

**Sacred Heart Area School
Board Meeting
Thursday, March 3, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by Katie Noska, and the opening prayer was led by Jim Opelia. Those present were Jim Opelia, Tom Brichacek, Michael Cole, Katie Noska, Chris Perius, RoAnn Trout and Fr. Joe Korf. Tracey Kloeckl-Jiménez and Carol Lisson were absent.

Chris motioned to approve the Agenda with Playground added to old business and Cell phone use policy added to new business. Michael Seconded. Agenda was approved. Tom motioned to approve with an edit of duplicate text to Upcoming events. Michael Seconded. Minutes were approved.

Parochial School Report

Recent Happenings:

Marzano Training – continues for the faculty on early-outs and designated PLC times throughout the year.

Catholic Schools Week- was enjoyed by all with fun themed days and activities each day, a science lyceum by Jerry Wenzel, CSW Dance and spelling bee.

Carnival - The SHAS carnival was held February 7th from 9:30-1:30 p.m., immediately followed by the raffle drawing. The Carnival raised a total of \$20,000 for the school. \$15,000 of that was raised in raffle ticket sales.

Fish Fries – The SHAS fish fries started February 12th and will continue each Friday until March 18th. Last Friday was the greatest attendance yet, with 391 dinners served.

I Love to Read Month- was celebrated again this year from the 2nd week of February-the 1st week of March concluding with Dr. Seuss Week. There were various incentives and fun approaches to reading for the students during this month, as well as guest readers and fun theme days. The goal is to create in students a lifelong passion for reading.

Upcoming Events:

Lenten Observances Continue- SHAS students and staff are celebrating Lent with weekly school wide prayer services, daily reflections in their classrooms, and individual acts of stewardship, fasting, and/or prayer. We encourage families to do something special this Lenten season as well.

The SHAS Easter Egg Hunt- will be held again after the Palm Sunday Mass on March 20th in the school gymnasium.

Preschool and Kindergarten Roundup- will be held March 22nd in the school gymnasium. Pizza will be served for guests at 6 p.m. The open house will run from 6:00-7:30 p.m. An ad will run for the next 3 weeks in both Staples newspapers and invitations will be going out tomorrow. It will be posted to social media and Mr. O will look into ads in the Verdale Sun and Morrison Co. Record also.

Spring Blast, “Back to the 80’s”- will be held May 7th at the school with social hour from 5-6 p.m., dinner from 6-7p.m., and silent and live auctions from 7 p.m. until completed.

Pennies for Patients- is a Leukemia fundraiser students will be participating in soon. The goal is to raise \$250, a pizza party prize will be celebrated if \$200 is raised. This fundraiser is in honor of Grandma Lucille.

Fundraising Report (Carol L. and Katie N.):

There was a Spring Blast Planning meeting recently, and plans are ongoing for this fun event. **Fish Fry Fridays** are going well and take place this year from Friday, Feb. 12 through Lent. It will NOT be held on Good Friday. Attendance is on track with previous years. Staff has been noticing extra help and donations from parish and community members this year, it is greatly appreciated!

Looking forward, the \$10,000 dollar raffle will be discussed again soon.

Budget and Finance (Tom B. and Chris P.) The budget for 2016-2017 was approved. They will meet later this month to review current budget status.

Personnel and Human Resources (Michael C. and Tracey K-J) No report. Will meet this month.

PR/Mktg./Dev. (Tom B. and Tracey K-J) Preschool and Kindergarten roundup flyers were finalized and plans completed. Summer learning books for students was considered to extend learning opportunity over the summer months.

Curriculum/ Technology (Chris P. and Michael C.) The Curriculum committee is working with Parent Aware to get the preschool program rated. A new curriculum is being chosen for preschool for next year, OWL and Big Day in Pre-K are the two remaining finalists. The committee is working to support the teachers to continue to utilize the Marzano Framework for Learning, and the committee also looked at the summer extended learning books as well.

Old Business

Summer Curriculum Pre-K -5th grade. The board looked at two possible choices for our students to learn from over the summer. Summer Bridge Activities was chosen and will be ordered. Cost sharing this 50/50 with parents was discussed. An incentive for students that return a completed book in the fall will be determined. Tom motioned to approve the order, Chris seconded.

Preschool Curriculum was discussed with the Board in favor of choosing one of the remaining two, OWL or Big Day in Pre-K. The committee is waiting on some additional sample materials and will then make a final choice. Investing in a curriculum will ensure consistent learning opportunity and offer our teachers great resources to teach from.

Playground Update- As spring approaches some final playground decisions need to be made such as when to lay sod, what/where to plant for trees and which furnishings (benches & tables) will be ordered. A meeting will be scheduled this month for the playground committee to meet and make final plans.

New Business

Posting Timely Minutes- Question came up if the board minutes could be posted prior to approval by the board at the following meeting so parents could see meeting results faster. It was decided an amended agenda would be posted to show highlights of the meeting and parents are encouraged to discuss concerns with a board member or Mr. O if they have other questions. Minutes will be posted once approved at the next meeting as in the past.

The SHAS Advisory Board discussed the Public School District's passing of a Restart Plan which is the restructuring of the grades within the district to K-3 in Staples, 4-7 in Motley and 8-12 in Staples, as to how this will impact our school. SHAS students will not be affected with the change, specials will still be held for all grades as in the past in Staples. Mr. O stated he had talked with a few concerned parents about the new grade splits. If you have concerns please talk with board or staff. Upon entering 6th grade students from SHAS have an orientation day at the middle school to help with the transition. The board and staff will continue to monitor academic excellence for our students migrating to the public school to ensure they are well prepared. Enrollment will also be monitored closely to stay ahead of any new trends from this restructuring process, at this time no changes will be made to SHAS offerings. Discussions on how we can explore expanding 4-5th grade enrollment were had also. One change for public school students in 4th-5th grades will be the need to attend Wednesday afternoon religion at St. Michaels instead of coming to Sacred Heart.

Cell Phone Use Policy- After a discussion with other principals in the area Mr. O decided an update to our current cell phone use policy was needed. With the evolving electronic age we are in, the policy was changed to allow smartphone use for educational purposes throughout the day with limitations on personal use and unnecessary interruptions to the classroom. The new policy will be added to handbooks and sent home to school families. Chris motioned to approve and Tom seconded.

The Board then moved to a closed session to discuss strategic planning for the coming year.

The next SHAS Advisory Board meeting will be on *Wednesday, April 6th 2016.*

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m. in response to a 6:30 p.m. meeting for parents of 1st Communion students.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Perius