

Kuemper Catholic School System
Board of Education Minutes
January 15, 2019

The January meeting of the Kuemper Catholic School Board was called to order by Chairman, Cam Janson, on Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. in the KHS high school library. The meeting was opened with the school board prayer.

Members present included: Tom Brincks, Dr. John Evans, Cam Janson, Fr. Kevin Richter, Fr. Randy Schon, Mike Sibbel, Fr. Mark Stoll, Kristin Vonnahme and Gary Wiskus.

Also present were President, John Steffes; administrators Ted Garringer and Kathi Milligan; business manager, Kris Collison; teacher representatives Jill Wenck, PK-5 and Christina Tait, 6-8.

An Opportunity for Public Input was extended with no one present.

Students in Vocational Agriculture/FFA will provide a brief overview of recent FFA activities including the management of the Kuemper owned plot at the February 19th Board of Education meeting.

The December 18, 2018 minutes were reviewed. In the Leadership & Governance Committee report of the minutes, it was discussed to add the phrase “but still used when reviewing long range strategic planning and major projects” to the end of the sentence “the use of a mission/vision lens should not be codified in policy or by-laws”. Motion to approve the minutes as amended of the December 18th meeting was made by John Evans and seconded by Tom Brincks. 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, Kathi Milligan and Ryan Isgrig.

Marketing & Enrollment Management

In Susie Hulst’s written report she stated that the take-a-tour for a \$50 gift card promotion resulted in 15 tours or shadow days. One family enrolled and several others will likely enroll in preschool. Catholic Schools Week will kick off on Friday, January 25 with a Chamber Coffee in the high school cafeteria. The surrounding parishes are encouraged to have their Kuemper students participate in Mass the weekend of January 26/27. Discover Kuemper Night for Kindergarten will be Wednesday, February 13th and not February 6th as originally planned.

Development/Fundraising – Foundation

Sharon Olerich’s written report stated that the total pledges for the *Kuemper Tomorrow* Capital Campaign are \$5,314,277. The cash balance is \$123,487. The Sponsor-A-Student has collected \$4,137 so far this year. The next regular Kuemper Foundation meeting will be Wednesday, February 13 at 4:00 p.m. The Foundation End-of-Year review was given to the Board. The 2018 Phon-a-thon has deposited \$185,000.

Finance & Budget

Kris Collison reviewed the general fund income and expenses for December and the 2018-2019 Working Fiscal Year Budget.

Committee Reports:

A. Committee Meeting Minutes

1. Marketing & Enrollment Management – January 7

New members, Codee Madden, Kathy Steffes and Amy Reincke, were introduced. The committee discussed marketing efforts of Catholic Schools Week. They also reviewed the rough draft of the registration letter that will be sent out to families this spring. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 4th at 5:00 p.m.

Old Business:

A. Diocesan & KCSS Policies 1000 & 3000 Series – Waive 2nd & Approve 3rd Reading

John Evans made a motion to waive the second and approve the 3rd Reading of the 1000 & 3000 Series of the Diocesan & KCSS Policies. Mike Sibbel seconded the motion. The motion passed.

B. Housing of Grades Committee

Ted Garringer reported that the committee has studied the options of rearranging the K-8 grades to different centers. Seven or eight models have been studied with two fixed models currently being analyzed. They will be sending a survey to the staff and parents and will report to the Academic Excellence Committee next week. They plan to report to the Board of Education in March.

C. Town Hall Meeting

The Town Hall Meeting will be Thursday, February 21st at 6:30 p.m. in the KHS cafeteria. Snow date is Tuesday, February 26th. The Leadership & Governance Committee is working on the format. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

D. Dominican Sisters Update

Funding has been secured through an anonymous donor. Sister Mary Michael will be coming to Kuemper this spring to help our teachers develop a deeper understanding of the Virtues in Practice program. It is a K-8 program that will help our teachers embed virtues to our students throughout the day. We also will have a few teachers attending the Dominican Sisters' WISE conference in Nashville, TN this summer. The conference stems around allowing our staff to deepen their understanding of the mission of a Catholic school.

Sister Elizabeth Ann will also work with Kuemper for the next 3 years on this to help our entire staff deepen their understanding of the mission and authentic Catholic teaching in a school setting.

New Business:

A. Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Schools Week will kick off with a Chamber Coffee in the high school cafeteria on Friday, January 25 at 8:00 a.m. Bishop Walker Nickless will con-celebrate at the All School Mass on Friday, February 1 at 8:30 a.m. He will visit students in all four centers. The Eternal Knights of the Foundation will be invited to the All School Mass and will have a reception with the Bishop following Mass.

B. Regional Board of Education Strategic Plan Meeting Reminder – March 26

The Regional Board of Education Strategic Plan Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 26. It will begin with a light dinner at 5:30 p.m. and the meeting at 6:00. Members from Storm Lake, Denison and Boone Catholic schools will join us.

C. Kuemper Ball

The Kick Off for the 2019 Kuemper Ball is Wednesday, February 6th in the Greteman Center.

D. Prenger Solutions Group

The Kuemper Foundation is contemplating hiring Nic Prenger from Prenger Solutions Group to help with fundraising operations, especially on-line.

Fr. Kevin Richter made a motion to go into Executive Session at 4:35 p.m., seconded by Kristin Vonnahme. The motion passed.

Fr. Mark Stoll made a motion to go out of Executive Session and back into regular session at 4:42 p.m., seconded by John Evans. The motion passed.

Fr. Kevin Richter led the closing prayer.

Fr. Mark Stoll made a motion to adjourn at 4:43 p.m., seconded by Mike Sibbel.

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. in the KHS library.

Respectfully submitted,
John Steffes, President

Joanie Buelt, Recording Secretary