

Kuemper Catholic School System

Board of Education Meeting Agenda – Tuesday, November 15, 2022

“Kuemper Catholic School System’s mission is to provide excellent Catholic education of mind, body, and soul to empower all students to achieve to the best of their abilities in fulfillment of God’s call.”

4:00 p.m. – Kuemper High School Library

(Please call Hannah Heiman at 792-3313, or email hnhheiman@kuemper.org if you are unable to attend.)

4:00 Call to Order & Opening Prayer

4:05 Opportunity for Input from Visitors

A. 2021-2022 Audit Report (**Action**)

Nicholas Stanley - Schnurr & Company, LLP

4:15 Approval of Minutes of October Board Meeting (Action) - pages 1-3

4:25 Bright Knight Moments

4:30 Review Administration & Department Reports - pages 4-11

Review Monthly Financials - pages 13-23

4:40 COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Catholic Identity - pages 24-26

B. Academic Excellence - pages 27-28

C. Leadership and Governance - pages 29

a. 2000 & 6000 series - 1st Reading Review (**Action**) - pages 30 - 71

b. KCSS Policy 2422.a & 2472.a - 1st Reading (**Action**) - pages 37, 43 & 44

4:50 NEW BUSINESS

A. Early Graduation Request (**Action**)

B. Merchants Park Baseball Stadium Lease (**Action**) - pages 72-76

C. Sioux City Diocese Stewardship Update (Msgr. Lafferty, etc.) - John Schmitz

5:00 PERSONNEL

A. Resignations

B. New Hires

a. Harold Nadler - Food Service

b. Carol Strautman - Food Service

5:15 EXECUTIVE SESSION

5:20 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

A. Evaluate the Meeting

CLOSING PRAYER & ADJOURNMENT

Next Regular Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, December 20, 2022
KHS Library – 4:00 P.M.

REPORT ON BOARD MEETING, Tuesday, November 15, 2022

The November meeting of the Kuemper Catholic School Board was called to order by vice chairperson, Joe Behrens, on Tuesday, November 15, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. at the Kuemper High School Library. The meeting was opened with the school board prayer. Members present included Joe Behrens, Bob Lally, Carrie Meyers, Allisa Tiefenthaler, Laura Schaefer, Fr. Kevin Richter, Fr. Michael Cronin, and Fr. Terry Roder. Tom Brincks was absent.

Also present were President, John Steffes; administrators, Ted Garringer and Kathi Milligan; business managers, Kris Collison and Christie Sundrup; finance committee member, Kelly Foley.

An Opportunity for Input was extended.

Nick Stanley of Schnurr & Company, LLP virtually presented the 2021-2022 audit report of KCSS to the board. There will be some cosmetic changes to the final audit. Hannah Heiman will send the final draft and the board members will vote via email. The audit report is due to the Diocese by December 1st, 2022.

The motion to approve the October 18, 2022 board meeting minutes was made by Bob Lally and seconded by Laura Schaefer. The motion passed.

Bright Knight Moments

The administration shared Bright Knight moments which included elementary students who presented to the United Way board on behalf of the Kuemper Summer reading program asking for funding. Mrs. Janning's class presented a change in Halloween school rules to the administration and they now can wear their Halloween costumes at school. The administration is proud of how the students learned about changing policies and applied the change. Ted thanked Central Office for the Coffee Cart Day as it increased moral for all staff at Kuemper. Fall Service Day was a success. The fall play was wonderful. 45 students tried out for roles in the play. Congratulations to the All-State Singers and Mr. Wicker. Kuemper Foundation made the NCEA (National Catholic Educational Association) magazine.

Administrative and Staff Reports:

Administrative Reports - Written reports were submitted by John Steffes, Ted Garringer, Kathi Milligan, and Mike Power.

