

Saint Francis Xavier School
 School Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
 October 16, 2024
 7:00 PM St. Francis School Library

Meeting called to order at 7:01PM by Jason Fate

Members present: Adam Dobrowolski, Kathy Coveyou, Jason Fate, Tyler Swiss, Amy Wilson, Kathy Coveyou, Tim LaGasse, Art Holszchu, Jayme Weir, Fr. Greg McCallum

Absent: Caroline Paulus, Julie Plichta

Guests: Chrissy Swiss & Laura Heneka

Adam Dobrowolski, Jason Fate – Opening Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance

NEXT MEETING: December 18 at 7:00 pm in the school Library.

Agenda Item	Presenting Party	Info/Discussion	Subsequent Action Required	Responsible Party
Minutes of October August 21		Minutes reviewed. Approved by Jayme, 2 nd by Tim. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No discussion. 	Minutes will be put on the website.	None
Communications	Adam Dobrowolski	Section 31aa opened yesterday and runs throughout this month. Closes Nov 1st. Available to all schools. This grant includes a mental health component along w/ school safety. We have counseling services earmarked for students that need it from last year's grant and also purchased Friendly - staff will pilot it before the next staff mtg and discuss. It is a social-emotional program that helps equip students with the skills to build healthy relationships, manage stress, improve focus, etc. and the curriculum will fit in w/ Catholic teaching. If we do not use all the funding for counseling we can use that money towards staff training in Social Emotional Learning. Cameras have been installed w/ state grant. We could look into getting more or also get film for lower level windows like we have for the doors. The back door buzzer was		Adam

		<p>from a previous grant. Adding another buzzer system is another recommendation to look into. We recently put up signage that we have cameras on site.</p>		
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<p>Old Business</p> <p>a. Committee Updates</p> <p>1) PTO</p> <p> a) Fall Fun Run</p> <p> b) Turkey bingo</p> <p> c) Lyric Theater</p> <p>2) Auction & Raffle</p>		<p>PTO account is \$7,698.</p> <p>Fun Run brought in just over \$9,000.</p> <p>New volleyball jerseys have been purchased along with pom poms for cheer.</p> <p>Turkey bingo is Nov 8th at 5:30</p> <p>Possible movie day at the Lyric either Dec 12 or during Catholic Schools Week. Teachers will discuss.</p> <p>Auction/Raffle – Jenna will let us know how many Room Parents signed up at the Parent Commitment Meeting and Adam will reach out to get more parents to help w/ class baskets.</p> <p>Acquiring acquisitions and class projects for auction have begun.</p> <p>Tony Lamerato is doing sponsorships.</p> <p>Raffle tickets are right in line w/ last year. Around 300</p> <p>Second early bird, Nov 10th. 8th Grade is also planning a fundraising pancake breakfast (instead of hospitality hour w/ staff) after Mass which will be a great time to sell tickets.</p>	<p>Amy</p>
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Father's Report	Adam Dobrowolski	Advent will be upon us quickly, so this year Father is planning to give students a different time for confessions instead of after Mass, as it's such a busy time with parishioners also receiving the sacrament Fr. is planning to have Fr. Mitch and Fr. Patrick help.	Fr. will reach out to Fr. Mitch and Fr. Patrick.	Fr. Greg
Principal's Report				
a. Finance Report	Adam Dobrowolski	<p>The Finance Council met yesterday, October 15th. We have been on target with collections. With a teacher on leave this year we are currently lower in expenses for the school.</p> <p>Fundraising will be the key, with a goal of \$360,000 (includes donations not earmarked).</p> <p>In '21 and '22 we were closer to \$400,000 in fundraising. Both years the church subsidy was less than 30%.</p> <p>The Parent Commitment Meeting was overall helpful for families. The financial numbers might have painted a worrisome picture. Chris McKenna did a wonderful job informing parents on safe technology use. We plan to look at our attendance sheet for the night and reach out to families who weren't able to attend the meeting and give them bullet points on what they missed.</p>		Adam Dobrowolski

