

St. Luke the Evangelist School Board Meeting Minutes

Special Session

March 7, 2016

Call to Order

This special session meeting of the School Board was called to order at 7:06 p.m. at St Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church by President Licia Pettit.

Members present: Kayla Curran, Kayla Crann, Licia Pettit, Amy Thompson, Travis Funseth, Dennelle Hogan

Members absent: Shawn Althaus.

Staff present: Tonya Eaton

Executive Session

The board was in executive session from 7:06 until 7:25pm.

Principal's Contract

A motion to extend a contract to Principal Tonya Eaton for the 2016-2017 school year was motioned and approved. Mrs. Eaton was officially offered the contract.

Strategic Planning

The board broke down the planning into distinct topics under the umbrella of Strategic Planning.

- Student Body
- Faculty
- Facilities
- Curriculum
- Technology

Tonight's meeting will deal with the Student Body category.

Tuition: Next year's tuition needs to be voted up on and set. A spreadsheet of incremental tuition increases was presented. The board will likely keep tuition the same, but no vote was held.

Kindergarten expansion: At the last regular meeting, it was proposed to the board that the kindergarten class for next year, which currently stands at one 25 student classroom and a 9 student waiting list, be expanded to include two classrooms of kindergarten.

A spreadsheet was created with student class size numbers, as well as tuition and fees income, with the scenario of a two-section kindergarten compared to a one-section class. This spreadsheet was played out with the two-section kindergarten class (and subsequent two-section kindergarten classes) for 5 years out, showing income and class sizes. The two-section scenario with an estimated class of 40 total kindergarten students averaging a conservative tuition payment per student of \$2,800 per year yielded \$42,000 more in income for the school in the 2016-2017 school year, \$84,000 more in the 2017-2018 year and \$128,000 in the 2018-2019 school year.

The next topic was classroom distribution as the building was designed to hold grades K-8, one section per grade. Tonya passed out a school map showing possible classroom designations. In 4-5 years, depending on what would happen to the art room, the school would run out of space. The suggestion was to consider the option of portable trailer classrooms.

The board agreed that this is a crucial time in the school's development and in the community's perception of the school. There are many positives to adding another section to the kindergarten class. The board's feeling was overall very reception to this plan, with the main concern being logistics within the building in the years to come as well as financial feasibility of the plan in regards to faculty salary, benefits, staffing and furniture.

Board members will present the spreadsheet to Finance Council at their meeting on March 23rd; showing them the varying scenarios with and without adding a second section.

Expansion: The school has already been approved to add the second planned addition to the building by the City of Ankeny. The board speculated that it might be prudent to ask the City to approve the proposed third facility addition at this time.

Survey: An email survey was distributed to current St. Luke's parents last week. The results of this survey were passed out. A playground, an addition to the building, capping class sizes at 20 as well as a second section of kindergarten were prominent.

Admissions: The admissions policy will stand as published for the remainder of this year's registration, however the policy will be reviewed again. Tonya suggested bringing Diocesan Superintendent Bondy to a meeting to add an unaffiliated opinion to the policy-making.

Moving forward: Kayla Crann and Licia will make an appointment with Father Larry to convey the contents of this meeting as soon as possible. Licia will find out about the costs associated with classroom trailers. Travis will email the spreadsheet numbers to the board. The next regular meeting is March 22nd, the Finance Council meeting is March 23rd and the Parish Vision Meeting is April 2nd. At the March 22nd meeting the board will review the finance numbers to present to Finance Council and the Facilities Committee.

Technology Update: The teachers were surveyed and they do not see a need for 1 on 1 device per student ratio at this time.

Next Meeting

Next regular meeting is scheduled for March 22rd at 7 p.m. at St. Luke's.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:39 p.m. (????)

Minutes submitted by: Margery Pierce