

## **REPORT ON KUEMPER SCHOOL BOARD MEETING, Tuesday, June 20, 2023**

The June meeting of the Kuemper Catholic School Board was called to order by chairman Tom Brincks, on Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. at the Kuemper High School Library. The meeting was opened with the school board prayer. Members present included Carrie Meyers, Allisa Tiefenthaler, Laura Schaefer, Fr. Terry Roder, Joe Behrens, Fr. Kevin Richter and Fr. Michael Cronin. Also present were President John Steffes; administrators Ted Garringer and Kathi Milligan, and business managers, Christie Sundrup and Kris Collison. Bob Lally was absent.

An Opportunity for Input was extended.

Fr. Richter moved to approve the May 16, 2023 meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Laura Schaefer. The motion passed.

### **Bright Knight Moments**

Administrators shared positive moments including excellent ISASP and FAST student scores. Construction and maintenance crews are working hard this summer on multiple projects throughout the buildings such as bathrooms, windows and flooring. Kris Collison, Christie Sundrup and Erin Sundrup were also acknowledged for their hard work on ESAs. School Board Member Allisa Tiefenthaler was awarded the high school's annual Adult Service Award for her outstanding talent and dedicated time to Kuemper.

### **Administrator and Staff Reports:**

#### **Administrative Reports**

Written reports were submitted by Ted Garringer, Kathi Milligan, and Michael Power.

#### **Marketing & Enrollment**

Erin Sundrup's written report stated next year's overall enrollment should increase. We continue to see a rise in enrollment in our younger grades. There are currently 89 preschool students registered for the 2023-2024 school year. Three year old preschool enrollment is increasing by 11, from 21 students in 2022-23 to 32 students in 2023-24. Kuemper retention has continued to rise. Kuemper enrollment is back to pre-pandemic numbers.

#### **Advancement Department**

Heather Pietig's written report stated the Century Club will be working with Booster Club to increase participation. Kuemper Ball and the Booster Club will be partnering to do a joint Golf Outing in August. The Foundation's *Faith Forward* capital campaign will be planning a celebration in September. Sara Iler joined the Advancement Team on June 1st.

#### **Finance & Budget**

Christie Sundrup reviewed the General Fund income and expenses for May 2023.

John Steffes continues to assist Good Shepherd parish with strategies to address past due parish assessment balances, including donor visits. Fr. Roder is working on a letter to parishioners.

#### **Catholic Identity Committee**

Fr. Behm is assisting with streamlining this committee as membership has become too big. There will be improved representation from all four centers in the future.

## **Old Business:**

### **ESAs Update**

Deadline for Education Savings Accounts (ESA) application for parents is June 30. This is a major new initiative with a tight timeline from the State. July 15 is the first day for approved ESAs to be funded.

### **Teaching Openings Update**

Fourth grade is still open.

### **Building and Maintenance Project Update**

*Faith Forward* Campaign has funded new flooring in the Junior High Library and High School Art Room and updating Holy Spirit Center bathrooms and windows.

## **New Business:**

### **Student Handbook Revisions**

A teacher committee was formed to assist with this input. Proposed revisions were emailed to the board several days ago. Ted Garringer reviewed several highlights such as stronger eligibility standards for participating in activities, clarifying cheating consequences, and dress code at school activities stressing modesty as a virtue. Compliance by our students is usually 95% or higher, but the student handbook requires careful review due to less than 5% of students who challenge the rules. The goal is to always find ways to improve the student handbook.

The Academic Excellence Committee meets next week to discuss a revised grading scale which is included in the student handbook, so the final approval of the handbook will be tabled to next week via email vote. The school nurse may also add a few minor items.

### **KHS Gym Videoboard Update**

The Booster Club would like to replace the KHS gym scoreboard with a multimedia and multipurpose video board which will also be academically based for student groups. The Kuemper Ball has already raised \$60,000 for this via this year's 'Fund-A-Cause' at the Ball's auction. The Kuemper Foundation will assist the Booster Club's purchase with a 0% loan to the Booster Club to avoid high financing fees from the vendor.

## **Personnel**

### **1. Resignations**

- a. Jennifer Bowden - Preschool Teacher
- b. Erin Mendoza - 4th Grade
- c. Nicci Gruszczyk - Jr. High Secretary/Substitute Coordinator
- d. Daniel Baumhover - Food Service

### **2. Transfers**

- a. Alan Loew - 9-12 Theology Teacher
- b. Cheryl Smith - Teacher Associate

The board thanked Fr. Richter for his service to Kuemper as he prepares for his transfer to Spencer next month.

Laura Schaefer moved to go into Executive Session at 5:04 p.m., and Joe Behrens seconded. The motion passed. Fr. Kevin Richter moved to go out of Executive Session and back into regular session at 5:27 p.m. Laura Schaefer seconded.

Closing prayer led by Fr. Kevin Richter.

Laura Schaefer moved to adjourn at 5:29 p.m., and Allisa Tiefenthaler seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicci Gruszeczka, Recording Secretary