

**St. Catherine of Siena
School Advisory Board**
November 20, 2018 at 7pm
School Library

I. Call to Order

- A.** Opening Prayer: Fr. Ryan.

II. Routine Matters

- A.** Attendance:

In attendance: Fr. John Ryan, Sr. Antonella, Mrs. Mayi Apour, Mr. Nathan Au, Mrs. Patty Bandel, Mrs. Christine Engstrom, Mrs. Kia Germino, Mrs. Lucy Lozano, Mrs. Tammy Kiely, Mr. Michael Stallman, Mr. Garrett Wade.

- B.** Review and Approval of October 16th Meeting Minutes — Approved.

III. Information

- A.** Pastor's Report: Fr. John

Fr. Tuan continues to recover from his triple bypass; he is taking three months sick leave. and plans to return St. Catherine February 1. He is at Atria, and welcomes visitors. His family has been to be with him. Fr. Gerry had his heart valve replaced. The surgery was not unexpected, but he has had a difficult week of recovery nonetheless. Msgr. Harriman has been helping out at the parish. Fr. Jim also continues to help. One of them often says the weekday 12:05 Mass; that time suits retired people well. Both of them will also hear confessions at the Advent Reconciliation services for the school. There have been many baptisms and funerals lately, but not so many weddings. Thanksgiving Mass is at nine o'clock. Maintenance issues at the back of the gym are under way, and work is being done on the roofs all around in preparation for heavy rains.

- B.** Principal's Report: Sr. Antonella

The student government is busy with various activities; they do their work quietly and are responsible. They planned Red Ribbon Week and interacted well with all the students. There was information offered for both younger and older students by the BPD and the school counselor. The Halloween carnival was well-done and well-managed by Student Government. For the Thanksgiving food drive, third grade and up brought gift cards for the St. Peter parish community in the City while the younger children collected actual food to CALL Primrose Center. Student Government will take some of the bags over, so they can see where the food goes. Nick will drive the rest of the donations.

- C.** The first Trimester ended. Report cards went home. To meet with teachers, parents should contact teachers directly via email. Formal conferences are finished, but anyone may schedule informal meetings as-needed. The Book Fair ends tomorrow. This year it is in the gym because of the father-daughter dance in auditorium. Tours continue for 2018–2019 school year. We see mostly prospective Kindergarten families, but some transfers for other grades as well. Field trips continue.

Mrs. Bandel reports on the Opera a la carte program. Eighth graders learn lines and act alongside Opera a la Carte performers. The children are all very engaged and even surprised by the opera singing.

A teaching consultant was arranged by Archdiocese to provide suggestions and help for our teachers. The consultant came and visited the school last week and spent one full day at the school, observing and providing special training for differentiated instruction, whereby teachers can adapt their pedagogy to individual students' needs. She met with each teacher for 20–30 minutes. They discussed how to address different behaviors and attention. She will return and observe teachers in the classroom. The advice is at the learning and intellectual level, but also practical to put into action. If a

hypothetical child is always distracted, the teacher can get tips for how to deal with this particular child. These are things teachers discuss among themselves anyway, but having an outside professional consult is helpful.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Sports: Mrs. Engstrom
In volleyball the division 1 seventh grade won in an amazing game. They appreciated everyone's support. The division 3 sixth grade won the championship. Division four won second place. Both were magnificent. In baseball, the third and fourth grade both went to playoffs. The sixth grade won 4th place. Basketball teams are now being formed, and tournaments begin end of December.

B. Technology: Mrs. Bandel
The school purchased more Chromebooks for fourth grade, which now has its own cart and full class set. They use Google Slides for their mission project. In science they also use Google Docs.. The technology consultation company contracted by the school, Bonsai, came out and met with teachers and also set up the new cart. They will be getting Chromecasts for the classrooms so teachers don't have to plug in their computers each time.

V. Old Business

A. Walkathon: Sr. Antonella.
Walkathon money still trickling in. Prizes finally go out next week.

VI. New Business

A. Renaissance Star testing: Mrs. Bandel
Testing has gone well since upgrading the Comcast connection. The Archdiocese granted an extension on testing because of the air quality school cancelation last Friday. We are almost finished, although some children have already left on holiday. So far we have great results, as expected.

B. School Advisory Board Christmas Dinner: Mrs. Kiely
Mrs. Kiely will host it on December 16.

VII. Comments from the Floor

A. Mrs. Engstrom asks about the athletic director. There is no information to report at the moment.

VIII. Adjournment.