

Immaculate Conception Grade School Board

Meeting Minutes January 9, 2018

The Immaculate Conception Grade School Board met on January 9, 2018 in the Media Center of the rectory. The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM. Present Father Tom Paul, Pastor; Father Christopher Lankford, Parochial Vicar; Mrs. Cathy Linley, Principal; Mrs. Sharon Meyer, Asst. Principal; Kathleen Hillsman, Board Members: Ray Hill, President, Katy Ahern, Alina Cahill, Robert Moore, Jim Papp, Amy Brandt, Tom Dewbray and Aamir Rajan.

Excused: Erin Raniere

Opening Reflection:

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Principal's Report: Mrs. Cathy Linley

Cathy gave a summary of the following items:

- The following articles were distributed about the tax scholarship: Tax Scholarship Information for Donors. Section on how it Works. Frequently Asked Questions. We already have the Catholic Education Funds. We had twenty families applied last year, and we only had seven that received an award. Other schools may have thirty-five that applied and other schools may only have two. The initial goal is to help the neediest. We looked at our people and they will not be considered. The Diocese is hoping that these funds will go to the neediest, in order to free other scholarships or Catholic Education Funds. There is a fear that the Catholic Education Funds will go down because people will not provide. Procedures are still in place for having new students join the school. Mrs. Shaw said she wanted us to mention there are still concerns about how the funds would be distributed from the state. What time of year would we receive them? Schools will need to have their tuition established before this goes to in place, and we would not be able to change the numbers. There would also be a state mandated test part with this funding. The hope is that this would help people in our parish with tax scholarships.
- The Parent Club meeting focused on food collection. Over the last few years, there has been many changes for us at school with students and food allergies. We have parents that want food at classroom parties and those that do not want food at parties. Thirty-four out of the four hundred eighty students have strong allergies, and we have seventeen with Epi pens. Eleven out of thirty-four children have more than one allergy. Out of thirty-four allergies, there are twenty-eight different ones. We have to put the kids first. For Christmas, we decided to have everyone bring his or her own treat. Mrs. Linley is very thankful for the support of our families. Father Tom recommends no treats at all. The food needs to be monitored very closely during bigger events.
- Catholic Schools Week is January 28 to February 3. The theme for this year is Catholic Schools Learn, Serve, Lead, and Succeed. We have service events, a talent show, the spelling bee, and guests to visit. Father Tom would like to have the schedule as soon as possible. The

distinguished graduate this year is Mattie Gaughan. He was nominated because of the way he handled his challenge of Cerebral Palsy. He is a graduate of ICCP, Miami of Ohio, and is working. He is a friend that always has a twinkle in his eye. He makes everyone better for just knowing him. He is part of the Junior Board from Easter Seals.

Father Tom

- March 16, 17, and 18th Bishop Conlon will be here to visit and celebrate the 8:15 mass with the students. He also likes to visit with various groups. The board members would be invited to meet with the Bishop to go over IC somewhere around to 10:00 to 11:00 that morning.

Kathleen Hillsman

There are newspaper ads running for Open House on the 28th. We are advertising with Elmhurst New Neighbors. We are having people deliver flyers to various schools in the area. We are going to be advertising with Saint Alexander and Ascension schools. There will be open house signs on lawns. We have an ad in Chicago Parent Magazine. For open house, it will be Sunday, January 28th and we will need to have board members to help give tours from ten until one. We will need two shifts of four board members. The groups should be separated into areas. Last year, was the first year that we put together the curriculum fair and open house on the same day. If parents club is there then they should be upstairs. We also need school board members to come to the coffee after the distinguished graduate mass on February 2nd. This is the mass that we ask parents to volunteer for once a year. The annual appeal is in full swing. In March, we usually circle back around and remind parents.

Ray Hill

Enrollment and Marketing will get a meeting together outside of this meeting and come up with a plan for the next semester. The Hillsman family is willing to work on this committee. We learned that there is no way to an after school program in the gym. Mr. Moore recommended we find the right solution for an after school care program with an opportunity for income for the school. Activity based for the younger grades and educational based for the higher grades. It is cost neutral or plus for the school. Mrs. Linley said more information would be helpful. Visitation shared that they have a group for 2nd to 3rd graders with 25 people. Our older grades go the library. First step is the willingness to look at the infrastructure to see if it can handle the after school care program.

Step 1: Available space.

Step 2: Companies are ways to go at it.

Step 3: Bring Father Tom in.

Mrs. Linley would be very willing to meet with one person to explore this and to look at the space consideration depending on how many students may be involved.

Katy Ahern

Wine tasting 1900 club event at the Van Eekeren House this year on 2/10/18. Once year a charitable event can be done at Wilder Mansion free of charge. It has been used for buy in events in the past.

The next meeting is Tuesday, February 13, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Meyer