

St. Sebastian Education Committee Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2013

Attendees: Joel Agacki, Kim Berner, Joe Desch, Donna Dorschner, Paul Hohl, Maureen O'Meara Rowen, Reanna Ottoson, Leah Sealy, Cheryl Warner.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Opening prayer and snacks were provided by Kim Berner.

Approval of Minutes: October 2013 minutes were approved.

Principal's Report:

Choice Notes: Choice audit was completed this past week; three-days were spent between St. Seb's and St Coletta.

100th Anniversary: Noted that there was a 5 p.m. Mass this coming Saturday, presided by Archbishop ListECKI, with reception to follow (11-23-13).

ACE Report Meeting: Nine schools' information and facts, using five domains, were released. Potential Ed Cmte, Home and School, Parish Council involvement or volunteerism was discussed. It was noted that ACE expectations need to be clarified.

School Foundation: It was noted that 100th anniversary calendar is available and finances are performing better than expected this year. It was also noted that school foundation has provided a gift of approximately \$140K in the past year.

Fall New Teacher Observations: Select new teacher observations had been completed as of this meeting date.

Arch Placement Board: Meeting regarding priest placement scheduled for 12-3-13. Representation from larger St. Seb's committees was discussed. Agenda is consultation process and procedures regarding parish wants and Arch's available priests to match.

Parish Council: Fr. Dick has formally retired; his retirement is effective June 2014. It was noted that Frs. Dick and Jack approve of parish administrator and priest model. Fifth Sunday Mass in December will touch on new model. Remedial work on bell tower is not complete. Contractor's work on the project to date is being reviewed, and thus full contract amount has not been paid. Roof replacement has been delayed until spring 2014 given this season's inclement weather. \$80K overage on roof from earlier estimate was discussed; no clarification to date as to reason for increase in proposal. Leah distributed short survey in regard to our parish school to non-school families as per Parish Council request—results of the survey ready before January open house. Mini ministry fair will take place on Sunday 11-22-13. Leah suggested Ed Cmte table. Marketing ideas including local corporate sponsorships (Kohl's, GE, etc.) were discussed.

Home and School Report: No new business to report.

Common Core Alignment Sub-Committee: Math teacher and sub-committee meeting occurred on 10-18-13; progressions were reviewed. Potential memberships in WMSE, teaching channel or Brookhill funded programs were discussed. No joint meeting has occurred since last Ed Cmte meeting. Sub committee to check back in with teachers at their discretion, but soon enough to maintain momentum. Smarter Balance was discussed as being

more rigorous than WKCE as testing standard. St Seb's will take Smarter Balance tests in 2014. It may be a good idea to make teaching staff aware of change, and additional rigor that comes with Smarter Balance. There was a suggestion that Paul send available practice components to teachers for review. Meeting is scheduled for MLK, Jr. day regarding use of MAPS scores in classrooms.

4K/5K Early Enrollment: BRIGANCE test is currently used as way to evaluate potential early 4K/5K enrollees. Possible model is to put the onus on parent(s) of child for administration of St Seb's approved testing. This may be cost prohibitive for some parent(s), as they would be solely financially responsible for testing. As a result, this could be construed as unfair, or objectionable by potential families. Ed Cmte was reminded that Choice families cannot early enroll due to DPI rules. It was also noted that acceptable testing alone does not guarantee future success on the child's behalf. An observation in a play group setting may also be recommended to evaluate the child's social development. Whatever the testing vehicle(s), Ed Cmte members thought St Seb's should reserve the right to request additional testing beyond the prescribed course on an individual basis. It was recommended that an early enrollment policy be in place by date of 2014 open house, 1-26-14. Kim volunteered to look into who administers testing in her district.

Long Range Planning: It was agreed to provide progress by committee members who volunteered for items on list of long range planning goals provided by Paul for next Ed Cmte meeting.

Budget Updates: Prior budget was reviewed, along with 2014 / 2015 projections and line items. There is upcoming 12-12-13 Finance meeting at which Ed Cmte thoughts will be presented and reviewed. Thoughts on how to distribute choice increase were discussed, including new texts and workbooks and the pros and cons of each. Right now they are on seven-year replacement cycle but are overdue for update. There was a proposal to look forward to new technology in place of purely physical texts. It was suggested that a plan be developed and potential sub-committee formed to plan for replacement and possible retooling of teaching resources to focus on what St Seb's, 'does well, and how it do it better'.

New Business:

Joint Parish Council: It was noted that volunteer who had helped with website development and maintenance would no longer be able to help. Thus, a new volunteer is needed; suggestions are welcome. Finances were noted as on budget, and pledge cards went out on 11-17-13. The first draft of Arch consultation may be available as soon as 12-29-13.

Fee Raise: It was determined that Program Tuition Fee will not be increased in the upcoming academic year.

Closing Prayer: Kim Berner.

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 16th at 6:30 p.m. in Teachers' Lounge.