

Trinity Lutheran School
School Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 17, 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, Roy Hahn, Mark Ostransky (arrived at 7:20), Pastor Gerber (arrived at 8:05)

Opening Prayer: Jakie Pawling

Approval of Minutes: The June 2023 minutes were reviewed. Thank you again to Nelle for taking them! Typo on the middle of 1st page under Principal's report-should be "paid" not "pain". Motion by Mark Schmidt to approve corrected minutes, second by Heather. No further discussion, all in favor.

Approval of Financials: May 2023 financials were reviewed because of questions concerning the school lunch numbers. Jakie received clarification from Amy about May School lunch numbers. The funds didn't get transferred so that is why they looked off. Mark Vogt made a motion to accept the May 2023 financials; Stephanie seconded the motion. No further discussion, all were in favor. June 2023 financials were reviewed. Concerning the plant sale there will be additions to it because funds from Square have not been transferred over yet. Janet will also be sending over a check for \$558 so those additions will be reflected in the August financials. Stephanie made a motion to accept the June financials, and Nelle seconded the motion. No discussion, all were in favor.

Old Business:

School discount for ECC Workers: This school discount would apply to only full-time workers at the ECC. Stephanie Clausen made a motion to allow Trinity Lutheran School to provide reduced by half tuition to children of full-time employees of the Early Childhood Center. Mark Schmidt seconded the motion. No further discussion, all were in favor.

Monthly Fundraiser at Local Restaurants: Last month there was a discussion about having a monthly restaurant fundraiser that would benefit the school, specifically the flooring in the upper grades' hallway and classrooms. There was discussion about who tackled this type of project in the past which we believe was the GROW Team. It was decided that we would reach out to members of this group to see who their points of contact were. Stephanie offered to speak with Runza about having a fundraiser on the day of Back-to-School night (August 9th). Jakie said that we should try to get one booked for August as well.

Principal's Report:

Emergency Operations Plan: LaVonna presented Trinity School's Emergency Operations Plan. This is required by the State of Nebraska. It was supposed to be submitted 2 years ago but wasn't. LaVonna highlighted a couple of key areas in the plan. LaVonna will send this out to all the school board members to review by July 28th at which time it will be sent to the State of Nebraska.

Family Handbook: Concerning the Family Handbook, code of conduct language was added to the adult code of conduct, pages 28 and 29, which has been discussed with this board in the past. It clarifies expectations and consequences more clearly.

Master Schedule: A new master schedule has been made! Highlights are that K-3 has PE every day. Grades 4-5 will get to experience the Bank at School program. Mr. Bell has an engineering background so there will probably be some sort of STEM/Coding component in his classes. 6-8 grades will each have their own PE Class, no more combined classes. Religion will be every day. There will also be STAR (Student, Teachers All Reading) for 15 minutes each day, to encourage reading for pleasure.

Back to School Open House: is scheduled for Wednesday, August 9th from 5-7 p.m. Magnets created by Lacey will be handed out.

Double Door Cling: Lacey requested to order a cling that will go on the school side of the double doors that separate the school from the church, on the west

side of the building. All were in favor of allowing this cling to be purchased and placed on the doors.

Enrollment: LaVonna reported that last school year we had 121 students and this year we currently have 135 enrolled.

Old Business continued:

Goals & Objectives: We believe that these should be published on Trinity's website. It will allow others to see what we are working on and helps with accountability. Every year after accreditation we must review our action plans and having published goals will help us with this task.

Pre-K: We should start looking at what it is going to look like next year and start creating a 5-year plan. This can be an item under Future Business. Currently, there are 11 Pre-K students enrolled. We are tentatively setting capacity at 15.

Google Search Engine Question: Mark Schmidt said that Trinity Lutheran Church and School are linked together in Google. Mark cautioned about having a bunch of people make reviews all at once because this will send up a red flag to Google. Nelle offered to make a review in July. We will keep checking Google reviews in the future.

New Business:

Golf Tournament: Jakie handed out a sign-up sheet for volunteers and sponsors for the upcoming golf tournament which is September 10th at 1:00 p.m. headed by Tim Weinrich.

Bottle Filler: Jakie spoke about location options for the water bottle filler. It was decided to relocate the one that is near the entrance near door #2 (main school door entrance) to the lower end of the young kids' hallway. The water fountain will remain in that location, just the bottle filler portion will be moved. This will be less expensive than adding an additional bottle filler.

Website Needs: We as a school council would like the parent handbook, goals, and school council minutes added to the website. For now, requests for website additions should go to Pastor Gerber and Lacey until further notice.

School request from Endowment in September: Jackie asked that we start coming up with ideas on what we would like to request from the endowment fund. Requests will be made in September. We can request up to \$6,000. It was suggested that we have the teachers come up with needs a month after they have been in school. Picnic tables for under the shade structure were also mentioned as something that could be requested. It appears that 4 eight-foot tables will fit in that space.

Coming to Church-Students: Ideas were discussed on how we could get students to attend church. Singing during the services, specifically the 8:00 Sunday service, was mentioned. LaVonna mentioned that there will be an Advanced Choir elective being offered for 5-8 graders and these students might be a good group to invite to sing during church services.

Support for Principal with Parental Concerns: This was addressed when LaVonna discussed the adult code of conduct portion of the Family Handbook. Heather had a question about why Trinity didn't have a float during the John C. Fremont Days parade. This led to a discussion about the lack of volunteers for these types of events. Should a GROW team be created again?

Closing Prayer: Pastor Gerber

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Lori Paquette
Second Vice Chair