

**Kuemper Catholic School System  
Board of Education Minutes  
March 16, 2021**

The March meeting of the Kuemper Catholic School Board was called to order by Chairman, Tom Brincks, on Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 3:30 p.m. in the high school library. The meeting was opened with the school board prayer. Members present included Tom Brincks, Dr. John Evans, Fr. Tim Friedrichsen, Bob Lally, Carrie Meyers, Fr. Kevin Richter, Fr. Randy Schon, Mike Sibbel and Gary Wiskus.

Also present were President, John Steffes; administrators Pete Haefs, Ted Garringer and Kathi Milligan; business manager, Christie Sundrup.

**Opportunity for Input from Visitors**

A group of people stated their concerns of diocesan pastoral planning and its impact on Kuemper.

Motion to approve the minutes of the February 16<sup>th</sup> meeting was made by Gary Wiskus and seconded by John Evans. The motion passed.

**Administrator and Staff Reports:**

Administrative Reports – Written reports were submitted by Pete Haefs, Ted Garringer, Kathi Milligan and Mike Power. Mike Power noted that they looked into purchasing a mini bus. With the assistance of Jair Mayhall a mini bus will be purchased. \$15,000 had been set aside for the last three years for this planned purchase.

Marketing & Enrollment Management

In Susie Hulst's written report she stated that the enrollment as of 3-10-21 is 1,129 students, down 5 since last month. Three new students will be starting at the start of 4<sup>th</sup> quarter on Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. There are currently 83 students on the preschool interest survey for the 2021-2022 school year. Heather Pietig and Susie will be busy working on content for the virtual portion of the 2021 Kuemper Ball.

Alumni/Annual Giving

Cindy Lawler stated in her written report that since the date for Homecoming hasn't been set there are no definite plans for reunions at this time. Kuemper Ball donations are coming in strong.

Development/Fundraising – Foundation

Sharon Olerich's written report stated that the Education Celebration Day by the Alliance for Choice in Education (ACE) on April 13 will be virtual this year. The Foundation board members will distribute Easter gifts of \$225 to all teachers from the Teacher Salary Enhancement Fund and \$80 to non-certified staff from the general Foundation. All *Eternal Knights* have been invited to attend the spring dress rehearsal of the musical on April 7. The next regular Foundation meeting will be Thursday, April 29.

Finance & Budget

Christie Sundrup reviewed the general fund income and expenses for February 202, the 2020-2021 Working Fiscal Year Budget and the 2021-2022 General Fund budget including tuition.

**2021-2022 General Fund budget including tuition**

Bob Lally moved to approve the 2021-2022 General Fund budget recommended by the Finance Committee with 2% wage increases, a 4% health insurance increase, minimal mission impact items as expense reductions as determined by the finance subcommittee and 5% tuition increase. Mike Sibbel seconded the motion. The motion passed.

## **Committee Reports:**

### **A. Committee Meeting Minutes**

#### **1. Marketing & Recruitment – February 22**

Mr. Haefs gave a general overview of the high school's dual-credit offerings at the high school. The committee suggested creating a flyer/list of dual-credit course offerings and share with parents (K-12) on social media and in prospective student packets to help educate parents of the options their students have when it comes to high school courses. Preschool Open House had a successful turnout.

#### **2. Finance & Budget – March 4**

The Board will participate in communication to parishioners regarding the current pastoral planning process. The Board will review and be asked for approval of (1) 21-22 General Fund budget including tuition rates and (2) salary/wage matrix. Bob Lally discussed the non-corporate parish delinquency policy. Recent communications regarding these delinquencies took place at the Leadership & Governance Committee's meeting. This committee recommended to the school board that it not pursue creating a policy that would enact a tuition surcharge on families that are members of delinquent non-corporate parishes. The school board approved the LGC's recommendation. The finance committee asks that the school board reconsider the surcharge based on the following clarifications.

- This surcharge is for non-corporate parishes only
- A surcharge was assessed years ago prior to Diocesan Policy 3241 (Per-Pupil Investment by Non Member Parishes). Upon institute of Diocesan Policy 3241, surcharge was no longer in effect at Kuemper.
- If non-corporate parish is not fulfilling its financial obligations to Kuemper at fiscal-year-end, a surcharge of 30% of student tuition to the family should be considered.
- Family would not be charged surcharge payments to Kuemper upon parish meeting its obligations.

The Non-Corporate Parish delinquencies topic died for lack of motion. No action.

#### **3. Leadership & Governance – March 10**

The Committee will study the new board membership rotations and revisit at next meeting. The annual Education Celebration Day in Des Moines will be virtual due to the pandemic. The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 11 at 5:00 p.m.

## **Old Business:**

### **A. 2021-2022 School Calendar**

Fr. Tim Friedrichsen moved to approve the revised 2021-2022 school calendar, adding May 27<sup>th</sup> as a PD/Teacher Checkout Day. Mike Sibbel seconded. The motion passed.

## **New Business:**

### **A. 2021-2022 Teacher Listing for Contracts**

The Board reviewed the 2021-2022 Teacher Listing for Contracts

### **B. Pastoral Planning Update**

Mike Sibbel moved to approve the Board Resolution with attachments asking the diocese to revisit elements of Ministry 2025 to help keep area parishes open including considering a Mass rotation schedule. John Evans seconded. The motion passed with one abstention.

### **C. Student Teacher Agreement – University of Northern Iowa**

John Evans moved to accept the Student Teacher Agreement with the University of Northern Iowa, seconded by Gary Wiskus. The motion passed.

**Personnel**

A. Resignations

1. Bonnie Bock - Food Service
2. Barbara Warner – Food Service

B. New Hires

1. Amanda Ludwig - Food Service

Mike Sibbel moved to go into Executive Session at 7:23 p.m. seconded by Gary Wiskus.

John Evans moved to go out of Executive Session and back into regular session at 7:30 p.m., seconded by Mike Sibbel. The motion passed.

Fr. Kevin Richter led the closing prayer.

Gary Wiskus moved to adjourn at 7:34 p.m., seconded by John Evans.

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, April 20 at 4:00 p.m. in the high school library.

Respectfully submitted,

John Steffes  
President

Joanie Buelt  
Recording Secretary