

Trinity Lutheran School  
School Council Meeting Minutes  
Monday, March 18, 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, LaVonna Emanuel, Lori Paquette, Stephanie Clausen, Mark Vogt, Heather Nevarez, Nelle Richardson, and Pastor Gerber.

**Opening Prayer:** Stephanie Clausen

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from February 2024 were reviewed. Lori Paquette made a motion to approve February 19, 2024, minutes. Jason Jewell seconded the motion. No discussion, all were in favor.

Minutes from March 5<sup>th</sup> zoom call were reviewed. Heather Nevarez made a motion to approve the March 5<sup>th</sup> minutes as amended. Nelle Richardson seconded the motion. No discussion, all were in favor.

**Approval of Financials:** Lori Paquette made a motion to accept the February 2024 financials. Nelle Richardson seconded the motion. No discussion, all were in favor.

**Principal's Report:** LaVonna Emanuel spoke about the K-3 musical led by Lora Howard and thought it went very well, many attended. Suzanne Pillen (Governor's wife) is coming to Trinity on March 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss literacy and ag. LaVonna reminded the council about the April 14-16 visit for the NLSA validation team visit. Sunday April 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:45pm will be a Meet, Greet & Eat. The School Council is encouraged to attend along with the staff and steering committee. Monday, the validation team will be working and developing an action plan. The School Council will need to attend the Exit Report Meeting on Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 in the stem lab.

LaVonna talked about May 1<sup>st</sup> annual track/field day scheduled. School council discussed having a shaved ice truck in the parking lot with items for sale to students and spectators. Trinity will receive 20% of the profits to be used for updating the 4-8<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms. Motion was made by Heather Nevarez and seconded by Nelle Richardson. No discussion, all were in favor.

LaVonna discussed May 4<sup>th</sup> plant sale pickup and Trinity Track Invitational at Fremont track and field. Volunteers are needed to help with both events.

LaVonna shared important dates coming up: May 8<sup>th</sup> - rain day for track and field, May 10<sup>th</sup> - Clemons Park/Mud Tug, May 15<sup>th</sup> - 6pm will be 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation and awards. May 17<sup>th</sup> – Last day of school 11:30am dismissal. Omaha street percussion for Friday is cancelled. Billy Troy is coming in May for entertainment.

### **Old Business:**

**Endowment money for teacher appreciation:** Council discussed using the endowment money (\$2000.00) for teacher appreciation. Lori spoke for the sub-committee (Mark V, Nelle, and Lori). Motion was made by Lori Paquette to give all staff the choice of a backpack or lunch bag with snacks. Both options will have the Trinity Panther logo and optional personalization. The remaining funds will be kept for later use. Nelle Richardson seconded. No further discussion, all were in favor.

**Principal Call Committee Update:** Stephanie updated council that Sara Grein has accepted the call as Trinity Lutheran School's Principal for the '24-'25 school year.

**AD Position:** Mark Ostransky has accepted the athletic director position.

**'24-'25 School Calendar:** The 2024-2025 School calendar was reviewed. This was a subcommittee assignment by Lori, Liz, Stephanie, Jason, and Mrs. Synovec. Jason Jewell made motion to accept the calendar and Heather Nevarez seconded. No further discussion, all were in favor.

**Pre-K 5-year goal:** The Strategic sub-committee was assigned to look into the future plans for the Pre-K. LaVonna will be assisting the work of this sub-committee. They will report back to School Council with their recommendations. Currently Pre-K has 11 enrolled with a cap of 15 students.

**Girls' basketball for Nationals:** funding goal was met, playing Friday and Saturday, Sunday TBD. Plan for students to watch from their classrooms.

### **New Business:**

**Plant sale update:** Stephanie spoke about changes to the database being used by Janet's Jungle. We are at approximately \$2000.00 profit to date.

**5-year tuition rates:** The financial sub-committee will be looking at the next 5-year tuition rates. This sub-committee is Stephanie, Heather, and Mark Vogt. Jason Jewell will also assist the sub-committee.

**Auction update:** Jessica Heineman from the auction committee spoke to the council about the goals of the auction. The auction committee agreed the goal of the auction is fundraising and will have a focus on unique items. The team is working well together and setting a goal of \$90,000.00. Sponsorship by businesses has been strong. They are reaching their deadline to add any more auction items. Jessica will email the council chair to share a list of suggested items for anyone who would like to still donate.

**Dining to donate:** Stephanie spoke about upcoming event March 25<sup>th</sup> at LaHacienda 11am-9pm 10% of the day will be donated to Trinity School. On April 15<sup>th</sup> McDonald's will donating 25% of digital orders between 5 and 8pm to Trinity.

**April School Council Meeting:** Next School Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Advertising:** Pastor Gerber spoke about how Facebook is the cheapest way to advertise at approximately \$1.00/click. 80 clicks over 4 days. Looking into Instagram. Council would like the focus to be on new enrollment and the Opportunity Nebraska Scholarship.

**Enrollment:** 21 new enrollments to date.

**Student data information:** Jason Jewell spoke about using data to improve several areas and to guide the direction of the council. Starting with enrollment, MAP scores, sources of funding/tuition. Amy can provide some info to Jason to get started until we can find avenues for Jason to have limited access. All members were in favor of Jason providing the council with data to ensure the strengths/weakness of Trinity.

**Track coach training:** It was moved by Lori Paquette to have a minimum of one coach to have CPR, First Aid, BBP training for track season. All coaches need to have ministry safe training for the 2024 track season. Training came be completed online. Seconded by Jason Jewell. No further discussion, all were in favor.

**Closing Prayer:** Pastor Gerber

Mark Vogt  
Second Vice Chair