

## St. Catherine of Siena School Advisory Board

November 19, 2019 at 7pm

### I. Call to Order

- A. Opening Prayer: Fr. Ryan.

### II. Routine Matters

- A. In attendance: Sr. Antonella, Fr. John Ryan, Mrs. Bandel, Mr. Nathan Au, Mrs. Dana Dwyer, Mrs. Kia Germino, Mrs. Jeanne Meinhardt, Mr. John Scarcella, Mr. Michael Stallman.
- B. Review and Approval of October 15th Minutes: Mr. Au.  
Approved.

### III. Information

- A. Pastor's Report: Fr. Ryan.

We're at the end of the liturgical year; next Sunday is Christ the King, and we will also be celebrating the Sacrament of the Sick at all Masses. Bring your relatives and neighbors if they are in need of anointing. It's especially good for the children to see the sacrament. The food collection for Catholic Worker House will continue through Thanksgiving—the truck comes the day after Thanksgiving. We will also have the giving tree; it's nice to have the experience of giving to someone who won't give back to us. The giving tree ornaments this year were made by some students, who earned service hours for doing so last summer.

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

Just finished first trimester; report cards will be sent electronically for all grades. The student government has planned food drives for three places: our sister parish and school, St. Peter (SF), CALL Primrose and the in San Francisco Food Bank where some students volunteer. This year St. Peter's doesn't want food—only gift cards.

The day before thanksgiving the school will celebrate with Mass and Special Person Day. Instructions will be in the newsletter tomorrow. Book Fair is just about to start—it will be set up on Thursday evening and will stay open until Wednesday before Thanksgiving. Tours for prospective applicants continue; we just posted dates for the month of December on the website. We have had a good number—the question is always “when is the application due,” and Sister always tells them “before Christmas.” Spread the word. Sister believes in word of mouth more than anything else. The children have all completed the Virtus safety program; the due date was Oct. 31. Historically we've done the safety program in January but this year the Archdiocese made it earlier.

Mrs. Bandel reports on SF Opera à la Carte. Students received scripts and roles a month ago, then two weeks ago we had daily practice to make sure they memorized their lines. The Opera company then comes for one day only, arriving at 11:30 to work with the student actors, and then perform in front of the entire school at 1pm.

Field trips continue for classes as they schedule them. Star Testing just finished last Friday. The faculty will review the results during their meeting on Monday, evaluating their goals and seeing how things went. We have begun the enrichment program: a few fourth and fifth grade students are selected for an extra activity, which this year are “STEM Challenges”. On Thursday we will build a boat, check the buoyancy, fill with pennies. The previous challenge involved building a tower using spaghetti and tape to support a marshmallow on top. A group from the Archdiocese will come next week to talk with the eighth grade about social media. The purpose is to reinforce and encourage young people to stay close to their faith and realize the importance of virtue in their lives.

#### **IV. Committee Reports**

##### **A. Sports: Mrs. Meinhardt.**

Volleyball this year had a good showing, with many teams making it to the playoffs. For baseball the fifth grade came in third overall and the other teams participated well. For basketball season we will have fifteen teams between boys and girls. The boys' teams are especially strong. This coming Tuesday at 7pm in the auditorium we will have the basketball coaches meeting, and Mr. Au will be the commissioner for boys' basketball.

##### **B. Walk-a-thon: Mr. Germino.**

Pledges are due Friday; each class still has a few pledges outstanding. The prizes can be awarded once the final tally is made. We have a number of t-shirts left over; unfortunately, they have "2019" printed on them, so we will have to find some way to give them out this year. Sister will determine the date for next year to call and reserve the track again.

#### **V. Old Business**

##### **A. Catholic Identity.**

The survey went out a couple weeks ago, and already one faculty meeting was spent reviewing and discussing the results. The faculty will pick up the topic again, probably into January, after discussing STAR results and other business. Once they decide on some goals to come out of it, Sister will have more to share with us in future meetings.

#### **VI. New Business**

##### **A. December Christmas Dinner: Mr. Au.**

Mr. Scarcella graciously offers to host on Monday, December 2nd, at Sapore.

#### **VII. Comments from the Floor**

None.

#### **VIII. Adjournment.**