Marketing and Enrollment

Erin Sundrup's written report stated enrollment as of October 2022 is 1,163 including PK3. The Marketing Committee welcomes a few new committee members: Allisa Tiefenthaler, Becky Vonnahme, Katie Borkowski, and Jaime Schwanz. The 21-22 Annual Report is currently in the works. The reports will be printed and distributed during Catholic Schools Week at the end of January. The Marketing Committee will review and update the SWOT analysis at their next meeting on Wednesday, November 30. The SWOT analysis is an excellent basis for the committee to build upon enrollment and marketing goals for the future. Other items that will be discussed at this meeting include researching a new Kuemper slogan and updating the

KuemperCares Handbook. We will also discuss 4-year-old preschool changes, the Knight Crawl, and Catholic Schools Week.

Alumni/Annual Giving

Heather Peitig's written report stated that this year's Phon-a-thon event is complete.

The wonderful group of volunteers, many students, alumni & parents made it all come to life as they contacted over 2,000 alumni in four days. Phone-a-thon donations are still coming in but their total as of November 8, 2022 is \$102,46. An interesting fact about the Phon-a-thon in 2021 62% of the funds raised came from outside of the 514 area code! Kuemper Ball is already in full swing, Ball Chairs are Matt & Stacie (Snyder '01) Tonniges, Dave ('97) & Carley (Masching '05) Pedelty, Shane Vaughan (KHS History teacher & coach) and fiancé Sarah Zimmerman and Jess & Steph (Snyder '03) Hausman. The Kuemper Ball kick-off event is Wednesday, January 25, 2023.

Development/Fundraising - Foundation

Alan Loew's written report stated the Kuemper Faith Forward Campaign has received \$9,405,907.21 in gifts and pledges as of October 2022. The Continuation Committee met on October 20, 2022, to discuss the status of the Campaign. Another "push" will be made through our Knight Light newsletter at the beginning of December for end-of-the-year contributions. Msgr. Lafferty Tuition Foundation as of November 4, 2022, we have collected \$366,085.27 (43.1%) towards Kuemper's 2022 goal of \$850,186.00. At this time last year, we collected \$422,279.62 of the 2021 goal. Information and donuts ("Do'nut delay! Donate today!") will go out to local CPAs to help promote MLTF. Please spread the word! 75% State Tax Credit! Sponsor-A-Student supplements Kuemper's Tuition Assistance Fund. 2022 is the 18th annual collection through the parishes and a mailing to past donors. \$3,733 has been raised at this time (10/27/22) compared to \$9,696 in 2021.

Finance & Budget

Kris Collison reviewed the general fund income and expenses for October 2022 and the 2022-2023 working fiscal year budget.

The Parish assessment portion of the financial sheets was addressed. Fr. Terry Roder stated Good Shepherd is in the works of getting their books in order. Fr. Kevin Richter and Fr. Terry Roder have not had any communication to parishes thus far. Bob Lally pushed the need for communication to happen quickly. Fr. Roder has been looking to the diocese for help. Good Shepherd has a representative to serve on the finance committee and Brad Nichols would be the other representative. John Steffes will speak with the Good Shepherd prospect to confirm. Fr. Michael Cronin and Fr. Kevin Richter parishes are current. Joe Behrens offered to assist Fr. Richter with the parish letter. Joe Behrens states we have a lot of fixing of relationships and healing since the parish reorganizations and merging. Joe Behrens stated Fr. Roder has done a great job of getting everyone together to be more engaged. It is slowly happening.

The board also encouraged Kuemper to push basic budget information through social media with graphics and flyers. The term GAP will be researched. For example, thank your parish for helping close the GAP between true cost per student and tuition. The history is there and we need the support. Strong history and tradition. The board also wants to push to the community that Kuemper provides a tax savings for our community and businesses.

