

St. Catherine of Siena
School Advisory Board Minutes
November 21, 2017 at 7pm
School Library

Meeting Schedule for the 2017 - 2018 school year:

December, Christmas Dinner - December 10 at 6pm at Mrs. Devgan's home

Tuesday, January 16th

Tuesday, February 20th

Tuesday, April 17th

Tuesday, May 15th

June - End of Year Dinner - Date and Place TBD

I. Call to Order - 7:08 pm

- a. Opening Prayer - Fr. John

II. Routine Matters

- a. Attendance

In attendance: Sr. Antonella, Fr. John, Mrs. Patty Bandel, Mrs. Mayi Apour, Mrs. Jackie Devgan, Mrs. Christine Engstrom, Mrs. Lucy Gonzalez, Mr. Jeremy Link, Mr. Michael Stallman, Mr. Garrett Wade
Absent: Mrs. Marichi Fernandez, Mrs. Tammy Kiely

- b. Review and Approval of October 17th Meeting Minutes - Approved

III. Information

- a. Pastor's Report - Fr. John

Archbishop Cordileone will be visiting St Catherine of Siena Church and School on Friday, December 15th and Sunday, December 17th. The Archbishop's visit will commence with a 9:00 am student body Mass on Friday. Following Mass, he will visit the classrooms, meet with Sr. Antonella, have lunch with the faculty, and then proceed to the Rectory. Archbishop Cordileone will be the celebrant at the first Simbang Gabi Mass that evening at 7:00 pm. On Sunday, December 17th, the Archbishop will also be the celebrant at the 10:30 am Mass. This will be followed by a reception, which then concludes the pastoral visit.

Simbang Gabi, the Filipino tradition of celebrating Advent with novena, opens at St. Catherine on December 15th at 7:00 pm with Archbishop Cordileone as celebrant. St. Catherine will again host on December 16th then will move on to different local parishes. St. Catherine will close with the ninth and last Mass on Saturday, December 23rd at 7:00 pm.

Stained glass project update: On Monday, December 4th, the glass windows that have been repaired will be reinstalled. It is not yet decided which set of windows will be repaired next.

- b. Principal's Report - Sr. Antonella

The Book Fair is ongoing and will be closing tomorrow, after Special Person's Day.

This year's Food Drive will benefit St. Peter's Parish. They are very grateful for our donations.

Report Cards for first quarter went home electronically. There were a few technical glitches but were quickly fixed by Beehively. On November 29th, second quarter progress reports will be sent electronically as well.

The focus during the second quarter is academics. Christmas performances are being prepared, but academics will always be the priority.

The Special Person's Day Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, November 22nd at 10:30 am.

Applications for Kindergarten are being accepted, and tours are being held. As of now, like this time last year, the numbers are low. We are confident that the applications will increase after the new year.

Walk-a-Thon - Most children participated, except for some due to poor air quality and child-specific health concerns. We made about the same amount of money as last year when we had the Walk-a-Thon on campus.

IV. Committee Reports

a. Sports - Mrs. Engstrom

Baseball and Volleyball have concluded. Results are available on ppsl.com. The 6th Grade girls' volleyball team placed 3rd in Division 1.

PPSL Rule: any parent who is unruly or harassing children, coaches, or referees during a game will be asked to leave immediately and not allowed back for following games. A reminder letter regarding sportsmanship and PPSL rules and expectations will be sent to all families this week.

All basketball teams have started or will be starting practices this week. A basketball tournament is scheduled to begin the first week of December for grades 5-8. All grades have at least one girls' and one boys' team.

b. Technology - Mrs. Bandel

Chromebooks have been fantastic in middle school. All 15 are always in use, primarily by the 6th graders. We will be purchasing more Chromebooks after a successful initial rollout.

Hour of Code will begin the first week of December. Children are using a visual programming language similar to Scratch to learn to code.

First quarter report cards were sent home electronically for grades 3-8.

Parents are enjoying the new St. Catherine of Siena School website. The full-page progress reports and missing assignment summaries are easy to access and user-friendly for both students and parents.

Raz Kids and Mathletics programs will be accessible to parents and teachers online in the near future.

V. Old Business

None

VI. New Business

a. Renaissance STAR Assessment - Mrs. Bandel

Students completed the second STAR Assessment. All classes improved. Teachers are looking for growth or significant loss of growth for each child. Teachers have identified high performers and low performers.

b. Christmas Dinner - Mrs. Devgan

The Board Christmas dinner will be held on Sunday, December 10th at 6:00pm at the Devgan residence.

c. Safety Program/Compliance - Sr. Antonella

Livescan is the only acceptable fingerprinting and background check for coaches and other parent volunteers who work with the children. Going forward, Shield the Vulnerable will no longer be available.

d. Anniversary of the School - Sr. Antonella

Next September (2018) will be the 80th anniversary of the opening of St. Catherine of Siena School. We will form a committee to plan for this special event.

VII. Comments from the Floor

None

VIII. Adjournment - Adjourned at 8:23 pm