

ST. SEBASTIAN SCHOOL

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

April 21, 2016 – Adult Formation Room

1. Meeting was called to order with opening prayer at 6:35 p.m.
2. Present were: Chair Brent Nistler, Principal Paul Hohl, Sha’Nese Burnell Jones, Lori Golomski, Melissa Karls, Reanna Ottoson, and Cynthia Schoonover; excused: Elizabeth Drew, Maureen O’Meara-Rowen, Kevin Mullen, Sarah Mrozinski, Anne Novotny, and Jill Schmid.
3. Approval of minutes from March 17, 2016.
4. Principal’s Report:
 - School Enrollment and Choice Enrollment: School enrollment is 309 as of April 19 with 114 Choice Enrollment
 - Staffing for 2016-2017:
 - K4 present enrollment is 24 and has the best chance of numbers increasing between now and the beginning of the school year (two open houses upcoming – first on May 19 at 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.); class size limit is 20; two K4 classes proposed (see Note)
 - K5 present enrollment is 28; class size limit is 22; two K5 classes proposed (see Note)
 - 1st grade present enrollment is 24; class size limit is 25; one 1st grade class proposed (see Note)
 - Note: the proposal for two K4 classes and two K5 classes would include eliminating the 0.5 FTE aide (for K4, K5 and 1st grade) and hiring an extra teacher for K4
 - Discussion regarding options for additional 1st grade teacher, including presentation by 1st Grade Teacher Jen Thayer and Speech Pathologist/Marketing Dean Molly Ambrose underscoring the need for two 1st grade classes, including academic research regarding optimal class size particularly for younger grades, class size limits for area schools, perception of strength of Catholic school based on enrollment and classes per grade, curriculum preparation, age and special needs of current K5 class, social implications of one class for a grade level; consensus to have sub-committee review the matter further for presentation to Finance Council on May 18
 - Update regarding current staffing issues
 - Wisconsin Forward testing update: used Chromebooks; more than 50% done
5. Committee Reports
 - Pastoral Council: Joint Parish Council reviewing definition of “clustering” with Mother of Good Counsel and St. Catherine’s; Teosinte presentation information available after masses

- Home and School: reviewing changes to bylaws, particularly regarding continuing with less of a volunteer base
 - Finance Council: no update
6. Principal Transition Report: bulletin update forthcoming from Cluster Administrator – applications are being received and will be reviewed with the intent to try to have a decision by May 20; discussion of possibility of survey to parents for input, similar to staff/faculty survey, and consensus was to proceed with survey; discuss composition and leadership of principal search committee with need for teacher/school administrator input as integral to that committee – not “advisory only” as part of the collaborative process
 7. Summer Academy: trying to set up now with staff internally
 8. School Committee Membership: three positions to be filled with a one-year term also to be filled
 9. Forensics State Competition: three students took first place – Congratulations!
 10. Farewell to Paul Hohl: at 10:30 a.m. mass on May 22 with reception to follow
 11. Closing Prayer at 8:35 p.m.
 12. Next Meeting: May 19 @ 7:00 p.m. (to follow Open House) – Adult Formation Room