Committee Reports:

A. Committee Meeting Minutes

a. Catholic Identity

Father Behm shared the plan for Faculty Formation which began with the first Faculty Professional Development meeting. Everyone will read and discuss the book by George Weigel, "Letters to A Young Catholic". The plan is to discuss one chapter per month at each teacher PD meeting. Parents' Faith and Formation were discussed with a plan in place regarding future projects. Carrie Meyers contacted Nannet Horten, who with her husband Bob, of Ames, Iowa, has developed Faith and Formation programs for adults. They are willing to help in designing a program for the Carroll area. Initial ideas are a parent event in January, at Greteman Center with free childcare being offered. The IgKnight retreat for 7-12 students was a success and Father Behm thanked Julie Masching and Kayla Venner for their support and tremendous effort in planning and implementing this new format. The high school Virtues in Practice (VIP) program has been implemented this academic year, 2022-2023, and continues to provide a solid foundation for our Students. Ted mentioned how we are unique in completing this VIP program K-12 as a sibling in Kindergarten can relate to the same virtue as the 12th-grade sibling. It is a comprehensive program now that we are implementing it with our high school students.

b. Academic Excellence

Fr. Kuemper Honor Society was discussed with the committee. The first layer of the National Honor Society would be basic for academics, leadership, and service. The second layer would be Fr. Kuemper Honor Society and the criteria would possibly be a higher GPA and create a unique service opportunity. This second layer would be more prestigious. The Long Range Diocesan Plan was discussed and will be impacting all six committees as they will do their part to contribute to the overall plan. There was a discussion of the importance of student membership on the Academic Excellence committee. The committee will recruit four students, one from each high school grade level serve on the Academic Excellence committee. Currently, a junior and senior serve as representatives.

c. Leadership and Governance

The Leadership and Governance committee reviewed the 2000s and 6000s Policies. The group reviewed the changes from the diocese on these policy series. The group then reviewed and recommended the proposed revisions for Kuemper policies (gold-colored paper) with the changes in red text. The process to approve the policies was decided the committee will do the first reading and second reading then the final action will go to the board members for approval. The school board did receive the 2000 & 6000 series and KCSS policies to review until presented as an action item. The committee gave a Strategic Planning Update - the diocese has begun a general framework of this process to begin in the spring. There are five Leadership & Governance main goals: defining the roles of pastors and clergy in schools; supporting leadership including recruitment/retention and succession planning; supporting multilingual, culturally diverse teacher and leadership development; providing education and training to support local school boards; and developing and implementing local strategic

plans aligned to the diocesan strategic plan. Kuemper Town Hall Meeting is set for February 21, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. after the school board meeting. The weather makeup date is February 23, 2023.

New Business:

A. Early Graduation Request

Alyssa Tomka, a junior at Kuemper, is requesting to graduate early in January 2024.

Alyssa is wanting to get an early start on her military career. Fr. Michael Cronin moved to approve the early graduation request and Carrie Meyers seconded. The motion passed.

B. Merchants Park Baseball Stadium Lease

John Steffes updated the board on the Merchants Park Baseball Stadium Lease. Bob Lally moved to approve the Merchants Park Baseball Stadium Lease and Fr. Michael Cronin seconded. The motion passed.

C. Sioux City Diocese Stewardship Update (Msgr. Lafferty, etc.) - John Schmitz

John Schmitz with the Sioux City Diocese came to the meeting to update the school board on a few items. John Schmitz stated the Diocese would be willing to back/support a Parish Development Director; John Steffes added that he could approach the Kuemper Foundation Board, too, for similar support. Msgr. Lafferty was another item of discussion. He encouraged the board members to give to Msgr. Lafferty and tell friends about the program. The biggest draw to giving to Msgr. Lafferty is the tax credit one would receive. The tax credit is 75% of your gift.

Personnel

A. Resignations

B. New Hires

a. Harold Nadler - Food Service

b. Carol Strautman - Food Service (PT)

Fr. Michael Cronin moved to go into Executive Session at 5:24 p.m. and Bob Lally seconded. The motion passed.

Fr. Kevin Richter moved to go out of Executive Session and back into regular session at 5:42 p.m. and Laura Schaefer seconded.

Closing prayer led by Fr. Michael Cronin.

Fr. Kevin Richter moved to adjourn at 5:45 p.m. and Fr. Terry Roder seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

John Steffes
Preseident

Hannah Heiman
Recording Secretary