

## **REPORT ON BOARD MEETING, Tuesday, April 19, 2022**

The April meeting opened with Executive Session at 4:00 p.m. Fr. Cronin moved to go out of Executive Session and back into the regular session at 4:47 p.m. The Kuemper Catholic School Board meeting was called to order by Chairman, Tom Brincks, on Tuesday, April 19, 2022, at 4:50 p.m. in the high school library. The meeting was opened with the school board prayer. Members present included Joe Behrens, Tom Brincks, Fr. Tim Friedrichsen, Carrie Meyers, Fr. Kevin Richter, Fr. Michael Cronin, Dr. John Evans, and Gary Wiskus.

Also present were President John Steffes; administrators Ted Garringer, Kathi Milligan, and Michael Power; business manager, Christie Sundrup and Kris Collison.

An Opportunity for Input was extended.

Joe Behrens moved to approve the March 15 meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Gary Wiskus. The motion passed.

### *Bright Knight Moments*

Administrators shared positive moments including the support for Austin M and the bracelet fundraiser. \$7,000 profit for Austin and his family.

## **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 enrollment looks very hopeful. We continue to see a rise in enrollment in our younger grades. We have an estimated class size of 91 kindergartners for the fall of 2022. Currently, we have 95 in this year's Kindergarten class, 83 in 1st grade, and 88 in 2nd grade. Discover Kuemper Preschool Night was a huge success. We received many positive comments and a few suggestions for changes to next year's event. There are currently 87 students on the preschool interest survey for the 2022-2023 school year. This is up to four students from where we were last year. Many tours have been given in the last several weeks. Most of these families are looking at enrolling in the fall.

### Alumni/Annual Giving

Heather Pietig's written report stated the Kuemper Ball will be held at the Kuemper Fieldhouse on Saturday, April 30, 2022, from 5:30 P.M. to 12:30 P.M. Lidderdale will cater. Live music, live auction, and lots of fun! The ball booklet was finalized as of 4/13 so no other donation will be noted in the program. People are welcome to give and will be listed under the Ball Blitz on the evening of the Kuemper Ball. Requests for reunion postcards and class lists are coming in steadily. We are looking forward to a great Homecoming weekend in September.

### Development/Fundraising – Foundation

Sharon Olerich's written report stated Kuemper has raised 13% of their goal for the Msgr. Lafferty Tuition Foundation. Six new eighth-grade scholarships have been added. Foundation board members distributed Easter gifts to all teachers and noncertified staff. A special thank you and celebration in honor of Ron Ocken will be held on his birthday, April 28 in the St. Lawrence Gym. Funds from Ron Ocken's Estate gift were used to install new bleachers in the St. Lawrence Center in December and the high school gym this summer.

## Finance & Budget

Christie Sundrup reviewed the general fund income and expenses for March 2022.

## **Committee Reports:**

### A. Committee Meeting Minutes

#### 1. Marketing and Enrollment - April 13

The marketing and enrollment committee met and discussed the outlook for next fall's enrollment. Two of the four enrollment goals outlined in the 21/22 Enrollment Management Plan have been met. Year-End Satisfaction Survey and Why Kuemper Survey are combined with each building's end-of-year review. Data will be shared with the marketing department when finished. Positive feedback from the Discover Preschool Night was shared and suggestions for next year were taken into consideration. Erin reported to the committee options for school uniform sweatshirts. Looking at options to have sweatshirts on hand for students to buy throughout the school year. New Family Referral and Tuition Credit sheets were revised by changing the wording to a clearer statement.

#### 2. Buildings and Grounds - April 13

Gary Wiskus gave an update on the 3-Year-Old Preschool Bathrooms in the classroom. Work on the bathrooms is being done currently and hopes to be done before summer. Official bid requests for the Family and Consumer Science Room will go out via school email and social media. New gym bleachers at Kuemper High School will be installed in June. A new sound system in the Kuemper High School Gym is in the works and they are seeking out donors.

## **Old Business:**

### A. Roles and Responsibilities of the Leadership Team

Ted Garringer talked about revisions to the Roles and Responsibilities chart. The changes are outlined in red. The Play Like a Champion program was added back to the AD.

