

**Sacred Heart Area School**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014**

The meeting was called to order by John Reese and the opening prayer was led by Jim Opelia.

Jim Opelia, John Reese, RoAnn Trout, Carol Lisson, Katie Noska, Elizabeth Mathews, and Linus Koval were present.

Motion to accept the agenda by Linus Koval. Seconded by Carol Lisson.

Minutes from the August 6<sup>th</sup> and from September 3<sup>rd</sup> meetings were reviewed.

Motion to accept both months meeting minutes by Linus. Seconded by Carol.

**Parochial School Report**

**Recent Events**

**The SHAS Centennial** - festivities last month were enjoyed by many from the school's students, families, current and past staff, alumni, fellow parishioners and community members. This was a celebration of the love of all the people in the last 100 years for the school, its mission, and its children. Without this love, it certainly would not have made it to today. Celebrations started with Friday's Centennial Mass with Bishop Kettler, which was followed by a reception in the church basement and a student Centennial Dance in the afternoon. It was important that all the children of the school could partake in these portions of the celebrations, which were during the school day. The Sisters who taught at Sacred Heart (all prior to 1975) were also in attendance and recognized at the centennial reception for their hard work and great acts of love for the school's mission and its students, and great example they set for so many. All the living principals of Sacred Heart Area School through the years were present Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, and were recognized for their contribution of leadership. The Sacred Heart Area School Teachers who contributed over 20 years of teaching were also recognized for their years of service. Throughout the weekend, alumni and former staff had an opportunity to visit their old school. Friday evening, Alumni and friends enjoyed a centennial dance/social. Saturday, families were invited to celebrate with bingo, bouncy houses, pony rides, a petting zoo, and great food. On Saturday evening, SHAS Alumnus and Fulbright Scholar, Ken Anderson, spoke of his life's experiences after SHAS. Sunday morning, we concluded the celebrations with a pancake breakfast, courtesy of the Knights of Columbus. Those in attendance traveled as far away as California. Many thanks to the Knights and the SHAS Centennial Committee for all the hard work to make this Centennial celebration fabulous! Special thanks to the Centennial Committee chair, Katie Noska for her leadership and hard work in the past year of planning.

**District-Wide Evacuation Drill** - was September 19th

**Grandparents Day**- On September 25<sup>th</sup>, grandparents enjoyed celebrating Mass at church, along with coffee, milk, and muffins at the school with the children. The book fair was also available for grandparents to shop at with the kids.

**NWEA MAP Testing Continues** - Students in grades kindergarten-fifth grade tested the last two weeks with the NWEA MAP tests. This first test of the year gives us a baseline to measure student progress against our later winter and spring testing. This is a great tool for student and teacher to self-evaluate their performance of learning and instructing through the year.

**Upcoming Events**

**The 1st Annual Sacred Heart Area School Workathon** - will take place on Wednesday, October 15, 2014 starting at 12:00pm and ending around 2:30pm. The Workathon replaces the Marathon, where in the past, students rode bike or walked for pledges. Instead the children and their parents reach out to family, friends, and neighbors for donations to the school for their service the day of the Workathon. This event will be replacing the SHAS Marathon, which in the past, students asked for pledges to ride bike or walk a designated amount of miles. The school wanted to change this practice to incorporate Christian service to God and His creation. **This Workathon will benefit both the Staples community and Sacred Heart Area School while providing a service experience for our students.** Our goal is to raise \$10,000 for SHAS. Remember, this is one of our 3 biggest fundraisers of the year, and one the two that all K-5 families are responsible to help raise funds for our school. We welcome, encourage, and count on preschool family participation as well. Awareness of the Workathon will be brought to the attention of the community through posts in the Staples World and

in the church bulletin. Students in 1st—5th grades will work in local city parks, picking up sticks and raking leaves. Preschoolers and kindergarteners will remain on our playgrounds and city block cleaning up the area. Parents are welcomed and encouraged to participate in the workathon, however we realize not everyone can, due to your their schedules.

**Halloween Dance and Hayride Cocoa and Smores** – The SHAS Home and School Organization will be hosting a Hayride with Hot Cocoa and Smores on Saturday October 25<sup>th</sup> at 3pm, and a Halloween Costume Dance on Wednesday October 29<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Fun!

**Veterans Day Program**- November 11<sup>th</sup> at 10am

### **Fundraising Report**

Work-a-thon details were ironed out by the committee on Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. SHAS family work will be carried out in Staples city parks on October 15<sup>th</sup>, including Northern Pacific, Veteran's, Pine Grove, and Dower Lake Camp Grounds. Our Goal is \$10,000 or \$150 per student. To encourage family fundraising with this new event, families with multiple students were asked to raise a minimum of \$200.

### **Budget and Finance**

Carol, Linus, Fr. Joe and Jim met to analyze school finances. Carol and Linus reported that we were on track and at a better place than last year at this time. The Centennial Raffle helped with this. It was also decided that funding would be approved for the purchase of iPads for classroom teachers.

### **Personnel and Human Resources**

Elizabeth will meet with teachers at the end of the Oct. 3 early release time.

### **PR/ Marketing**

Centennial Celebrations were shared in various newspapers and on the website.

### **Curriculum/ Technology**

John Reese, Linus Koval and Jim Opelia met on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. John Reese reported that we are continuing with the curriculum review cycle, with most subjects in the continuing and on-going stages of development. This year's focus will be on social studies. NWEA testing for the fall will provide a baseline for student academic improvement this year. December testing results will measure growth for the first half of the year. Results will be made available for the January meeting. We also discussed the Marzano training that our teachers will be taking for professional development, to improve instruction and student learning. We will also continue to track what new technologies that become available for our students.

### **2015-2016 Teacher Contract Draft**

Motion to table further discussion of teacher contracts until the November meeting was made by Katie Noska. Seconded by Linus Koval.

After much discussion of personal days for staff, John asked Jim to get some more information from the diocesan HR consultant about details in question. Motion to table further discussion of teacher personal days until the November meeting was made by Elizabeth Mathews. Seconded by Linus.

The board requested board agendas and minutes be posted on the website and noted so in bulletins and newsletters.

**Next meeting**- Wed., November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 5 p.m.

**Meeting Adjourned at 6:15 p.m.**- by John Reese. Motion made by Linus and seconded by Elizabeth.

**Closing prayer**- led by Jim Opelia.

