

St. Dominic Education Commission February 12, 2018

Attendance: Bill Cavanaugh, Peter Gibbs (Chair), Kim Luebbering (Vice Chair), Juliane Belisle (Secretary), Teresa Eagan (Faith Formation), Jeff Lively, Patrick Lahni, Steve Walter, Rick Veid,

Constituent: Julie Sullivan

- 1) Call to Order (Peter Gibbs, 7:00)
- 2) Opening Prayer (Theresa Eagan)
- 3) Review and Approval of November Minutes
- 4) Old Business

- 3D printer status (Kim Luebbering)
 - Is up and running. Examples were brought to the meeting
 - We have 2 printers 6 or 7 colors to print with
 - Still some struggles with the cloud networking but we can use the stock items just for practice.
 - Cindy Birck has 2 software programs 1 for younger kids one for older kids.
- Library re-modeling updates (Patrick Lahni/Peter Gibbs)
 - Got some new bean bags.
 - Need volunteers to resshelf books, enter new books in the card catalogue
 - Considering Maker Spaces in some corners
 - Other ideas could be emailed.
 - Discussed how teachers choose to allow students to use library during free time
- PBIS updates (Bill)
 - Committee meeting
 - Give kids hearts in the cafeteria
 - Seems less office referrals for discipline

5) New Business

- Las Vegas Night (2/24) - Education Commission booth – volunteer sign up
- Overview/Discussion of St. Dominic School's Technology "Strategy" (Bill + Commission Discussion)
 - Computer lab "curriculum"...Aux lab incorporation into "everyday" learning...tools vs skills..."roaming" tablets...Microsoft 365...etc
 - Feedback that kids don't have simple skills like typing and opening emails, email etiquette
 - Smart boards in classroom
 - Portable computers up to speed
 - New screen for the gym being considered
 - Are we in a place we want to be? Or is there room for improvement? In-line with Archdiocese/State expectations?
 - Every school has a five year tech plan- submitted electronically today for ed commission review
 - Discussion on the applications and skills that are being used with the tools.
 - Tech teacher is also the IT support for the parish, and IT support for school.

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- In classroom movies. Concern that some teachers showing feature length films as often as weekly.
- Plan to evaluate St. Dominic students' "preparedness" for high schools (Group Discussion)
 - From Julie Sullivan: feedback from a graduate
 - Students should give a mock exam like advanced math.Mrs. Tiepen did a great job preparing students to use the microscope
- Other areas
 - Writing skills, MLA, writing without "you"
 - Set up meetings with H.S. department chairs and junior high teachers
 - Peter, Kim, Juliane to form a sub-committee
 - Survey graduates at Seton/Elder/Oak Hills freshman year
 - Coordinate St. Dominic teachers/High school dept. chairs meetings
- Revisiting our Bylaw responsibilities (Peter)
 - Currently unengaged parties: Before and After School Program, Pastor
 - Parish is communicated with through Teresa and Bill
 - Peter said he will reach out to check in with them – consider reaching out to Deacon Mark
 - Raised "why is the Athletic Association not represented here?"
 - They are a large part of the community
 - Hiring and Retention of Teacher Policy
 - If there's an opening in the school:
 - Email to in house staff to put interest in writing with in a specific time frame
 - Send email to colleagues in area schools
 - Communicate in Parish Press
 - Finally place on the Archdiocese website
 - St. D. goal is to get teacher contracts by April 1st.
 - Criteria – what is the best fit for the school.
 - Review resumes, interviews, ask Parish office to review
 - Student teachers, have observed while they're student teaching
 - Check references, usually 3
 - Suggestion:
 - Ask about PBIS knowledge
 - Consider having more than one person to sit in during interview to ensure there is not hiring bias.
 - Also benefit of having a person of the same level gives candidate an opportunity to see
- Retention: encourage positive trends, pat on the back
Encourage positive change within a timely manner
If change doesn't occur then a non-renewal of a contract
All decisions are reviewed with the business manager
- Public speaking/presentation skills at St. Dominic
 - Speech contest eliminated...new vision...
 - 7th and 8th grades will do speeches in the library with parents.

