

Trinity Lutheran School  
School Council Meeting Minutes  
Monday, May 15, 2023

Purpose/Mission Statement: Through Jesus, Trinity Lutheran School strives for academic excellence, spiritual growth, and lifelong service to God, family, and community.

Members Present: Jakie Pawling, Lori Paquette, LaVonna Emanuel, Stephanie Clausen, Mark Vogt, Nelle Richardson, Heather Nevarez, Mark Schmidt, Mark Ostransky, Guests: Tiffany Brester & Jamie Poppe

Tiffany Brester presented information on the Pre-K program along with Jamie Poppe. She handed out a tentative curriculum for the year.

Opening Prayer: Jakie Pawling

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from April 2023 meeting were reviewed. Stephanie made corrections to the minutes. Concerning the plant sales, the correct number for 2022 is \$34,640.00. A motion was made to approve minutes once that change is made by Mark Ostransky, seconded by Nelle Richardson. No further discussion, all were in favor.

Approval of Financials: April 2023 financials were reviewed. Motion by Mark O. to approve financial, second by Mark Schmidt. No discussion, all were in favor.

Principal's Report: given by LaVonna Emanuel

Big Give: raised \$6,286

Denim Days – fundraiser every Wednesday in April raised \$600 that went to The Bridge

Teacher Appreciation Week was great! LaVonna personally thanked Jakie for being there every day and making the teachers feel supported and appreciated!

Track: Meet at Concordia Seward on Saturday. We had 25 athletes participate.

President's Academic Awards which is new at Trinity and will be handed out tomorrow for grades 6-8 at Chapel. Citizenship Awards which are given to students that demonstrate good Christian Leadership will also be handed out. Chapel will be at 2 p.m.

Accreditation Visit #1 is tomorrow. She will be having a working lunch meeting with Nathan from Concordia. Accreditation should take a year. LaVonna has been the lead on the accreditation process before. The religion component is the only thing additional to her past experiences.

Bank In School program: Nick Vrba reached out to LaVonna about partnering with First State Bank about this program. This program creates a savings account for each child.

Personnel updates:

Nick Henkenius has been hired as the Health/Physical Education/College & Career Readiness teacher. He's from Fremont.

Marva Wymore has been hired as the Para Educator.

Janet Lowe has been hired as the reading Specialist (she is a retired teacher). She is paid through Title 1 money for K-3. We will share her with Bergan.

Current Enrollment numbers: 71 enrolled, 64 pending (total 135).

Lacey put a report together by grade: Pre-K:8, K: 7, 1:15, 2:13, 3:19, 4:13, 5: 17, 6:18, 7:9, 8:16

Legal Support & Compensation: LaVonna reported that Roy Hahn has been very helpful with school issues.

Old Business:

Policies & Procedures: updates to these have been put on hold for now.

2023-2024 Budget Update: needs to be presented to the leadership board.

Playground: The concrete has been laid for the shade structure, and the structure has been delivered.

Staffing needs: See Principal Report.

New Business:

8th-grade Play: LaVonna shared with the council that there was a lot of stress associated with the 8th-grade play. LaVonna suggested calling it the spring play because it involved 6-8 graders not just 8<sup>th</sup> graders. She said it was a lot of

hours and extra work for the teacher that took on this project. She suggested maybe having a stipend for this project since there is so much work outside of school. It was agreed that we should add a budget line for the Spring Play to the 2023-2024 proposed budget (\$2000). The School Board agreed that the 8th-grade play should occur every year. Suggestions were made to contact Midland or the Opera House. for help. Leigh Meyer's name was mentioned as a possible contact.

Short and Long-Term Goals: It was decided that we would schedule a separate goal-planning session for June to start working on this.

Updates for 2023-2024: We have 3 new hires, Pre-K is ready to go, our enrollment is still open, and the numbers look good for next year.

Concerning enrollment, LaVonna wanted to discuss accessing a late fee on confirming enrollment to encourage early completed enrollment to get actual numbers for the school year so that we make sure that we have all the supplies ordered that we need. We discussed this at length. Mark Ostransky made a motion to assess a \$25 late fee for failing to register by the deadline of June 15<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, language will be added that states: We cannot guarantee a spot after July 1<sup>st</sup>. A motion was seconded by Mark Vogt. No further discussion, all were in favor. The deadline for enrollment without penalty will be moved to May next year.

8<sup>th</sup> Grade graduation is scheduled for Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6 p.m.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Mark Ostransky, second by Stephanie Clausen. No discussion, all were in favor.

Closing Prayer

Second Vice Chair: Lori Paquette