

St. Robert School Advisory Commission

Minutes from January 10, 2024

Present:

Lucas Stangler, Principal
Paul Sweeney, Chair
Ed Johns, Marketing Committee Chair
Kevin Casper, Development Committee Chair
David Clark, Policy Chair
Sarah Hillenbrand, Home & School Association Liaison
Dan Wycklendt, Budget and Finance Committee Chair
Susan Sprenger, Vice Chair/Programs and Wellness Committee Chair
David Borowski, President, Athletic Board
Portia Brown, Engagement Committee Chair

Not Present:

Scott Waggoner, Parish Representative
Anne Jackson, Secretary
Jacqueline Prater, Member
Fr. Enrique Hernandez, Pastor

1. Call to Order at 6:05 PM (Paul Sweeney)
2. Prayer (Lucas Stangler)

Minutes from December meeting were approved.

3. Principal's Report (Lucas Stangler)

Enrollment is currently at 282 students.

Letters of intent were sent to the staff in early January so we can plan ahead knowing what staff will be returning. Responses are due by January 17th.

Lucas is starting to work with the Parish Finance Council on the budget for next year.

Maggie Zincke is doing a lot of marketing work for attracting new students to the school. There will be a small open house at the school after Mass on Sunday, January 28th as a kick off to Catholic Schools Week. There was a discussion on bringing back a major recruitment event for next year. Lucas will talk with Maggie about this concept.

The search for a Development director is still on going but there are very few qualified candidates. It is extremely important that we fill this position as soon as possible. The SAC suggested that Lucas come up with an alternative plan in the event that they can not fill this position in the near future. Susan suggested using Jobs That Help and the Wisconsin Non Profit Career Center to potentially find candidates. Another suggestion was to use LinkedIn which Lucas should join. Kate Watson might be a potential candidate.

Lucas provided a summary of Catholic Schools Week which is primarily focused on providing a fun week for the students and to celebrate Catholic education.

4. New/Ongoing Business

STEM Lab – Paul has left a few messages for Alexander Kempe, the potential donor, but he has not yet replied.

Mathnasium Proposal – given staffing issues, the team at Mathnasium is not able to bring tutors to the school but would like to offer tutoring at their center in Whitefish Bay between 2:00 and 3:00 during the week. This is not feasible from St. Roberts perspective. Mathnasium is now working on a proposal for a summer tutoring program for St. Robert students.

Accreditation – Paul Sweeney, Dan Wycklendt and Lucas will coordinate a meeting in the near future to address a list of questions/issues as part of the accreditation process.

School Calendar – Lucas will have a draft of the 2024/2025 school calendar at the next SAC meeting. The timing of Spring Break along with the start date and Christmas break are the key issues.

State of the School Meeting – a potential date is March 13th but Lucas needs to confirm this with Father Enrique and we also need to make sure it does not conflict with the Padre basketball tournament. One option is to make the meeting mandatory for parents. As part of the meeting, we need to focus on volunteer responsibility for the parents. One suggestion is to have Home & School develop a new volunteer program that has more ramifications for not volunteering. The current program does not appear to be working that well.

School Closing Policy – Lucas will continue to follow Shorewood Public Schools in making a decision to close because of weather.

CLOSED SESSION – SAC Members and Liasons

5. New/Ongoing Business

Math Curriculum Consultant/Interventionist: (Sprenger)

Susan has met with Mrs. Moede to discuss lesson pacing, standards and how the program is going. School time schedule changes cut math short on occasion and that needs to be addressed.

Susan will be having conversations with two consultants after the first of the year for both an assessment of our math program and potential coaching opportunities. Overall, Susan has been very impressed with Ms. Moede. Lucas and Susan will begin working on a communication to all of the parents with an update on the math program. In addition, Lucas is in the process of gathering the results from the high school assessment tests and will look to give a report at the next SAC meeting.

6. Marketing Committee Update (Johns)

The committee is working on an updated promotional video in addition to various improvements to the website.

7. Development Committee Update (Casper)

Kevin is continuing to work on identifying potential candidates to take over the development committee as his replacement on the SAC for next year.

8. Liaison Reports

Home and School (Hillenbrand)

The primary focus is getting ready for the Emerald Auction, especially working on the paddle raise.

Meeting adjourned: 8:05 pm

Next Meeting is February 7, 2024 at 6pm.

Minutes prepared by Paul Sweeney