

## **School Committee Minutes**

**June 13, 2016**

**Present:** Jeff Bajczyk, John Shanahan, Ben Holzen, Cindy Robinson, Pat Donahue, Paul Graff, Lori Kaari, Anne Brockel, Joe Siekierski

**Absent:** Matt DeMarais, Ed Brady, Cindy Gaudion, Barb Romanello  
Dick Stevens, Fr. Chuck, Fr. Ralph

**7:05 Prayer:** Memorare

**Introductions:** Since there were new attendees at the meeting, introductions took place with a special welcome to Ben Holzen, St. Paul School's new principal, Paul Graff a school parent considering to become part of the School Committee and Lori Kaari and Anne Brockel attending to provide an update on the activities of the School's Long-term Strategic Planning Committee.

**Long-Term Strategic Planning Committee:** John, Lori and Anne provided some background and current plans for the committee. The Committee was formed in 2013. They have focused on several projects. The first was to work on ways to have better communication with the parents and parish community. Secondly, the committee did a lot of research on various topics that was used during the accreditation process with the Archdioceses. This committee also researched various educational models – multi-age, STEM and others. In addition, work was done to research various K3 and K4 programs. The Committee's current project is to increase the amount available for tuition assistance. The committee is currently considering the establishment of an endowment for this purpose and they are researching this with the Archdiocese. They will also be working with the Pastoral and Finance Councils on this project.

**Project Lead the Way (PLTW):** There is a possibility of partnering with CHM and their PLTW program. PLTW is an engineering program that prepares students for the expanding field of engineering. PLTW courses integrate science, technology, engineering, and math. This program would be for our middle school students and could be an effective tool for increasing retention of students in the middle

school. There was unanimous support from the Committee members for the school to pursue this opportunity.

**Staffing:** John and Ben provided an update on the open positions:

School Secretary – Filled

K3 – Excellent candidates. Expect to fill position soon.

K4 (1/2 day) – Excellent candidates. Expect to fill position soon.

4/5 split – Position just became open.

6<sup>th</sup> grade home room & Math – Interviews are progressing.

**2015/16 School Committee Self-assessment:** Pat indicated he felt the direction of the school was very solid. He felt the expansion of the K4 program along with the establishment of the K3 program has been a significant help to the school. All committee members were in agreement with his comments.

**2016 / 17 School Year, New Ideas:** Committee needs to work on ways to continually promote the school especially to families with young children.

**Recruitment of New Committee Members:** A thank you was expressed to Paul Graff for attending the meeting and giving consideration to joining the Committee. Jeff indicated he is willing to stay on as Co-Chairman through the end of the calendar year to aid in the transition to a new Principal. The Committee members expressed their appreciation for the many years of service Jeff has provided to the Committee.

**Golf Outing:** Reminder of the Golf Outing on August 8<sup>th</sup> at Merrill Hills.

**August Meeting:** Since the Golf Outing is on our regular meeting night, it was decided to move the meeting to Tuesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, at 7PM in the school.

**Principal's Report:** John shared a handout of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduates and the High School they will be attending. He also shared the results of a survey conducted by the Mukwonago School District of all K4 families who sent their

child to a partner school. St. Paul had the highest score of all partner schools in every category. This was a great accomplishment.

**Technology Report:** John shared that approximately \$25,000 was raised through the Gift from the Heart at the Dinner Auction. This money will be used to update the intercom and clock system in the school.

***No other committee reports were shared.***

**Closing Comments:** The Committee extended a sincere thank you to John for all of his hard work over the past three years. The Committee recognized the challenges John inherited and the tremendous job he did to get St. Paul School in a more secure position.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joe Siekierski