

## **REPORT ON BOARD MEETING, Tuesday, January 17, 2023**

The January meeting of the Kuemper Catholic School Board was called to order by the president, Tom Brincks, on Tuesday, January 17, 2023, 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, Carrie Meyers, Allisa Tiefenthaler, Laura Schaefer, Fr. Kevin Richter, and Fr. Michael Cronin. Bob Lally virtually.

Also present were President John Steffes, administrators Ted Garringer and Kathi Milligan, and business managers Kris Collison and Christie Sundrup.

An Opportunity for Input was extended.

The motion to approve December 20, 2022, board meeting minutes was made by Laura Schaefer and seconded by Fr. Cronin. The motion passed.

### **Bright Knight Moments**

The administration shared Bright Knights moments which included the \$4,000 United Way award for the Kuemper Summer Camp program, Kuemper students grades fifth through high school presented at the Carroll Chamber of Commerce's Carroll County Leadership Institute, and the *Faith Forward* Capital Campaign has met its Challenge Goal of \$9.5 million raised.

### **Administrative and Staff Reports**

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

### **Marketing and Enrollment**

Erin Sundrup's report states enrollment is at 1161 as of January 17, 2023, and last year's enrollment was at 1149 as of January 15, 2022. Kuemper had nine students participate in the Carroll County Leadership Institute on January 11, 2023. Catholic Schools Week planning is underway. The Knight Crawl will occur during the girls' basketball game's halftime on Friday, January 27. Discover Kuemper Preschool will be going through a reboot this year. A new Kuemper tagline/slogan was discussed at the Marketing and Enrollment meeting. It was suggested that a school contest be held to generate excitement about what Kuemper means to our students.

### **Alumni/Annual Giving**

Heather Peitig's report states the Kuemper Ball is in full swing! Ball chairs for the Kuemper Ball include Matt & Stacie Tonniges, Dave & Carley Pedelty, Shane Vaughan & fiancée, Sarah Zimmerman, and Jess & Stephanie Hausman. Kick-off for the Kuemper Ball is January 25, 2023, from 6–8 p.m. at Volquartsen Center. Phon-a-thon current total is \$176,374. Alumni Basketball Celebration was held on December 17, 2022, for the 1998 girls' state championship basketball team. They each received a basketball ornament gift. Century Club 2022 wrapped up with a total of \$76,050 raised; last year, \$74,600 was raised in 2021.

## **Development/Fundraising - Foundation**

Alan Loew's written report states the *Faith Forward...Building Excellence in Mind, Body, and Soul* Capital Campaign continues to receive gifts. *Faith Forward* has reached their Challenge Goal of 9.5 million! To date (January 12, 2023), our campaign has received \$9,545,292.93 in one-time gifts and pledges. Msgr. Lafferty's Tuition goal was \$850,186.00, and Kuemper raised \$583,365.97 (68.6%) of its goal. Kuemper is guaranteed a minimum of \$525,029.37 for the 2023-24 school year. In 2021-2022 over 700 (65%) of our Kuemper students received financial assistance, with a percentage of this coming from the Msgr. Lafferty fund distributions.

## **Finance & Budget**

Kris Collison reviewed the general fund income and expenses for December 2022.

## **Committee Reports**

### **1. Committee Meeting Minutes**

#### **a. Marketing and Enrollment**

Tom Brincks shared that the committee discussed enrollment numbers and potential new families. In addition, the committee reviewed the SWOT analysis report. 4-Year-Old Preschool registration changes were discussed. The decision was made to eliminate the interest survey that was used in the past. 3-Year-Old Preschool registration filled all 32 spots and filled up within nine minutes. Anyone who registers will be placed on a waitlist. A tagline or marketing slogan accompanying our Kuemper logo was discussed. Catholic Schools Week is from January 29 through February 4. The Bishop will be at Kuemper on Tuesday to tour the school, have lunch with staff and students and attend all school mass. The Knight Crawl, Kuemper's Chamber Coffee, Catholic Schools Week, and our Annual Town Hall Meeting are approaching. Invitations to school board members were extended.

## **New Business**

### **1. DMACC- Amended Educational Services Agreement**

Fr. Michael Cronin moved to approve the DMACC - Amended Educational Services Agreement, and Carrie Meyers seconded. The motion passed.

### **2. Softball Field 7 Lease**

The Softball Field 7 one-year lease with the City of Carroll was presented to the board members. Last year was the first year Kuemper had a lease with the City of Carroll for Softball Field 7, and everything ran smoothly. Joe Behrens motioned to approve the Softball Field 7 lease, and Fr. Kevin Richter seconded. The motion passed.

### **3. Educational Savings Accounts (ESAs)**

Educational Savings Accounts were discussed as the bill is moving quickly for a vote. John Steffes encouraged all present at the board meeting to reach out to their representatives, especially Brian Best.

**Personnel**

1. Resignations
  - a. Abigail Glass - 5th Grade
2. New Hires
  - a. Grace Steffes - 5th Grade

Fr. Kevin Richter moved to go into Executive Session at 4:45 p.m., and Fr. Michael Cronin seconded. The motion passed.

Fr. Michael Cronin moved to go out of Executive Session and back into regular session at 4:47 p.m. Fr. Kevin Richter seconded.

Closing prayer led by Fr. Kevin Richter.

Fr. Michael Cronin moved to adjourn at 4:49 p.m., and Fr. Laura Schaefer seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

John Steffes  
President

Hannah Heiman  
Recording Secretary