

Trinity Lutheran School
School Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 16, 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, Stephanie Clausen, Mark Vogt, Nelle Richardson, Heather Nevarez, Mark Schmidt, Mark Ostransky, and Roy Hahn.

Opening Prayer: Jakie Pawling

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from September 2023 were reviewed. Stephanie Clausen made a motion to approve September 18, 2023 minutes. Mark Schmidt seconded the motion. No discussion, all were in favor.

Approval of Financials: Stephanie Clausen made a motion to accept the September 2023 financials. Nelle Richardson seconded motion. No discussion, all in favor.

Jakie provided an email from Amy Glause explaining the different accounts within the financial statements pertaining to the School Activity Balance Sheet.

There are as follows:

The Activity checking account--some of this would be for athletics, yearbook, clothing orders, etc. This is the account that all fundraiser money went into in years past so I would need to go back and see if they used the money some of those were designated for.

Grant Income in the Steward account-- This line item was started before I came. When I look at the history, it was originally \$10,000 and used for teacher conference expenses over the years. The original \$10,000 says it was from Weibe Foundation Grant in 2006.

Activity Fund Steward other--From my understanding--when the Activity checking account got a larger balance, they would put money into the steward account to earn interest.

Pinnacle Bank--this is what was left from the money raised for the STEM lab project--so should be used for STEM/technology-type expenses.

Jakie wanted us to be aware of what these funds could be used for so that when activities/items come up we as a council can utilize the funds efficiently.

Principal's Report: No report at this time, LaVonna Emanuel was unable to be at this meeting.

Old Business:

Endowment Funds: The endowment funds approved the science table purchase of \$775. Now the science room will be able to accommodate 20 students. We were also approved for flooring in the upper-grade classroom area for \$7,220.37.

Dining to Donate: We have raised \$10,170.37 so far. This is enough for us to be able to do one floor in the upper grade's classroom area.

Candidates for School Council Suggestions: Jakie thanked those who have submitted referrals for possible candidate names thus far. We can still submit names to her. There was a brief discussion and both Mark Vogt and Nelle Richardson agreed to be on the ballot for an elected school council position. They are currently both appointed to the council.

Principal Call Committee: Jakie reported that the call committee has been created for the principal position for the next school year. Members of the committee are Pastor Geber, Stephanie Clausen, Jakie Pawling, Ellen Lund, Amanda Panning, and Loren Wilshusen. They are in the very early stages of getting this committee going.

Tuition Rates: Jakie Pawling and Heather Nevarez met two weeks ago to review the tuition rates of Trinity versus other schools in the area. They handed out a packet that shows our current tuition rate and future rates as well as what the other schools in the area and state are charging. We discussed this for a bit, but

no decisions have been made to change Trinity's current tuition rates at this time. This will be an ongoing topic of discussion.

Athletic Handbook & Code of Conduct: Stephanie Clausen went over the packet titled "Trinity Lutheran School Athletic Handbook". She pointed out a few areas for our review and approval. First, the Athletic Department Mission Statement was reviewed. Mark Ostransky made a motion to adopt the following as the Athletic Department Mission Statement: "Athletics at Trinity Lutheran School are a vital part of the student experience and the development of young men and women. Athletics will assist in the overall mission of students growing spiritually, intellectually, and physically. The values of teamwork, commitment, dedication, servant leadership, sportsmanship, and fitness are crucial in this mission". Nelle Richardson seconded the motion. No discussion, all were in favor.

The section titled "Goals of the Trinity Lutheran School Athletic Department" was reviewed. No changes were suggested. Goals will stay as they are.

The paragraph titled "Expectations of the Trinity Lutheran School Athletic Department" was reviewed. No changes were suggested to this suggestion as well.

The section titled "Athletic Association" was reviewed. There was a brief discussion on who would be included in the association- homeschooled students, Trinity Lutheran Church students, other Lutheran Church Missouri Synod students, etc. It was decided to keep the document as is which includes homeschooled students in the Fremont area and members of Trinity Lutheran Church as also being eligible to participate in sports at Trinity Lutheran School.

The section titled "Ejection/Penalties" was reviewed next. A lot of discussion took place about this topic. An addition was made to the last bullet point regarding Coaches being ejected from a game and being required to complete an online course on sportsmanship before the next game. They can still coach practices.

The last section to be reviewed was titled "Spectator Expectations".

Mark Ostransky made a motion that the Spectator Expectations paragraph be included in all home game programs at Trinity Lutheran School. Heather Nevarez second the motion. No discussion, all council members were in favor. The Spectator Expectations paragraph states "Spectators should be mindful that their privilege and responsibility is to be encouraging and uplifting during attendance at athletic competitions. Athletics are a way for student-athletes to learn and develop, therefore spectators should do their best to encourage these individuals/teams and to assist in the development of young men and women. Spectators are to be respectful of all players, coaches, referees, officials, and fans at all times, just as they would like to be respected (Matthew 7:12). Spectators should respect the judgments and decisions of contest officials, recognizing the fact that they are human and admiring their willingness to assist in the development of the student-athletes. Spectators engaging in inappropriate behavior may be asked to leave the premises of the event".

The handbook will take effect for basketball season 2023-2024.

Mark Ostransky made a motion to accept the Trinity Lutheran School Athletic Handbook with changes as discussed during the October 16, 2023 school council meeting. Heather Nevarez seconded the motion. No further discussion occurred. All were in favor.

New Business:

Going Forward: Jakie mentioned the need for mentoring to occur between Principal Emanuel and the new principal once they are hired. It is vital that whoever comes in understands what has taken place the last few years with the accreditation process, curriculum tracking, teacher evaluations, and the Goals & Objectives that have been identified by this council. It will be easier to gauge needs once we identify who the new principal will be.

Christmas Ideas for Teachers and Staff: Jakie asked the council members to start thinking about Christmas gift ideas for the teachers and staff. The endowment gave \$2,000 for teacher appreciation activities which could be utilized for gifts. This decision must be coordinated with Pastor Gerber.

LaVonna to Review Amazon teacher list: Per notes from the December 2022 meeting, LaVonna will be reviewing Amazon lists created by the teachers

before they are released to the public. These "wishlists" can then be shared with parents, etc.

Jakie asked if any other items needed to be added to future meetings. It was mentioned that it would be helpful if there was a gym schedule created to eliminate potential conflicts with various groups using the gym. Jakie will add this to the New Business in the December agenda.

Closing Prayer: Jakie Pawling

Lori Paquette
Second Vice Chair