

**Board of Education Meeting
December 15, 2020
Schrup Family Board Room**

Board Members Present: Todd Link, Kelley Schiesl, Sharon Wulfekuhle-Hefel, Scott Leibfried, Fr. Steve Rosonke, Diane Rambousek, Brian Kane

Board Members Absent: Dan Walsh, Kevin Mullen and Fr. Phil Gibbs

Staff Present: Phil Bormann, Bonnie Sigwarth and Lisa Krapfl

Meeting began with prayer at 5:35 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the November 17, 2020 Board of Education meeting were included in the packet for review.

- **Todd Link moved to approve the November 17, 2020 meeting minutes as presented. Sharon Wulfekuhle-Hefel seconded. The motion carried.**

Consent Agenda Items

Committee minutes and reports from system administrators were included in the packet for review.

- **Scott Leibfried moved to accept the meeting minutes and reports as presented. Diane Rambousek seconded. The motion carried.**

Chief Administrator Report

Phil Bormann met with Fr. Vu at Loras College on Tuesday, December 8, to discuss his 12 years at Xavier. This was a fruitful conversation and Phil plans to continue reaching out for ideas and suggestions on how to move the Holy Family system forward.

Several parents have reached out with concerns about potential large class sizes for next year and limited expansion opportunities for Our Lady of Guadalupe once students transfer to the Kane Street campus. There is flexibility for Our Lady to become a three section school if necessary, but there are some concerns regarding staffing this in the future.

As part of Platform for Excellence, Holy Family is working on a comprehensive plan for programming that includes considerations for each elementary school as well as the middle and high school. Phil will keep the board updated as progress is made.

Holy Family is in communication with all elementary parishes regarding facilities to determine how to move their projects forward.

There will be a meeting with deanery priests in early January to discuss parish assessments. The Assessment Committee will then meet on January 13 to determine how to move forward.

Phil continues to work with Mary Sulentic, HR Coordinator, and the Archdiocese to take a comprehensive look at staffing needs for the upcoming school year.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Transition

Committees consisting of Mazzuchelli and Our Lady of Guadalupe administration, teachers and parents have been created to help guide Our Lady's transition to the Kane Street campus. The three different committees will focus on logistics, identity, and furniture, fixtures and equipment. IIW is putting together a bid package for work that needs to be done. The goal is to have everything completed by July 1, 2020.

Brian Kane suggested there be some sort of celebration to memorialize the transition to a PK-12 campus. This will be a good task for the Identity Committee.

COVID-19 Update

There has been an increase in COVID-19 cases at Wahlert due to an outside-of-school student gathering of 25 plus students, with eight confirmed positive cases traced back to the gathering. As of December 15, there are a total of 18 active student cases system-wide, which triggers a review by the Medical Advisory team.

The Medical Advisory team met prior to the board meeting and discussed whether Wahlert should move to virtual until Christmas break and if extra-curricular activities should continue. The Medical team agreed that shutting down extra-curricular activities could contribute to more community spread among students who may use the time to gather outside of school. They also discussed whether mandatory COVID testing should be required for those students who want to participate in an activity but agreed it would be difficult to track. The overall recommendation from the Medical Advisory Team is to stay with in-person learning and keep extra-curricular activities going as normal.

The board discussed. A message will be put together and sent out to families regarding the increased cases and addressing the consequences of having large gatherings outside of school.

Resurrection Update

The Policy for Parish Initiated Capital Improvements to Elementary Schools sites was reviewed along with the resolution passed in January regarding the Resurrection build, which states that Holy Family pledges to pay \$3.55 million in equal payments over five years. The Holy Family pledge will need to be adjusted once Resurrection knows the final cost of the build. At that time, the resolution will be brought back to the board for approval.

Strategic Planning Update

CRAFT initiatives from the strategic plan were shared and reviewed. An update was given on what has been completed and what still needs to be done. The board will continue to be updated.

St. Columbkille Renovation Plans

Phil Bormann recently toured St. Columbkille school and the adjacent convent with Fr. David Schatz to determine what is needed for renovations. As part of the strategic plan, Holy Family is

working to determine the vision for what St. Columbkille will look like in terms of facilities and if preschool through fifth grade should be contained in one building. This will be an ongoing conversation and Phil will continue to update the board on progress.

Late-Start Fridays

A survey was sent out to families and staff to gauge interest in aligning with Dubuque Community Schools and moving to one hour late starts on Fridays for the 2021-2022 school year. The goal would be to use that extra time for teacher professional development.

Lisa Krapfl, Curriculum Director, highlighted data received from the survey. Overall, 70.9 percent of teachers who responded are supportive of moving to late start Fridays; however, concerns were expressed on if it would cut into pre-K programming and how it would affect those teachers who have students in the system.

Parents who responded were split almost 50/50 between those who support a one hour late start and those who do not. The biggest concern expressed by parents was how it would disrupt their schedules.

As part of the strategic planning initiatives, there are several items that will need time to accomplish and the one hour late start could provide teachers the time needed. However, this would result in 30 less hours of instruction time for students each year.

An alternative to late start Fridays could be to create an innovation fund that would allow for extra-curricular committees, which teachers could join based on their interests.

The board considered both options. Overall, the group agreed that creating an innovation fund for extra-curricular committees would be more effective in engaging teachers who are passionate and willing to work hard toward initiatives, rather than dictating what they will work on during late-start Fridays.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Schedule & Transportation

Part of the late-start Fridays survey to parents requested feedback from Our Lady of Guadalupe parents on whether they would like their students to arrive at school the same time as Wahlert and Mazzuchelli students for the 2021-2022 school year. Overall 52.3 percent of respondents preferred to maintain the current Our Lady of Guadalupe schedule, and 35.1 percent preferred to align with Mazzuchelli and Wahlert.

Phil inquired as to what level of input the board would like to have in decisions made pertaining to the Our Lady of Guadalupe transition. The board agreed information should come to them as a report but the committees can have control over decisions.

COVID-19 Guidelines Update

Recently, the board voted electronically to update COVID-19 quarantine guidelines. The following updates were approved:

Students who are exposed to a positive COVID-19 case in an educational setting, while both appropriately masked, will not be required to quarantine but informed of an option to do so.

Students who are exposed to a positive COVID-19 case when either party is unmasked or when aerosolization may occur will be required to quarantine for 10 days.

- **Todd Link moved to verify email votes for changes to the COVID-19 quarantine guidelines. Sharon Wulfekuhle-Hefel seconded. The motion carried.**

2021-2022 Tuition Rates

A recommendation from the Finance Committee to increase tuition rates by \$100 at each level for the 2021-2022 school year was shared with the board. Administration will take a closer look at the tuition model in the future as part of the strategic plan.

- **Scott Leibfried moved to approve increasing tuition rates by \$100 at each level for the 2021-2022 school year. Diane Rambousek seconded. The motion carried.**

2021-2022 Early Childhood Rates

Proposed early childhood rates for the 2021-2022 school year were also shared. Overall, early childhood rates will increase by an average of 4-6 percent for the 2021-2022 school year.

- **Scott Leibfried moved to approve the early childhood rates for 2021-2022 as presented. Sharon Wulfekuhle-Hefel seconded. The motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.