

Trinity Lutheran School
School Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 15, 2024

Purpose/Mission Statement:

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

Members Present: Jason Jewell, Liz Fedde, LaVonna Emanuel, Lori Paquette, Stephanie Clausen, Mark Vogt, Heather Nevarez, Mark Schmidt, Mark Ostransky, and Roy Hahn.

Opening Prayer: Stephanie Clausen

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from December 2023 were reviewed. Mark Ostransky made a motion to approve December 18, 2023, minutes. Heather Nevarez seconded the motion. No discussion, all were in favor.

Approval of Financials: Lori Paquette made a motion to accept the December 2023 financials. Heather Nevarez seconded the motion. No discussion, all were in favor.

Principal's Report: LaVonna Emanuel spoke about the current sources of financial support for the school.

Currently: 61% congregation
24% tuition
15% other sources (scholarship fund)

Members discussed whether the tuition was keeping up with costs.

LaVonna reviewed the fall MAP scores to get a baseline and importance of seeing growth. Overall scores are positive and show there are some extremely bright kids. We can no longer compare data with other schools in the district.

LaVonna reviewed the accreditation process. Once self-survey is done, we can see where we are and what is expected. When a deficiency is found we need to write an action plan. Principal is shown as the responsible party for most items, which LaVonna feels is too much to complete in one year.

The next step is setting up a steering committee, and LaVonna will sit in with the steering committee to form an accreditation team. Typically, a 4-to-5-year process for accreditation. LaVonna said that she feels that they have been very thorough with the process.

Old Business:

Tuition rates, registration fee and incentives for referrals:

Discussed registration fees (go directly to curriculum).

Registration opens January 22nd, which is earlier than in previous years, previously has been much later which burdened the preparation of curriculum etc. New deadline for enrolling will be April 30th to avoid a late registration fee. Pastor Gerber noted that we need to emphasize we have a tuition assistance fund.

Motion made by Mark Vogt to adopt the proposed tuition for the '24-'25 school year: Pre-K \$2755 and K-8 \$4000.00. An early individual registration fee of \$200.00 will be charged before April 30th. After that date a late registration fee of \$300.00 will incur. Heather Nevarez seconded the motion. No discussion, all were in favor.

Dining to Donate: \$200 was received for the December Dining to Donate at Renita's.

Endowment money for teacher appreciation: Discussion included possible events for staff. \$2000.00 was received from the endowment. Will continue discussions next month.

Principal Call Committee: 5 interviews have been completed, Sarah Grein and her husband will be coming for an in person visit.

8th Grade Play: Mark Ostransky reported Liah Burke is interested in assisting with the play, along with a few Midland students.

AD position: Still seeking an individual to fulfill the AD position after February.

Principal Job Description: Stephanie combined job descriptions received from Bob Ziegler into one document. Motion made by Mark Ostransky to approve the principal job description with edits discussed. Seconded by Jason Jewell. No discussion, all were in favor.

New Business:

School Council Sub-Committee member assignments:

Executive: Pastor Gerber, LaVonna Emanuel, Stephanie Clausen, Lori Paquette

Strategic: Mark Ostransky, Jason Jewell, Liz Fedde

Financial: Heather Nevarez, Mark Vogt, Stephanie Clausen

Governance: Nelle Richardson, Lori Paquette, LaVonna Emanuel

Dining to Donate: Liz Fedde volunteered to plan for future Dining to Donate.

LB 753 update: Opportunity Scholarships of Nebraska, we as a school need to enroll. A form to participate as a partner school will be completed to receive funds for tuition. Motion made by Lori Paquette to fill form out to be a partner school. Seconded by Heather Nevarez. No discussion, all were in favor.

Athletic Handbook Update: Discussion on requiring all coaches to complete Ministry Safe training, CPR/First Aid/BBP training. Motion was made by Mark Vogt to add Ministry Safe training, CPR/First Aid/BBP training requirements to the athletic handbook. Seconded by Lori Paquette. No discussion, all were in favor.

Advertising: Stephanie spoke about radio advertising. With National Lutheran Schools Week discussion led to the need for radio ads on KHUB during enrollment kick off/NLSW. This includes 7 commercials for one month and a press release on the KHUB website. Money has already budgeted for this, so council doesn't need to approve.

Big Give: Discussion about money raised through the Big Give should be designated towards. LaVonna suggested using the funds towards enclosing the playground. She presented an estimate for the fencing. Motion was made by Mark Ostransky to use Big Give dollars towards playground improvement(fence). Seconded by Heather Nevarez. No discussion, all were in favor.

Plant Sale: Discussion about how to use funds received from the Plant Sale. Motion by Mark Ostransky to use plant sale proceeds toward classroom flooring in the 4th-8th grade classrooms. Seconded by Heather Nevarez. No discussion, all were in favor.

ELA Curriculum: \$5000.00 is in budgeted towards ELA curriculum. LaVonna discussed maintaining a partnership with Fremont Public Schools (FPS) with no cost associated. LCMS only provides guidance for religion curriculum. Motion made by Mark Ostransky to update ELA curriculum through FPS Rule 14 textbook loan program. Seconded by Lori Paquette. No discussion, all were in favor.

Closing Prayer: Pastor Gerber

Mark Vogt
Second Vice Chair