

SJS Education Commission Minutes
November 10, 2022
5:30pm Subcommittees, 6:00pm Commission
School Cafeteria and Faculty Lounge

Welcome & Opening Prayer

Present: Daniel Brian, Gabe Hart, Christa Larkner, Al Johnson, Fr. Andrejek, Mary Hudson, Mary Jo Sarff, Jay Wendelin , Brigitte Sullivan & Colette Willoughby

Not in attendance : Amy Mefford, Lori Behrends, Amanda Seeyle, Nicole Allen and John Shallenberger,

Meeting Minutes: Approved by Commission

Reports:

Principal's Report- Parent/Teacher conferences were a success. Mrs. Sarff met with staff the following day to discuss how the conferences went and to go over the Parent/Student Handbook. The changes were discussed with Fr. Andrejek and an email went out to parents regarding these changes. Some of the changes included no homework given to the student before a trip is taken, socks are required at all times. They must be one solid color, either navy, black, gray or white, jumpers/skirts can be green plaid or navy jumpers or skirts (Can be purchased from Lagron-Miller), sweaters/sweatshirts can be solid navy, royal blue, red, or white - only the St. Joseph logos purchased through Parents' Club sales will be allowed. No other logos will be allowed on sweaters and sweatshirts. Our whole school had a Veteran's Day assembly on Thursday afternoon, in the gym. We had some issues regarding bus service on Tuesday, November 8th on Election Day. The bus department kept calling the school to verify that we were having school on that day starting 2 weeks prior. They informed us that all Pekin Schools including private ones were not in session. We confirmed with them we were having school and sent a message to our parents letting them know as well. Next year we will probably not have school on Election Day and add another day in our calendar.

Pastor's Report- None. He will add input as needed.

Finance Report - Finance committee approved the 5% tuition suggested by the Education Commission. Daniel stated as a reminder, the information discussed in this meeting are in utmost confidence, until if and when the school releases the information. Fr. Andrejek confirmed this statement.

A. Unfinished Business: None

B. New Business:

- a. 2023/24 Junior High : We will have to leave the junior high combined for one more year, due to the current numbers in the 7th & 8th grade classes. Hopefully this will only continue for one more school year. There will be a parent meeting on Thursday, November 17th. Fr. Andrejek, Mrs. Sarff, Miss Moore and Mrs. Radovich will explain what the combined classroom looks like and answer questions from parents. During the 2nd part of the meeting parents from current 7th and 8th students will share feedback and answer questions with no staff or administration present.
- b. Survey: The survey in the past was based on enrollment. The existing questions were looked over to see what needed to be dropped or kept. Additional questions were added. Daniel looked over the survey. A copy of the survey questions were passed out and gone over at the meeting. Any committee member needs to email Daniel with any changes by Tuesday, November 15th. The goal is to have the survey out to parents before Thanksgiving Break.
- c. Ed Commission Mid Year Flyer: This flier will be similar to the last one that was sent out. Christa will be emailing the new flier out tomorrow to the Commission members. Any changes need to be given by Tuesday, November 15th.
- d. Subcommittee Reports:
 - i. Catholic Identity/Academic Excellence- They are still working on getting the high school information together to talk about Language Arts and Math. Mary Hudson said there needs to be a survey that measures Spiritual Growth. Joan Moore can help out with the questions with a final approval from Fr. Andrejek.
 - ii. Enrollment / Marketing / Development- Jay Wendelin is going to make an updated alumni account. This will be more user friendly and easier for alumni to access and add their information.
 - iii. Finance- Discussed in previous section of the meeting
 - iv. Facilities- The Federal Funding Source that we were hoping could help us with purchasing new Chromebooks will not be taking place. We are in need of new Chromebooks. The life of a Chromebook is usually 4-5 years. They are getting too old for updates and testing. CAT Match or a grant might be helpful in getting the new Chromebooks. Chromebooks run \$200-250 plus a licensing fee from Google for each Chromebook.

Commission Member's "Round Table"

Mary Jo Sarff- Thank you for coming and all that you do. There will be no meeting in December. The next meeting will be on January 19th. Be thinking about the holiday season, Advent, the Christmas program and all the blessings God gives.

Colette Willoughby: Catholic Schools week will be approaching quickly when we return from Christmas break. The Alumni of the Year Award sheet is out. Copies of the form will be put in the pews, online and the bulletin. We will not be having the Taste of Pekin. The Catholic Schools Week Mass on January 28, 2023 will be followed with a free spaghetti dinner as a thank you to our school families. There will be a donation jar at the dinner. On Saturday, December 10th, we will have our Craft & Vendor Fair from 10a-12p. Children can paint for \$10 and we will have visits with Santa. We will be participating in the Winter Wonderland parade and our 8th grade students will be doing the live Nativity.

Daniel Brian: The Alumni form will be sent out after the holidays. Happy Holiday to everyone.

Fr. Andrejek: Thank you for all of your hard work. Subcommittees should be working outside of the 5:30p-6p time before the meeting to accomplish what we need to do.

Mary Hudson: Question about where we are at on the Communication App. Are our teaching goals vertically aligned with what the standards are? Does the Diocese have a map Curriculum for Religion? Mrs. Sarff mentioned that all new teachers have access to the curriculum set by the Diocese and a teacher mentor.

Closing Prayer & Adjournment at 7:15 p.m.

Next meeting January 19, 2023, 5:30pm Subcommittees, 6:00pm Commission Meeting