PM

Father Ebert led the BOT in an opening prayer.

Minutes: The minutes of the January 31, 2024 regular meeting were distributed for review prior to this meeting. Ms. Hartmann requested an amendment for clarification to the proposed minutes, which amendment was approved by all parties present. Ms. Place made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Mr. Kumlander. A vote was taken and the motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Signor noted that the meeting minutes would be posted on the school website beginning with July 2023, and moving forward from there.

State of the School:

Phone System: Over vacation, Mr. Signor met with a phone company and a phone expert from the community to talk about options. He asked for three (3) proposals to address the phone/intercom/public address needs. Mr. Signor also noted that more speakers can definitely be put in the hallways.

Football: Mr. Dan Jaromin from the central office, Mr. Signor and Mr. Kumlander met at Mr. Kumlander's office last week to discuss the proposed merger. Stillwater approved the merger but, not for varsity. The plan is to use Stillwater's equipment and uniforms at no cost to SCC. Stillwater wants us to pay for a coach from SCC to participate and be present at all practices/games as well as transportation for our students to attend practices/games. The cost at a quick glance should be about \$15k- \$20K per year, which will be offset by the cost savings of other programs that are not planned to be run next year due to participation issues (i.e. girls soccer, modified boy's soccer). The vote on the proposed football merger was

accomplished by email. Everyone voted “yes”, with the exception of one member who did not vote. The motion passed.

Tuition: The finance committee has made a recommendation to set the tuition for next year which would result in a 2.35% increase for middle school (to \$8,700/annually per student) and a 2.68% increase for high school (to \$11,500 annually per student).

Committee Reports:

Advancement (Ms. Moser (chair) submitted a written report):

Gala: Ms. Moser reminded everyone that the Gala Committee is still seeking auction items to be donated. The Gala is scheduled for 3/15/24 at Saratoga National and ticket sales are on-going. Ms. Moser encouraged all board members to attend the fundraiser.

50/50: Ms. Moser also stated that the 50/50 raffle fundraiser is starting. The winner will be chosen at the Father Bondi Golf Tournament.

Brewski: Mr. Signor reported that he continues to work on the Brewski idea (similar to an Oktoberfest). He has a meeting set up with the State Park officials in a few weeks.

Enrollment (Ms. Hartmann, Chair):

- Aiden Lambert is busy with various marketing campaigns and his efforts to encourage votes for SCC nomination for #1 Private School.
- Saratoga Report is on line visual format. SCC contracted with the owner to get a certain number of views etc., during certain months that we have open houses and other targeted marketing.
- Aiden Lambert continues to look for testimonials for the website.
- New Student: We have one new student starting next week and one who started yesterday. This brings the enrollment number to 204. 12 applications have been submitted for new students. One student has been interviewed and another already started.
- Reenrollment: 76% of the eligible students for re-enrollment have re-enrolled.
- Parent Survey: The plan is to personally reach out to parents of new students and 6th grade parents to check on how things are going.

- Quiz Bowl: This event took place and was a lot of fun. There was a significant attendance by St. Mary's parents.
- Spirit Day will take place on March 8th.
- Spring open house is on March 13 from 530 PM to 730 PM.

Mission Enhancement (no report)

Finance Report: (Mr. Kumlander, Chair)

Tuition is up 18.1% from the same period last year.

Expenses are down 9.1% from same period last year.

We have a \$97,000 deficit though 7 months of the school year however, mandated services money and cap money has not been received yet. Once paid, the finances should be "in the black" again through June. We also expect a cash infusion from the Gala and the Golf Tournament in the coming months. For comparison purposes, the deficit was \$141,000 for same period last year and would have been much higher except for the one time ERC payment of approximately \$250,000 received last year.

There is no expense category that is materially over/under from the budgeted numbers.

The '24-'25 budget: There was a meeting with the Diocese last week. The budget for next year is being based on 205 students which is a comfortable number. There is a plan to add a ½ 6th grade teacher and a ½ time Assistant Principal position.

Nomination Committee (Jeff Pompa, Chair)

Mr. Pompa reported that the committee had agreed to recommend Mike Lenz to fill an open board seat. A motion was made by Mr. Pompa, seconded by Mr. Kumlander to approve Mike Lenz as a new board member. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Pompa also reported that the committee had agreed that Steve Benton should be offered the other open seat on the Board as a community member. Mr. Pompa made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hartmann to approve Mr. Brenton as a BOT member. A vote was taken and passed unanimously.

Mr. Pompa agreed to follow up with the other candidates and thank them for their interest.

Facilities (no report)

Mr. Signor noted that the G11 Room has been divided, insulated and a new wall installed which will allow all 6th graders to be located on the bottom floor.

Mr. Signor reported no new leaks in the building roof in the last month, even though it has been raining.

Old Business (none)

New Business (none)

Closing Prayer: Mr. Signor led the BOT in a closing prayer.

Executive Session: A motion was made by Mr. Kumlander, seconded by Ms. Hartmann to conduct an Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. On the agreement of all members, an Executive Session was held.

Following the Executive Session, there being no further business, Ms. Place made a motion at 6:32 PM to adjourn, which motion was seconded by Mr. Pompa and passed unanimously.