

**Kuemper Catholic School System**  
**Board of Education Minutes**  
**October 20, 2020**

The October meeting of the Kuemper Catholic School Board was called to order by Chairman, Tom Brincks, on Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 4:05 p.m. in Room 205 of the high school. The meeting was opened with the school board prayer. Members present included Tom Brincks, Dr. John Evans, Fr. Tim Friedrichsen, Bob Lally, Carrie Meyers, Fr. Randy Schon, Mike Sibbel and Gary Wiskus. Absent was Fr. Kevin Richter.

Also present were President, John Steffes; administrators Pete, Haefs and Ted Garringer; business manager, Kris Collison.

Motion to approve the minutes of the September 15<sup>th</sup> meeting was made by Fr. Tim Friedrichsen and seconded by John Evans. The motion passed.

**Bright Knight Moments**

Board members shared various positive activities happening throughout Kuemper especially the good work being done by all staff during this difficult pandemic.

**Administrator and Staff Reports:**

Administrative Reports – Written reports were submitted by Pete Haefs, Ted Garringer, Kathi Milligan and Mike Power. The recent virtual parent/teacher conferences went better than expected.

Marketing & Enrollment Management

In Susie Hulst's written report she stated that the enrollment as of 10-12-20 is 1,131 students. Susie completed the 2020-2021 Enrollment Management Plan. Heather Pietig and Susie will start recording footage to create "virtual tour" videos of the school since visitors are not allowed in the buildings this year. Heather has been posting pictures of classroom events and lessons on social media. She also created a video on how to use the scrip app as well as posting "scrip tips".

Alumni/Annual Giving

Cindy Lawler stated in her written report that donations are coming in steadily for the Phon-a-thon. As of 10-8-20 there is \$38,582 in the bank. Classes of 1960 and 1970 have received lead gifts from class members to challenge their classmates.

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 September 30 \$272,503 has been collected. Over \$3,000 has been raised for the Sponsor-A-Student at this time. The next issue of the ***Knight Light*** will be mailed in early December. The 24th annual Bishop's Dinner raised a total of \$168,611.

Finance & Budget

Kris Collison reviewed the general fund income and expenses for September 2020 and the 2020-2021 Working Fiscal Year Budget.

**Committee Reports:**

- A. Committee Meeting Minutes
  - 1. Catholic Identity

Hope - trusting in God's plan is the 2020-2021 theme for the Virtues in Practice (ViP). The K-8 will focus on the 9 different virtues and Saints. A formal lesson will be presented each quarter in the high school. A plan to engage parents with the program will continue. Mike Power will meet with coaches to include the virtues of Hope within their activity. Pete Haefs plans to take a capstone approach centered on authentic growth in service through the four years in high school, leading away from the current hourly requirements. March for Life and Mission Honduras will not be attended this year due to COVID. The next meeting will be Thursday, November 12th at 4:00 p.m.

2. Marketing & Enrollment Management

The committee discussed current enrollment. It was pointed out that once foreign exchange programs return, that should help gain a few students. Susie will follow up with providing uniform sweatshirts in the Booster Club store. Susie and Heather will work on updating the Kuemper phone app and get it working properly again. The next meeting will be Tuesday, December 1 at 5:00 p.m.

3. Academic Excellence

Kathi Milligan reviewed the 2020-2021 Fall Star Data. The dip in scores K-8 was acknowledged and mostly attributed to the COVID shut-down from last March to May. The assessments and plan to close the gap was shared by administration. Christie Crouch from AEA shared a summary of the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) training. The Leadership Team will attend this training. Ted Garringer shared a rough draft of the survey that was created that could be given to families for the 2021-2022 school year to give teachers feedback. The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 26th at noon.

**Old Business:**

A. Finance Subcommittee Update

Members of the Finance Subcommittee met on October 14th. With the current 2020-2021 General Fund budget possessing a negative balance of \$400,000, due primarily to increased reductions of payments from corporate and non-corporate parish assessments and some delinquent tuition accounts over the past several years, this committee was created to look at options for the 2021-2022 budget year. The certified contracts process will begin in early 2021, therefore this committee will make budget recommendations to the Finance Committee and then the Kuemper Board of Education at its 01/19/2021 meeting. Administrators will provide listings of staff and positions/subject areas, including staff to student ratios along with other budget data. A representative group of teachers will be invited to a future meeting for their input. The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 28th at 4:00 p.m.

B. Return to Learn Update

A Parent Survey will be sent to parents at the end of the first quarter. Absence numbers have been manageable and better than expected this quarter.

**New Business:**

A. Update Corporate Resolution & Signatures

Gary Wiskus moved to approve the updated Corporate Resolution & Signatures, seconded by Mike Sibbel. The motion passed.

B. Diocesan Centennial Campaign Distribution - \$50,191.00

Mike Sibbel moved to transfer \$30,000 from the Diocesan Centennial Distribution Fund to the Teacher Salary Enhancement Fund of the Kuemper Foundation and \$20,191 to the General Fund of KCSS. Gary Wiskus seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Resignations**

1. Jason Tigges - Study Hall Moderator/Bus Driver

John Evans moved to go into Executive Session at 4:47 p.m. seconded by Mike Sibbel.

Mike Sibbel moved to go out of Executive Session and back into regular session at 4:51 p.m., seconded by John Evans. The motion passed.

Fr. Tim Friedrichsen led the closing prayer.

John Evans moved to adjourn at 4:52 p.m., seconded by Gary Wiskus.

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. in the high school library.  
Respectfully submitted,

John Steffes  
President

Joanie Buelt  
Recording Secretary