**Good Shepherd Catholic School Council
Good Shepherd Catholic School Cafeteria, 6:00 PM
Thursday, January 10, 2019**

 **Call to Order**Attendance:

School Council: Principal Kristen Girten, Father Zach, Brandee Schnarr, Sara Brown, Sara Rogier, Dawn Bowen, Michael Schaefer, Greg Rawski, Brian Kessler, Mark Schuler, and Joanie Pohl were in attendance. Maren Smith from the Parish Council also attended. Dan Deeg, Jen Blackburn, and Beth Keck were absent.

**Prayer**: Father Zach opened the meeting with a prayer.

**Mission Statement:**  Our Mission Statement was read aloud by all.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the last meeting on November 29, 2018, were approved as written.

**REPORTS:**

**President’s Report:** No report.

**Pastor’s Report:** Father Zach reported that he is trying to put information about new parishioners on the website. One of our new families is a former Holy Redeemer family with 2 high schoolers and a 12-year-old. It turns out that Morgan Lamberton will not be able to help coordinate the restart of Vacation Bible School because she has too many other obligations. Please provide names of other potential persons who might be able to help with this task. He is in the process of choosing the Maria Goretti award winners; usually juniors in high school are picked and there are several great candidates so the choice is not an easy/clear one. The different classes handling hospitality at the weekend masses has been a good thing.

**Principal’s Report:** Kristen submitted her written report to School Council members via email prior to this meeting. Highlights include: The Diocesan “Come and See” Open House will be Thursday, January 31st from 5-7 pm. Catholic Schools week will be January 27-February 1. GS will be hosting the Diocesan CSW Mass on Tuesday, January 29. Letters will be sent to GS parishioners who have children age appropriate for Kindergarten in 2019-2020. The Kindergarten Orientation meeting will be on Wednesday, February 20th. All faculty and staff were given a letter of intent on January 3rd; the forms are requested to be returned by January 25th. The Spelling Bee winner on November 28th was Jack Schnarr. The Geography Bee winner on December 5th was Reece McCutchan. Madeline Schneider from USI will be a student teacher in Mrs. Kessler’s classroom during 2nd semester. We are excited to offer two new academic teams this school year. Our 4th and 5th graders have the opportunity to participate in the Battle of the Books. Our 6th through 8th graders have the opportunity to participate in the Academic Super Bowl. Both competitions take place in the Spring.

More information can be found in Kristen’s complete written report on file with these minutes.

**Preschool Report:** Brandee’s report was submitted to School Council members via email prior to this meeting. Highlights include: With the help of parishioner Greg Pence, who has some background with marketing and design, we were able to create a special Little Rams brochure/pamphlet that can be used with our prospective families and info packets we give to new families. Preview Night on Jan. 9th was a success. We had 22 families attend. Of those 22, we have applications from 15 of those families. In looking at numbers for next year, we currently have 20/20 current preschool students who have applied for our Pre-K class, and 10 applications for the remaining 4 Pre-K spots. For Preschool, we currently have 18 applications for 20 spots, and we are expecting applications from an additional 6 families that are parishioners or employees of GS. We have extended our application deadline until after the Diocesan Open House on January 31st. Last year, we had 8-10 families that were interested in spots that came through during the Open House.

It was brought up that people are almost begging to get into our Preschool and PreK. Discussion was held as to how we can find/build/acquire more space. Are trailers still allowed to be used for classrooms like other schools have done in the past? Kristen will call Joe Holtz at Holy Rosary to find out who we could call regarding building codes, etc. This is something that probably couldn’t happen for next school year because it has to be approved by the Diocese and we would possibly have to have a capital campaign. Right now we need to begin “building our case” as to whether we should increase the size of the Preschool and PreK, where the funding might come from, what are we losing right now by telling people we are full, etc. There was not a lot of interest in adding afternoon classes because most families want full-time. It was determined that a subgroup/committee will be formed to research this issue. Brian, Michael and Greg offered to help with the information gathering. Brandee anticipates that by February 15th, we will have to tell some applicants that we have no room and for them to look elsewhere.

On other topics, our students will be taking a field trip off site to CMOE on January 18th. The Little Rams will be hosting the hospitality mass during the masses at the end of Catholic Schools Week (2/2 and 2/3). Brandee is working on a Professional Development opportunity for our entire staff, learning more about the brain, ADHD, anxiety, and sensory processing needs. This will take place after school at GS.

**Legislative Liaison Report:** No report in Beth Keck’s absence. Beth is attending an INPEA event tonight.

**Athletic Committee Report:** Mark Schuler reported that wrestling practice starts next week; winter sports are wrapping up. In 1-3 years, we will need to do an assessment of our bleachers for safety issues. There current bank balance is between $40K and $45K. The concessions & gate income has been good.

**Tech Team Report:**  Mark Schuler distributed copies of several documents: Highlights of the 1-9-19 Tech Meeting; an iPad Funding flow chart; and Technology Register ’18-’19. Mark went over the details of these documents and graphs. Financially, there has been $33,412 in expenses, with approximately $14,792 remaining in the technology budget. $2000 will be moved from Apple VPP to Ink and Toner. There will be further discussion on printing needs on campus. Discussion was held regarding raising the per student iPad fee from its current $50.00 to $75.00. A motion was made and seconded that we will increase this fee to $75.00 next school year.

**Marketing Report:** Greg Rawski had no new information to report.

**PTO Report:** No report in Jen Blackburn’s absence.

**Financial Report:** Michael Schaefer reported that the building of the cry room is in the works. Tuition is to be discussed very soon; working on gathering data for that.

**ITEMS FOR DECISION**

7 a) School Calendar 2019-2020. Kristen previously emailed the proposed calendar to School Council members. It was compiled with the other east side principals and is based on the MHS calendar, even though MHS always has their graduation the weekend before our last week of classes. It has 90 days in first semester and 90 days in second semester, with 4 built-in makeup days. This 2019-2020 calendar was officially approved by School Council members.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

8 a) Enrollment 2019-2020. Michael Schaefer distributed a 1-page handout regarding enrollment for the current school year at 2018 SY start and 2018 SY 2nd semester, and also a projection for 2019. We have lost eight (8) students between the start of this SY and the end of 2018. He reported that Kristen, Sarah Gahagen, and he met this morning.

9 a) Tuition 2019-2020. Michael stated that he, Kristen and Sarah Gahagen will be meeting a couple more times soon. He is still in the process of gathering data in order to have sufficient information to make a proposal regarding next school year’s tuition. We are anticipating an $87K increase in expenses. We had a $35K increase last school year.

A suggestion was made that maybe GS should partner with MHS somehow to help increase our enrollment. Father Zach noted that the current high school assessment that GS pays for students attending MHS is $1,500.00 per student. Should we have “stipulations” attached to the payment of that assessment per student, or should it continue to just be more like an “entitlement”? That topic will be discussed with the Parish Council in detail very soon.

The tuition proposal will be completed soon and will be discussed and voted on at the February 14th School Council meeting.

The Come Holy Spirit prayer was prayed at the end of the meeting, which adjourned at approximately 7:12 PM. The next regular meeting will be Thursday, February 14, 2019, at 6 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanie Pohl, Secretary