

REPORT ON BOARD MEETING, Tuesday, March 21, 2023

The March meeting of the Kuemper Catholic School Board was called to order by the chairman Tom Brincks, on Tuesday, March 21, 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. Kevin Richter, Fr. Terry Roder, and Fr. Michael Cronin. Bob Lally virtually. Joe Behrens was absent.

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 February 21, board meeting minutes was made by Bob Lally and seconded by Laura Schaefer. The motion passed.

Bright Knight Moments

The administration shared Bright Knights moments which included an upcoming STEM Festival. [Kathi Milligan](#) shared an update on the Dodgeball/Volleyball Tournament, which raised over \$1200 for Mission Honduras.

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 69 of 79 families signed up for Discover Kuemper Preschool night which will be held on Wednesday, March 29, 2023. Kuemper attended a School Options Fair in Denison. The Kuemper Town Hall Meeting presented a new tuition model to those in attendance. Erin has seen an uptick in people interested in Kuemper. Erin has given nine tours in the last few weeks, and 13 families of 26 students are interested in enrolling at Kuemper in the Fall. An additional seven families have inquired about Kuemper.

Alumni/Annual Giving

Heather Peitig's report states the Kuemper Ball will be held at the Kuemper Fieldhouse on April 29, 2023. Lidderdale will cater. There will be live music by Tony Bohlenkamp's Dueling Pianos. Heider (\$10,000 match) and Hannasch (match of gifts after \$600k is raised) are back again.

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 approaching with the one-year anniversary (March 22) of the *Faith Forward Capital Campaign*. It was announced that the campaign will be receiving an anonymous \$1 million gift. To date (March 8, 2023), our campaign has received \$10,512,911.85 in gifts and pledges. Msgr. Lafferty's Tuition 2023 goal is \$836,127. As of March 6, Kuemper has raised

\$38,819.00 (nine donors). In March 2022, \$67,063.00 was raised. In addition, the Foundation Board approved Easter gifts of \$200.00 to each teacher from the Teacher Salary Enhancement Fund (TSEF) and \$100.00 to all non-certified staff members from the General Foundation. All potential Eternal Knights will be invited to attend the dress rehearsal of Kuemper's Spring Musical, "Cinderella," on April 12, at 7:00 p.m. at the Carroll Recreation Center.

Finance & Budget

Christie Sundrup reviewed the general fund income and expenses for February 2023.

Committee Reports

1. Committee Meeting Minutes

Catholic Identity

[John Steffes](#) shared that the committee is in working sessions. Fr. Behm is working on putting together a new format for these meetings. Kuemper is also beginning collaboration with the Catholic University of Mt. Mercy in Cedar Rapids and Kuemper grad, Phil Drey on a variety of programs related to Catholic Identity. One of these programs is SPARK which helps aspiring high school students become Catholic school teachers.

Leadership and Governance

Tom Brincks spoke on behalf of the Leadership and Governance Committee. The policy reading and approval process was reviewed. Diocesan policy reviews are reviewed once by the Kuemper school board. The committee recommended the second reading of approval of local 2742.a Kuemper policy revisions and the accompanying Long-Range needs Assessment Process regulation 2472.aR to the school board. Board reviewed local Kuemper policies. Fr. Kevin Richter motioned to approve the second reading and revisions of local 2472.a and 2472.aR policies and to waive the third reading. Fr. Michael Cronin seconded. The motion passed.

Finance and Budget

Bob Lally spoke on behalf of the Finance and Budget Committee. Activity fees will be kept the same as the 2022-2023 school year. The committee discussed an estimate on tuition award proposals with 40% to qualify for ESA but only budget for 20%. Review of 2023-2024 Budget Draft/New Positions as presented. Motioned by Bob Lally to approve the Budget Draft and New Positions and seconded by Fr. Kevin Richter. Motion carried.

New Business

2023-2024 Teacher Listing for Contracts

- a. 1 FT elementary Teacher Associate
- b. 1 FT - ½ Student Support Aide and ½ Marketing Assistant
- c. 1 FT Theology Teacher
- d. Yearbook Database Coordinator - (extra duty stipend \$1500 (temporary/not permanent))

- e. 1 FT 9-12 Spanish Teacher - not new but replacing online program

2023-2024 School Calendar

There will be a full week for Spring Break, March 11-15. There will only be one day each for Parent Teacher conferences week. (October/March). Laura Schaeffer motioned to approve the 2023-2024 School Calendar. Fr. Kevin Richter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2022-2023 Calendar Make-Up Days

May 26th will now be a full day, along with May 30th. May 31st will be the official last day of school (weather permitting), with a 2-hour early dismissal. The teachers final day will be June 1st.

Merchants Park Concession Stand Lease

Review of the Merchants Park Concession Lease. Fr. Michael Cronin motioned to approve the lease. Carrie Meyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Personnel

1. Resignations
 - a. Lawrence Hoffman; bus driver - passed away
2. New Hires

Fr. Kevin Richter moved to go into Executive Session at 4:51 p.m., and Fr. Michael Cronin seconded. The motion passed.

Laura Schaefer moved to go out of Executive Session and back into regular session at 5:21 p.m. Carrie Meyers seconded.

Laura Schaefer moved to approve the administrative team salaries as presented for the 2023-2024 school year. Fr. Terry Roder seconded. The motion passed.

Closing prayer led by Fr. Terry Roder.

Laura Schaefer moved to adjourn at 5:24 p.m., and Fr. Kevin Richter seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

John Steffes
President

Nicci Gruszczyka
Recording Secretary