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- All kids HAVE to participate
 - The kids will have a grade on this.
 - St. Al's on the River school closing: any help needed from Ed Commission in welcoming/reaching out to any new (or potentially new) families?
 - Contact list of ed -commission members
 - Any school ground improvement updates/recommendations?
 - Gym folding chairs missing caps
 - Cleanliness of gym/grounds - reflection of school and learning experience – upkeep responsibility and oversight?
 - Should be reported first to Facilities with a CC to Principal
 - Any Parent Press topics for Bill
 - Explain again hours vs. days for increment weather.
 - Leaving cars running in the parking lot while parent runs in. This is illegal.
 - Ensure Education Commission meeting is advertised monthly
 - Election Committee: Rick Veid, Kim Luebbering, Stevew Walter will be Election committee as 3rd year members
- 6) Committee Reports
- Tuition Reduction (Rachel Lahni)
 - School website still needs to be updated: could we get permission to edit Ed Commission
 - Could we change name to tuition credit
 - Check with Charlie and we'll vote and make a make the change in the bylaws
 - Two more nights at F&N Chicken
 - Skyline, Dunkin, Chipotle were not able to book
 - Suggestion: check out Wishbone
 - PTO
 - Not here
 - Recently approved \$ to complete lockers. And approved purchase of smart boards for preschool
 - Faith Formation (Theresa Eagan)
 - Continuing search for catechists
 - Steve Smith, long-time 6th grade teacher resigned due to work conflicts
 - Linda Gardner, 4th & 7th grade teacher is not returning for the remainder of this school year
 - ***Critical*** need is for 6th and 7th grade teachers, Tues evenings 7-8 PM
 - Linda Schiel- is stepping down from Preschool PSR at 9:30AM on Sundays
- 1. Christian Meditation with Children**
 - No update.
 - Continue the practice
 - 2. Sacramental Preparation. RCIA/RCIC**
 - Preparing for the Lenten Rites.
 - Expect three adults to be fully initiated at the Easter Vigil
 - 3. Sacramental Preparation - Confirmation**
 - Confirmation held Dec. 6, all went very well.

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- PTO again hosted the family reception after Mass, much appreciated!
- Working with 8th grade religion teacher to solicit volunteer families to host retreat team members so that we can bring NET Ministries for next year's Confirmation retreat. .
 - Looking at Day retreat at St. Vincent De Paul with service project
 - 10 volunteer families needed to make this happen
 - Tentative date is Tuesday, Nov. 6
 - Alternate plan is a day-long retreat at St. Vincent de Paul in OTR. Includes community service and prayer.
- 4. Sacramental Preparation**
- First Communion preparation beginning both in school and PSR.
 - Activities similar to last year, mini-retreat for 2nd graders and parents scheduled for Sunday, April 22.
 - School Reconciliation Service planned for March 13.
- **6. Numerous Adult Faith Formation Opportunities for Lent**
 - Lenten Bible Study with Fr. Jim & Fr. Chris, Tuesdays 2/6 – 4/10; 7 PM
 - Parish Mission led by Fr. Norm Langenbrunner & Jeanne Hunt; Wednesdays Feb 21, 27 and March 7.
 - Parish Penance Service & "The Light is on for You" reconciliation, Tues 2/27; 7-9 PM
 - Stations of the Cross in church following the Community Dinner on Feb 15 & Mar 15, at 6:30.
 - Women's CRHP weekend March 10 & 11. Fr. Jim is hoping the participation of school moms continues from last year!
 - Mike Davis Lenten Concert in church, March 21 at 7 PM
- **Principal's Report (Bill Cavanaugh)**
 - 1) Trimesters vs quarters for next year's school year
 - 2) Next year's tentative school calendar provided for review
 - 3) Staff changes next year:
 - a. Diane Meyer – secretary – retiring after 22 years
 - b. Kelly McCoy – 1st grade – stay at home mom – 7 years
 - c. Lori Mahorney – speech pathologist – retiring after 39 years
 - d. Diane's and Kelly's positions on the Archdiocesan website as well as set up interviews. Since Lori is a Hamilton County employee they will fill the position and notify me who that is.
 - 4) Beginning this year, the Men's Society will also provide a \$500 scholarship to both the male and female 8th grade St. Dominic student that receive the Sr. Mary Ruth/Fr. Stockelman Award. (Two top academic students). This money will be for a Catholic High School education for their freshman year. The Men's Society Treasurer will coordinate with high schools. In the instances where the 8th grader is not attending a Catholic High School, no financial award will be given. The Men's Society will continue to fund this scholarship, indefinitely. (As further background, this scholarship was most recently funded by the PTO, but they discontinued funding scholarships last year. So last year was the first time in many decades that our top two students did not receive a high school scholarship from St. Dominic.)
 - 5) The Men's Society thought it important not to forget last year's 8th graders who received the Sr. Mary Ruth/Fr. Stockelman Award. So Matthew Walter and Ally Gilkey will receive retroactive scholarships (\$500 each) for their sophomore years at

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Elder and Seton respectively. I have already contacted them (letters attached). Both families were extremely appreciative.

- 6) My thanks to the Education Commission and Student Council members who gave tours at our Open House.
 - 7) My thanks to our PTO and to our maintenance staff who worked so hard to get O-Connor Hall looking so good for our Naturalization Ceremony on Friday, February 9. Our PTO provided cake, punch, coffee, and tea to those in attendance. We had 70 people become citizens from over 38 countries.
- 8) Closing Prayer (Bill Cavanaugh, 9:55)
- 9) Adjournment (10:00)
- Next Meeting: Monday March 12, at 7pm
 - Charlie DeZarn – Finance Policy Overview scheduled