<p>b. Fund the Need 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gym Floor 	<p>Adam Dobrowolski</p>	<p>Fund the Need last year was for the gym floor. We raised enough for the synthetic surface. In mid-August the company said they'd need an additional \$30,000 because they didn't know what it would look like under the current gym floor. Archie has reached out to 5 other gym floor installers. 2 have come in under the cost of synthetic floors. Most are comfortable with wood floors. Synthetic life is 50 years, wood floor is 50-60 years. Negative of the wood floor is maintenance costs.</p> <p>SAC discussed whether we should pause on the floor in order to give teachers a raise since we are currently in a pay freeze or continue on with the floor. As we could be in the same position next year, it makes sense to continue on with flooring, especially since the floor is in poor shape.</p> <p>The committee feels strongly that a development director will help and also ease some of the fundraising burden from parents. St. Mary's and Harbor Light both have a development director who covers their own salary, and maintains fundraising. It might not be sustainable to put this much pressure on families for running the chairs, and a development director could help ease this and also help the Parish to thrive.</p>	<p>Reach out to other parishes/schools that have development directors.</p> <p>Market endowment fund. Quiet stage - invitation only. Invite parents of alumni, and other donors. Event at Coveyou Farm.</p> <p>Invite the Finance Council to a meeting and look for solutions together that will help the parish and school. Fr. will see if he can get someone from FC to attend the next SAC meeting. Nov 12th is the next FC Mtg at noon.</p> <p>Tim LaGasse and Brandon Weir are planning to attend the next Finance Council meeting.</p>	<p>Adam</p>
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		<p>SAC feels that staffing is so important. Since there is a pay freeze it would be nice to give staff a bonus - possibly do Fund the Need for teacher bonuses? We would have to speak w/ Lynn about taxes if we pursued this.</p> <p>Fundraising ideas for endowment fund: Spring Bingo Golf Scramble Event at Coveyou Farm</p>		
c. Other Building Updates	Adam Dobrowolski	<p>Wiring and cameras are installed. New phones have been set up in each classroom. Each teacher has an individual phone line. The main office is 231-348-2360. All phones are able to make an all school announcement over the intercom.</p>		Adam Dobrowolski
d. Professional Development Day - November 1st (All Saints Day)	Adam Dobrowolski	<p>No school for students 11/1. PD for Staff. Someone from FACTS is coming & will be using data to drive instruction. Student data - NWEA, everyday in classroom - writing samples, growth in classrooms, etc. Apply data to the curriculum. Paid for with Title 2 dollars.</p>		Adam Dobrowolski
e. Camp Daggett trip recap	Adam Dobrowolski	<p>Middle School went to Camp Daggett - 42 students attended. The kids had a lot of fun. Day 2 was a little different. Looking for student feedback with the new scavenger hunt this year. Students also enjoyed capture the flag, dancing, and team building activities. Student planned activities were the favorites.</p>		Adam

f. Parent Teacher Conferences	Adam Dobrowolski	Some have already begun. 4-8 tomorrow night - PTO will provide dinner from Roast & Toast for teachers.		Adam
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Wrap up thoughts:

When families leave - do we follow up with a phone call? In the past we have done a Google Form or had a conversation. Most common feedback is that they leave due to following friends that leave or sports. We can look into doing an exit survey. We have sent out a High School survey in the past to ask students how prepared they felt going into HS and would like to do so again.

The Anxious Generation Book, recommended by Chris McKenna - how can we encourage parents to not give their students an iphone? There are so many benefits to not giving your child a smartphone too early, but it can cause misery in children if they are the only child without one. As a community it would be nice for parents to pledge not to get a phone until closer to high school.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, December 18, at 7:00 pm in the school Library.

Father led closing prayer

Meeting adjourned at 9:11pm