

Board of Education Meeting
February 17, 2022
Schrup Family Board Room

Board Members Present: Scott Leibfried, Diane Rambousek, Kelley Schiesl, Sharon Wulfekuhle-Hefel, Todd Link, Dan Walsh, Brian Kane, John Meinert

Board Members Absent: Fr. Jim Goerend and Fr. Phil Gibbs

Staff Present: Phil Bormann, Bob Noel and Lisa Krapfl

Guest Present: Deacon Brian Zeman

Meeting began with prayer at 5:33 p.m.

Academics Update

Lisa Krapfl, Director of Curriculum and Innovation, joined the board meeting to give an update on academics throughout the system.

Lisa shared that she uses the Portrait of a Graduate as her lens and filter when making decisions for the system. Her goal for the year is to be able to commit to and promise each family who joins the Holy Family system that students who attend Holy Family Catholic Schools will walk away embodying each of the following traits outlined in the Portrait of a Graduate: spiritual and ethical, aware and connected, passionate and engaged, and capable and prepared. Lisa shared some of initiatives that she is working on to ensure this happens:

Pre-K/Preschool:

- Lisa took campus tours and met with all site directors/teachers to learn more about possible opportunities at the pre-k and preschool levels.
- Looking to see how the Gold assessment taken at the pre-k level can be used to inform programming.

K-3:

- Purchased updated science curriculum, Amplify and Know Atom. Working on the adoption process and teaching for year one.
- Working on creating our own social studies curriculum and ways to integrate it into other subjects (for example, faith and English concepts).

K-5:

- Continued emphasis on FAST assessment data and implementing interventions for students who need reading and math support.
- Continued support for personalized learning classrooms including professional development and alignment of norms across the system in grades 4-5 and vertical alignment to grades 6-12. Leaders continue to meet 1:1 with a Summit coach.

6-8:

- Worked with the theology team addressing human growth and development requirements from the Archdiocese. Reviewed and purchased “The Body Matters” by TOBET, which each grade level will teach in class.
- Aligned the mastering of Catholic prayers in K-8 to grade levels and grade reports.
- Each student will have a four-year pathway outlined by the end of eighth grade.

9-12:

- Partnering with local colleges to offer more college course credit options at the high school level. Internships and apprenticeships are also being offered. Out of the 108 Wahlert seniors, a total of 651 college credits are currently being taken with 28 students currently involved in an internship.
- ACT prep implementation in the high school classrooms and ACT help sessions being offered to students during Eagle Time.
- Student portfolios will begin next year for incoming ninth grade students. Each student will have their own website that will house all of their college prep materials, service work and career planning.
- J-Term courses and opportunities will be offered for high school students for two weeks after Christmas break during the 2022-2023 school year. Each course will earn five course credits and will be evaluated on a pass/fail basis.

System-Wide:

- The SIAC (Student Improvement Advisory Committee), consisting of Holy Family parents, staff, students and community members meets twice per year to look at achievement data and share ideas and input.
- Working with principals to discuss instructional leadership and ways to improve instruction in the classrooms with principals moving into more of a coaching role for teachers.

A flier was also shared showcasing personalized learning data from standardized assessments for those students who have been fully involved in the personalized learning program. Overall, the longer students are immersed in the program, there appears to be fewer students performing at “not yet proficient” levels.

The board asked Lisa to share her number one wish list item. Lisa’s greatest wish is that no student is counted out before they are counted in, and that every student is given an opportunity as much as possible so when they leave Holy Family, they know they have choices for their future.

Our Faith STO

Deacon Brian Zeman presented information on Our Faith STO, which provides tuition assistance to the families of Holy Family Catholic Schools. When individuals donate to STO, they receive a 75 percent tax credit, which is the highest percentage of any tax credit in Iowa. The tax credit is available until the goal is met so early donations are encouraged in order to get the tax credit. Donors are also able to pledge donations now to reserve their tax credit.

Deacon Brian encouraged board members to not only donate to STO, but to spread the word regarding the tax credit and the benefits the STO program has for families attending our school system.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the January 20, 2022 Board of Education meeting were included in the packet for review.

- **Todd Link moved to approve the January 20, 2022 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.

Phil Bormann shared that the Student Services Committee reviewed responses received from the recent cold weather survey that went out to parents to gauge whether they support Holy Family's decision to stay in school when Dubuque Community Schools cancels due to cold weather. With 80 percent of respondents approving of Holy Family's cold weather policy, the committee supports Holy Family's decision to stay open on cold weather days. The cold weather policy will be included in the Policy and Procedure Handbook, which will be approved at a later date.

The Student Services Committee also discussed the possibility of having a brain health room on campus as Wahlert. Holy Family is looking into building up an endowment to fund this. Further information will be shared as it develops.

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

Chief Administrator Report

Katie Jones has been working towards determining what our faculty and staff faith development will look like in the new year. She is working closely with the Religion and Mission Committee to gain input.

Rebecca Mueller, Enrollment Director, is working to create the Butler Scholars scholarship criteria and process to ensure we are able to financially support the many students who want to call Holy Family Catholic Schools their home.

Phase I of the Holy Ghost renovation project is nearly complete and steps for Phase II have begun. St. Joseph the Worker is still in its planning stages for renovation and ongoing conversations are taking place to determine what work will be prioritized.

An ad hoc committee has been meeting to discuss a larger pay and benefits package for all employees.

Holy Family received a stabilization grant for early childhood recently and this has allowed us to dramatically increase wages over the next two years at our early childhood centers. This will

make our positions competitive with all area childcare centers and we are already seeing a return on this investment with an increased candidate pool.

COVID-19 Update

Things are going well in terms of the health of the system with COVID-19 cases at a minimum. Every student is attending school in-person, Masses are now open to parents who wish to attend, and parent volunteers are also being allowed into the buildings.

Circle of Celebration Raffle Tickets

Bob Noel gave an update on the status of raffle tickets for Circle of Celebration. At this time, Holy Family is 60 tickets behind what was sold this time last year. Bob asked board members to help spread the word. Circle of Celebration will be held March 26 and the Fund-A-Cause at the event will raise money for brain health.

Executive Session

At 6:45 p.m., Todd Link moved and Sharon Wulfekuhle-Hefel seconded to convene to executive session.

At 7:45 p.m., Scott Leibfried moved and Todd Link seconded to conclude executive session.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.