

Kuemper Catholic School System
Board of Education Minutes
August 18, 2020

The August meeting of the Kuemper Catholic School Board was called to order by Chairman, Cam Janson, on Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at 4:05 p.m. in the KHS library. The meeting was opened with the school board prayer. Members present included Tom Brincks, Dr. John Evans, Fr. Tim Friedrichsen, Cam Janson, Fr. Kevin Richter, Fr. Randy Schon, Mike Sibbel, Kristin Vonnahme and Gary Wiskus.

Cam Janson introduced and welcomed the two new board members, Bob Lally, St. Ann, Vail and Carrie Meyers, St. John Paul II, who will both begin in September. Mike Power, the new Activity Director was also introduced.

Also present were President, John Steffes; administrators Pete Haefs, Ted Garringer, Kathi Milligan and Mike Power; business managers, Kris Collison and Christie Sundrup.

Motion to approve the minutes of the June 16th meeting was made by Mike Sibbel and seconded by Gary Wiskus. The motion passed.

Bright Knight Moments

Board members shared various positive activities happening throughout Kuemper.

Administrator and Staff Reports:

Administrative Reports – Written reports were submitted by Pete Haefs, Ted Garringer and Kathi Milligan.

Marketing & Enrollment Management

In Susie Hulst's written report she stated that the enrollment at the end of 2019-2020 was 1157 students. The estimated enrollment for 2020-2021 is 1135 students. -85 Seniors graduated, +90 new preschoolers, -40 transfer out students, +13 transfer in students. For many families, the main reason they are leaving has to do with COVID. As of September 1, Susie will be working part time. Heather Pietig, preschool TA in the mornings, will be the new part-time marketing assistant with tech support from Jesse Diehl. The Family Fun Knight picnic has been cancelled this year due to COVID.

Alumni/Annual Giving

Cindy Lawler stated in her written report that two classes are continuing to plan their reunions for this fall, Class of 1975 and 1985. The fall KnightLetter will be mailed the first week of September. Phon-a-thon dates are set for October 13, 14, 20, 21 and 22.

Development/Fundraising – Foundation

Sharon Olerich's written report stated Kuemper's goal for the Msgr. Lafferty Tuition Foundation for 2020 is \$751,371. As of July 31 \$155,582.50 has been collected. The summer issue of the *Knight Light* was mailed to all St. Angela alumnae and donors in July. The 24th annual Bishop's Dinner will be a restructured "Virtual" online event this year due to Covid-19 on September 13. The next regular meeting for the Kuemper Foundation is August 27.

Finance & Budget

Kris Collison reviewed the general fund income and expenses for June 2020 and the 2019-2020 Working Fiscal Year Budget. A final budget will be presented to the Board in September after the final enrollment numbers are in. The Finance Committee will meet September 1st.

Committee Reports:

A. Committee Meeting Minutes

1. Academic Excellence/School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC)
Teachers will be analyzing the student learning data to help make decisions on instruction. Kathi Milligan shared the professional development on scaffolding to weave in standards for current grade level/content learning. The importance of keeping Infinite Campus student grades up to date and well communicated to parents was emphasized.
2. Marketing & Enrollment Management
Revisions to the SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis were made and new goals for the 2020-2021 school year were formally established. Susie will take pictures of safe environment examples in reference to COVID-19 and post to social media. The next meeting is scheduled for October 5 at 5:00 p.m.

Old Business:

A. Return to Learn Plan Update

Following the historic COVID-19 pandemic of the spring of 2020, the Kuemper Return to Learn plan is being overseen by a 24 person committee of school administrators, teachers, parents, students and others. A Leadership Subcommittee coordinated this team to begin a process of making informed decisions using common language, metrics, and plans for steady communication within the Kuemper community. Seven other subcommittees (Infrastructure, Health & Safety, Iowa Academic Standards, Social-Emotional-Behavior Health, Equity, Data and Catholic Identity) have divided the various planning tasks to prepare for three different possible models when school begins in the fall: On-site face to face, Online, or a Hybrid model. The on-site face to face model will be used this school year. A reopening of school letter to parents was reviewed explaining various mitigation strategies to manage the COVID-19 risks in school buildings.

New Business:

A. Preschool Agreement with CCSD

Fr. Kevin Richter moved to accept the Preschool Agreement with CCSD, seconded by Fr. Tim Friedrichsen. The motion passed.

B. Student Handbook

Fr. Kevin Richter moved to approve the recommended Student Handbook with the additions and revisions that were discussed. Tom Brincks seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Resignations

1. Margaret Quandt - Food Service
2. Christy Neumayer - Food Service

New Employees

1. Michael Power - Activities Director
2. Jesse Diehl - Technology Assistant
3. Lindsey Riesberg - Food Service
4. Bonnie Bock - Food Service

John Steffes presented Cam Janson and Kristin Vonnahme with a certificate of appreciation for their service on the Board of Education as their terms have expired.

Election of Officers

Gary Wiskus nominated Tom Brincks for Chairman of the Board, seconded by Fr. Kevin Richter. Fr. Tim Friedrichsen nominated John Evans for Chairman of the Board, seconded by Mike Sibbel. Tom Brincks was elected by written ballot for Chairman of the Board.

Gary Wiskus nominated Mike Sibbel for Vice Chairman of the Board, seconded by Tom Brincks. Fr. Tim Friedrichsen nominated John Evans for Vice Chairman of the Board, seconded by Mike Sibbel. John Evans was elected by written ballot for Vice Chairman of the Board.

Regional Diocesan Long Range Plan Update Meeting – Thursday, September 10 – 5:30 p.m. in the KHS library. Dinner – 5:30 p.m., Meeting – 6:00 p.m.

Tom Brincks moved to go into Executive Session at 4:59 p.m. seconded by Mike Sibbel.

Fr. Kevin Richter moved to go out of Executive Session and back into regular session at 5:04 p.m., seconded by Mike Sibbel. The motion passed.

Fr. Kevin Richter led the closing prayer.

Gary Wiskus moved to adjourn at 5:05 p.m., seconded by Mike Sibbel.

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday September 15, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. in the high school library.

Respectfully submitted,

John Steffes
President

Joanie Buel
Recording Secretary