

Trinity Lutheran School
School Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 20, 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: Lori Paquette, Stephanie Clausen, Mark Vogt, Nelle Richardson, LaVonna Emanuel, Roy Hahn, Pastor Gerber (arrived a little late)

Opening Prayer: Stephanie Clausen

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from October 2023 were reviewed. Mark Vogt made a motion to approve minutes from October 2023. Second by Nelle Richardson. No discussion, all were in favor.

Approval of Financials: October 2023 financials were reviewed. Roy Hahn asked about "Tuition Assistance Income" from the 1st sheet and the Children's Scholarship Fund. Stephanie Clausen will check with Amy on these and get back to the group later. Mark Vogt made a motion to approve the October 2023 financials. Nelle Richardson seconded the motion. No further discussion, all were in favor.

(Stephanie asked Amy Glause for clarification and emailed to the council the following information on December 4th.)

All families can apply for assistance through the Children's Scholarship Fund. This year, CSF awarded \$13,175 (9 students) in tuition assistance. We will receive this in two installments in December and May usually.

In addition, Trinity awarded \$12,500 (9 students) in assistance to families that did not get assistance from CSF. That is what you are seeing in the Tuition Assistance Income line item right now. That money came from donations at the auction and other donations specifically for tuition assistance.

So by the end of the year, you will see \$25,675 in the tuition assistance income line for 18 total students.

Principal's Report:

Fall Fundraiser: Last year we raised \$8,100, this year we hit our goal of \$10,000. Our profit is approximately \$4500. The third-grade class was the top selling class so they will get a pizza party. The top 10 student sellers will also get donuts and juice one morning.

Musical: We just had another successful musical.

Bank In School Program: We just had the Chamber Coffee and ribbon cutting for the Bank in School Program with RVR Bank.

Hearing/Vision Screenings: We just had screenings for hearing and vision through the Lions Club.

Perfect Attendance Acknowledgement: Perfect attendance was acknowledged during chapel. Students received a poster and candy. This will occur every quarter.

Training: Teachers are participating in a yearlong program called "Positive Classroom".

Midland Students: The school has been blessed with multiple Midland students who are assisting in the classrooms.

Scripts Spelling Bee: Grades 4-8 just participated in a school-wide spelling bee. Callan Burke was the winner. He is a 5th grader.

Radio time: Every Monday morning at 7:40 AM LaVonna Emanuel is on the radio station KHUB talking about Trinity School.

Because of technology issues, LaVonna Emanuel will share a slide show next meeting with statistical data about the school.

Old Business:

Tuition Rates: We will continue this discussion at our December meeting since both Jakie Pawling and Heather Nevarez who are part of this sub-committee are not at the meeting.

Dining to Donate: We have raised \$11,183.37 for floor updates. The next dining-to-donate event will be on December 19th from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Reinita's on Main Street.

Christmas Ideas for Teachers & Staff: Pastor Gerber had requested funds from the endowment for a staff gift for the teachers. The endowment set aside \$2000 that can be used. There was a discussion about what to use the funds for. Pastor Gerber initially thought of a massage chair but there is no place to put it currently. There was discussion about an ice cream machine which would be a good addition to the school but would benefit the school (concessions, rewards for students, etc) more than the teachers specifically. It was encouraged that we come up with ideas for the next meeting.

Principal Call Committee: The first meeting of the call committee took place on November 14th. They will be meeting again on December 3rd. There were over 100 names initially. They have narrowed it down to 27 with more calls being made.

New Business:

Gymnasium Schedule/STEM Schedule: LaVonna Emanuel reported there is both a gym schedule and STEM lab schedule and that Lacey Stuehmer manages these calendars. This was something that was discussed at a previous meeting where LaVonna Emanuel was not present.

Concussion Policy: Through working on the accreditation process it was suggested that a Concussion Policy be put in the Athletic Handbook. There is a Concussion Policy within the teacher's handbook that Stephanie utilized. She had handouts for the council.

LaVonna Emanuel also mentioned a new required training for the teachers which is the "Ministry Safe Training" which addresses how people gain access to kids. Part of that training also addressed being a mandated reporter and what exactly that means. The protocol for teachers is to report it to the principal and from that point on they will report it to the authorities together. CPR/First Aid is also a mandatory training requirement for the teachers.

The Concussion Policy handout was reviewed by the council. Mark Vogt made a motion to add "Concussion Management Protocol" to the Athletic Handbook. Nelle Richardson seconded the motion. No further discussion, all were in favor. It was noted that there were spelling corrections that needed to be made on the second to last page. Stephanie Clausen will make those corrections.

LB 753 in 2024: Roy Hahn spoke about LB753 which goes into effect January 1. There is a recall effort that will be voted on in November 2024 but until then it is in effect. Roy asked us to think about a couple of questions: How do we make the law available to current Trinity students? How we can assist other students in our community to utilize this law? Some guidelines are strictly adhered to: poverty level being one of them. Roy indicated that Bob Zigler from the District is willing to come out and speak with the Congregation after the first of the year to discuss the practical implications of this law.

School Athletes that are church members-policy & cost: The volleyball team brought in 3 girls from outside of Trinity school to assist with the last part of the season. One of the families has asked to be part of the 6th-grade basketball team. LaVonna Emanuel suggested that the policy be expanded on within the Athletic Handbook to address this situation and if there would be additional costs to it. This scenario was discussed at length. It was determined that acceptance of this request would be based on program capacity and that an additional fee would be required. Nelle Richardson made a motion to add the following language to the Athletic Handbook page two under the "Athletic Association" section, at the end of the first paragraph: "based on program capacity with a \$50 fee in addition to any other required fees". Motion was seconded by Lori Paquette. No further discussion, all were in favor.

Stephanie Clausen then made a motion to allow a 6th-grade student from Fremont Public School whose family is a Trinity member to play on the girls' basketball team for season 2023-2024. Mark Vogt seconded this motion. No discussion, all were in favor.

Staff Christmas Appreciation: A discussion took place about what we should do for the staff appreciation for Christmas. It was decided that we would do donuts on Friday, December 15th.

Closing Prayer: Pastor Gerber

Reminder: The next meeting is December 18th at 6 p.m. at Jackie Pawling's residence. Dinner will be provided.

Second Vice Chair: Lori Paquette

