

**School Advisory Council**

**Minutes**

**September 5, 2024 5:00-6:00 PM – Anthony Hall Conf. Room**

**Attendance (indicated by BOLD type)**

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| **Member** | **Role** | **Member**  | **Role** |
| **Dawn Smith** | Principal | **Ben Gildea** | Parent, Chair |
| Fr. Chris Koehn | Pastor | **Sarah Hoffman** | Parent |
| **Jennifer Davis** | Asst. Principal | **Melissa Yeazel** | Parent, HSA Past Pres. |
| **Patsy Thieken** | Faculty | **Fr. Jim Sabak** | Community Member |
| **Rob Neppel** | Parish Finance | **Joanne Sullivan** | Community Member |
| **Kathleen Kozak** | Community Member | **Kathryn Friedman** | Community Member |
| VACANT | Community Member |  |  |

**Minutes (Action items in bold)**

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| * Prayer
* Welcome new members & Introductions
	+ - * Meeting dates/times for 24/25 school year shared with the team
			* **Vacancy for community member. Recommendations should be sent to Dawn**
			* Sarah Hoffman volunteered to be secretary for this school year
* School Updates and Priorities 24/25 school year
* Goal is 700 total students
	+ 72 – K
	+ 75 – 1-5
	+ 90 – 6-8
* Current enrollment is 675 with 3 offers out
	+ 67 in 8th grade and incoming in K
	+ 87% are Catholic
* Hiring – 5 new ITAs and 1 new teacher, new media specialist starting by end of Sept.
* Focus Areas for school – consistent year over year
	+ iReady scores
	+ Advisory development in Middle School
	+ Socio-emotional learning, especially in 4/5
	+ Envision Math program adoption
	+ ARK exam and concepts reinforced during school mass homilies and religion classes
	+ Strong enrollment
* 25th anniversary planning
	+ Music video
	+ Tree planting
	+ Personalized bricks for courtyard for sale
	+ Community Mass with the Bishop on 2/19
	+ Community-wide celebration in May
	+ Targeting 1 event per month
	+ Noted that recent bulletin article didn’t list first 2 school principals. All should be included in future documents.
* Cognia – new parent survey to go out soon
	+ Parent engagement from last year only attended by ~30 parents for each session
		- Terence Houlihan, Sissy Goff, Fr. Luke and Mrs. Wacenske
		- Counselors (Mrs. Blum and Mrs. Wacenske) are presenting at 1st HSA meeting in Sept.
	+ The SAC team encouraged Mrs. Smith to send the survey sooner than later to get actionable feedback. Ideally sent before Halloween.
		- SAC survey should be considered that is not from Cognia to allow for customized questions and introduce SAC, role, members, etc.
		- **SAC members should send proposed questions to Ben Gildea by 9/19. Should be sure to include parish partnership and parent engagement as key topics.**
* Review SAC’s budgetary responsibilities as per bylaws.
	+ Detailed budget and year end summary is going out to full parish soon, in final stages of completion
	+ Staff is 80% of total budget
	+ All areas need to make significant contributions to the “maintenance reserves” due to escalating costs
	+ Salary schedule for NC State is increasing and Diocese wants all teachers at 95% of scale. TFS currently at 97%.
	+ The SAC endorsed full support for teacher compensation while keeping tuition as low as possible and limiting increases.
	+ The preliminary budget must be ready for the 11/18 Parish Finance Committee. So the **November meeting will need changed to 11/14 to be sure SAC has a chance to review it prior to the Finance Council meeting.**
	+ Planning meetings are underway for next year’s budget
	+ Final budget comes after diocese guidance in March
	+ 1.4M/annually in maintenance
* Hoodies – Due to many community members approaching members of the SAC an item was introduced about the change in interpretation and enforcement of the students wearing school branded hooded sweatshirts as part of the daily uniform
	+ Mrs. Thieken stated that the teachers are very supportive of this change and that it has had a positive impact on student behavior and cuts down on the need for teachers to police contraband in hoodie pockets or uniform violations hidden by the hoodie.
	+ Mrs. Smith noted that students should not be wearing hoodies inside but they may do so if they are cold. They just need to let their teacher know that they are cold.
	+ The SAC endorsed an official communication from the school leadership about the policy, its enforcement and how students should approach teachers if they request to wear their hoodie for personal comfort due to temperatures.
	+ Fr. Jim offered to assist with a video message or other communication to reinforce the need for our students to look more polished and put together as it impacts their attitudes, behavior, and often classroom outcomes.
* After a prayer offered by Fr. Jim, the meeting adjourned at 6:13 PM.
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Next meeting Thursday September 26 at 5:00pm