



NATIVITY^{of} MARY SCHOOL

Nativity of Mary School Advisory Council

Minutes from December 15, 2016

Present: Father Zehren, Dan Riley, Jody Lazo, Becky Egan, Jeff Giles, Laura DePoint, Holly Long, Kathy Daggett, Suzie Valentine, Brian Comeau, and Virginia Downey

Administrative

- Opening Prayer
- November 2016 Minutes Approved with no correction

Discussion Topics/Updates

Principal's Report

- **Curriculum:** Teachers are reviewing Journeys and Super Kids, new grammar/writing curriculum this month.
- **Faith:** Nativity of Mary adopted Virtues theme for 2016-17 year.
 - Focus on Vulnerable & Poverty in November and December.
 - Middle School Leadership is adopting a school wide service project collecting socks and toys for both St. Vincent de Paul and the Visitation Sisters.
- **Technology/STEM – Maker's Space:**
 - Creating inventions this month in the Maker Space/STEM room
 - Creating videos in Middle School
- **Staff:**
 - Preschool/Kindergarten Workshop: Focused on hands on learning approaches
 - Meeting with grade level teams: PLCS groups in science and language arts
- **Licensing & Accreditation:**
 - Parent Aware – Finalizing teacher information for Development to become Parent Aware
 - K-8 Accreditation MNSAA – Final documents due December 31, 2016 for updates to our Strategic Plan and other follow up reports.
- **Fundraising:**
 - Need a group of people to evaluate our fundraising efforts
 - Can financial information be brought back to the SAC meetings?
 - Need basic fact sheet to understand numbers
 - What are our socioeconomics?
 - Read-a-thon raised about \$26,500 (funds are still coming in); short of the \$40,000 goal
 - Last year reached \$30,000
 - Need to research online fundraising; build an online presence
 - Is Read-a-Thon a success?
 - Suggested October may be better
 - Need to confirm it's been added to the tuition agreement like Scrip
 - Do we go back to a traditional walk-a-thon in the future?
 - Discussion tabled for January when Mindy and John P are in attendance
 - Annual Appeal/Nativity Angels: December through end of June 2017. Targeted to families who support the school through the Schulz Foundation Grant (sent out).
 - Tuition Gap Letter: Follows the same timeline as Nativity Angels. All donations, but the Tuition Gap, will be put into the Tuition Budget line item and targeted to families (sent out).
 - Received \$5,000 Grant from Safety from the City of Bloomington Police Dept.

- **Marketing:**
 - Advertising: Online continuing – Twitter, Instagram, and FaceBook. Fliers created for January Open House to be delivered to all parishes in area and extended churches/locations through December.
 - School-wide brochure: In development
 - Website: In development
 - Alumni Mailing: In development
 - Signage Needs: Building & Street Sign (longer term) – in development
 - Marketing Grant Request: CSCOE granted Nativity \$5,000 towards marketing

Teachers Report

- Excellent Christmas Concerts
- Fund-a-need suggestions
 - Art Teacher
 - Makers Space/STEM room
 - Finishing cabinets will be added to the budget
 - Primary bathroom remodel
 - Cosmetic?
- Service Projects
 - 3-5 grades brought gift bags to Summer House
 - Leadership Team running a toy/sock drive
 - 3rd grade working on Operation Christmas Child
 - Partnering with different grade levels
 - Grades 1 and 6 are making ginger bread houses
 - 1st grade wrote letters to Santa and the Middle school returned an answer

2016-2017 Strategic Priority

- Marketing Committee
 - Ean (Communication/Marketing Specialist) attended
 - See handout provided for Marketing update
- Lunch Program
- PTO
- Safety
- Expansion

Spirit of Spring/Fund a Need Priorities

- Concerned about not having anyone from the last 2 years helping.
- There is no chair for the event this year as of this meeting.

School Budget/Tuition for 2017-2018

- St. Bonaventure and St. Ed's contribute directly to their students' tuition
- Tuition break for multiples will decrease for 2017-2018
- Minimal increase will be applied to total tuition
- Numbers will be presented at January SAC
- Need to communicate tuition to families earlier in the year

Meeting Adjourned

Next SAC meeting will be on Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 7:00 am