## **New Business:**

### A. New Half-Time Theology Position

The school and St. John Paul II parish are exploring a shared full-time position. The position would work in the theology department at Kuemper, and at the parish level be a coordinator for evangelization and small group faith sharing. The position would be part-time at Kuemper teaching theology and also helping lead the LIFE campus ministry group. This should be a good opportunity for both parish and Kuemper but finding a qualified candidate may be challenging. The parish will seek candidates and if a candidate is found, the board will revisit to determine funding for this 1/2 time school position.

### B. AD Report/Activities Discussions Items, Mike Power

Mike Power and the board discussed some activity department discussion points.

#### *End of Season Banquets*

They are looking to consider condensing the end-of-the-season banquets to one big banquet per season. The fall activities banquet would be one week after the State Football Championship. The winter activities banquet would be one week after the State Boys Basketball Championship. Spring

Activities banquet would be the week after graduation. The summer activities banquet would be the first week of August. This would include all fall, winter, spring, and summer activities not just sports.

#### *Parent Meal Accounts*

The elimination of parent meal accounts and pregame team meals was discussed. The rationale behind this would be that each family can coordinate their own kids' meals on activities trips. The cost of team meals can be expensive for families, and parents don't feel comfortable saying no. Pregame meals are another expense that is added on to parents and with 63% of our families on tuition assistance, it means these families don't need an extra expense. John Evans brought up the importance of team meals uniting the team. Kathi Milligan suggested the coach could set up team-building activities such as service or volunteering locally.

#### *Activity Camp Stores*

The activity department is considering moving all the activities t-shirt and apparel sales to run through the Activities Office instead of being controlled and run by each individual activity. This would streamline the ordering process to take the burden off coaches/moderators.

#### *Good Conduct Policy (research on substance abuse classes)*

This is currently under research and will likely be in future student handbook revisions for future approval by the school board: When a student has violated the Exemplary Conduct Policy for the second time, they must also take a substance abuse class along with missing 25% of their season. The period of suspension will be recommended as follows: "The student will NEED TO ENROLL IN A SUBSTANCE ABUSE CLASS and will be suspended from a number of competitions equaling 25% of the total number of competitions in the season."

#### A. Revise Gym Rental Fees

Mike Power proposed to revise the gym rental fees to help offset rising costs. The proposal was to raise the gym rental fee from \$10 per hour to \$25 per hour. Gary Wiskus moved to approve the new gym rental fee at \$25 per hour. Fr. Richter seconded the motion. The motion passed.

#### A. Girls Wrestling

Girls Wrestling will be an IGHS AU Sanctioned Sport starting 2022-2023. There is a strong interest among Kuemper students to participate in girls wrestling. Coach Gary Schmitz expressed that having girls wrestling at Kuemper would be a great opportunity. He stated Girls Wrestling is the fastest growing sport in the state of Iowa and has great scholarship opportunities. Joe Behrens moved to make Girls Wrestling at Kuemper a sport. John Evans seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

### **Personnel**

#### 1. Resignations

- a. Maria Bruner - Kuemper Cares TA
- b. Haley Anthofer - Kuemper Cares Site Supervisor
- c. Halie Darrow - Grade 4
- d. Thomas Fink - Grade 7 Math
- e. Michael Rueschenberg - Grade 7 Social Studies
- f. Daniel Cordova - Spanish 7-12

- g. Gail Greving - Secretary 7-8
- h. Darlene Hinnens - Food Service
- i. Diane Wittrock - Food Service
- j. Mark Kloser - Industrial Arts
- k. Johnathon McCarty - Custodian

2. New Hires

- a. Mary Lawler - Kindergarten
- b. Karsen Thomsen - 1st grade
- c. Sara Messerich - Grade 4
- d. Lyndi Steger - 6th grade
- e. Kurt Brosomle - Industrial Arts
- f. Marta Pugh - 9-12 Theology
- g. Ashten Pottebaum - Registered Nurse
- h. Ryan Steinkamp - Director of Student Services

Fr. Tim Friedrichsen led the closing prayer.

Bob Lally moved to adjourn at 6:00 p.m. Gary Wiskus seconded. The motion passed.

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, May 17 at 4:00 p.m. at the Kuemper High School library.

Respectfully submitted,

John Steffes  
President

Hannah Heiman  
Recording Secretary