

## **May 2, 2016 St. Giles Board of Specified Jurisdiction Meeting**

**Board Members Present: Tanya Castrogiovanni, Ann Clements, Janet Coffey, Julia Harmon-Bell, Mike MacKinnon, Flavia Morrissey, Kent Pflederer, Chris Verni, Tracy Wysockey, Nancy Zver**

**Board Members Absent: Beth Fegan, Rachel Rettberg**

**Staff and Others Attending: Michelle Bibbey, Business Manager; Heather Pflederer, PTO President; Barb Schulz, PPC Liaison; Beth Linnen, Director of Development**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

### **Principal's Report**

Nancy Zver reported that Grandparents' Day was an outstanding success and very well-attended. She thanked the organizers for their work. Mrs. Zver also said that she was disappointed to learn that Aspire test results will not be available until mid-July, as that timing will delay planning for staff development and school improvement. The State of the School meeting will be moved to the fall, as test results are a planned part of that meeting. Parents will be notified that test results will be available later than expected. It was also noted that Aspire is tied to Common Core and ACT, and test results can initially be lower than Terra Nova. Mrs. Zver also noted that Illinois Kids Campaign tax credits would be joined to PARCC testing. Mrs. Zver is currently completing a cycle of formal observation of staff. She plans to institute two cycles of observation a year, in fall and spring. She also commented on the success of Together Strong, a presentation by Sarah's Inn for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders regarding relationships. The presentation was jointly sponsored by PTO, CCW, and the Men's Society.

### **Development**

Beth Linnen distributed the 5/2/16 Development Report to BSJ members. Black & Gold Pride has received extensive positive feedback. Numbers and data were reviewed. Net income from the event is about \$101,152. Using Gesture to facilitate the event is well worth the expense. Grand People Day April 22 was also a big success. A second mailing to Sister Mary Imelda Society members and prospects has been sent. The Annual Fund mailing will go out next week to 3,850 alumni, and it will include the tuition assistance brochure. An All School Alumni Open House will be held Sunday, June 12 after the 10:30 Mass. Facebook and email will be used to spread the word. A joint Facebook appeal for scholarship donations from Alumni is being

discussed with Ascension, with the goal to raise enough for one full scholarship. On May 24 the 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be welcomed to the Alumni Club.

## **Finance**

Kent Pflederer reviewed with BSJ members financial information he had emailed prior to the meeting. Mr. Pflederer reported that financial figures to date are better than last year's figures, as Black & Gold Pride revenue came in earlier this year, and tuition collection is improved over last year. The budget for next school year shows income rather than loss, as some expenses are lower than this year. Financial aid was discussed, as the committee is currently reviewing applications. Mr. Pflederer noted that not everyone who needs financial aid applies for it, and he further noted that it would be better for the school and the families if they did apply, rather than become delinquent in tuition payment. Funding financial aid was also discussed, and it was determined that transferring some money from the Margaret Stewart Fund would be appropriate. Mr. Pflederer added that another way to fund tuition assistance would be to utilize St. Giles facilities during the summer months.

## **Marketing**

Ann Clements distributed the results of the parent survey to BSJ members. The report will be discussed after BSJ members have an opportunity to review it. Getting the BSJ meeting minutes online was discussed. The website changes have altered the procedure that was used in the past, but the matter will be resolved.

## **Technology**

Chris Verni distributed the May 2, 2016 Tech Committee Report to BSJ members and reviewed it with them. The Tech Committee was able to review a five year history of tech spending, courtesy of the Finance Committee. After iPad inception, spending rose from \$80-\$90K per year to approximately \$110-\$125K per year. Mrs. Verni outlined the work that Mac Hero has done and plans to do for St. Giles technology, including working with St. Benedict's. Mrs. Verni also noted what feedback the Tech Committee is getting from teachers and how concerns will be addressed. Projected purchases for the next year were reviewed, including keyboards for the junior high iPads, 30 new iPads, 30 Chromebooks (which will replace Netbooks), and approximately 10 new laptops for utilization by teachers.

The computer lab may shift to a project-based schedule where teachers can sign students in and out, as opposed to a firm one hour per class schedule. Mrs. Zver described how technology would be a part of a "blended" learning initiative, which involves breaking out students on the basis of ability. This model is favored by the Archdiocese.

## **Athletics**

Janet Coffey reported that although the athletic season is winding down, the 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls will be competing for the volleyball championship. Liz Moroney and Bob Richard will be taking over the chairmanship of the Athletic Committee, and Liz will also be the Athletic Liaison to the BSJ next year.

## **PTO**

Heather Pflederer reported the pick-up for the PTO plant sale will be next week. Preparations are underway for the teacher appreciation luncheon. Kenna MacKinnon will serve as co-president during the next school year. PTO is looking into making Pay Pal a part of PTO transactions.

## **End-of-Year Planning**

Mike MacKinnon reviewed items that will be targeted by next year's BSJ: rolling all school fees into a single payment, ACH transition with FACTS, managing the contributing parishioner policy, setting goals for development, online application and registration, considering a full cost option, and mandatory fundraising.

The BSJ met in executive session regarding the new member election process.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Capone