

**Good Shepherd Catholic School Council**  
**Good Shepherd Cafeteria, 6:00 P.M.**  
**Thursday, November 11, 2021**

**Call to Order**

**Attendance:** School Council: Principal Kristen Girten, Fr. Zach Etienne, Brandee Schnarr, Sara Rogier, Ann Piper, Brooke Joergens, Marcy Groves, Michael Schaefer, Sara Ice, and Beth Funk were present. Jeff Rhymer, Ben Goedde, Mark Schuler, Beth Keck, and Gen Caudill were absent.

**Prayer:** Fr. Zach offered a prayer for veterans.

**Mission Statement:** Our mission statement was read together by the council.

**Approval of the Minutes:** The minutes from the meeting on October 14, 2021 were approved as written.

**Reports**

**President's Report:** No report

**Pastor's Report:** Fr. Zach reported that Tuesday adoration and Mass with a designated class has been attempted.

The CPC has reached 70% of the goal.

Classes hosting hospitality after Masses is back.

There are four servers for each weekend Mass.

The Diocese honored deserving eighth grade students from the parishes.

Reconciliation services are planned for students during Advent.

Good Shepherd art teacher, Jenny Stuart, has been asked to display art projects in church to bring in families.

The parish Operation Christmas Child boxes are due in church November 15<sup>th</sup>. The third graders are packing the school's boxes on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

The bishop is having listening sessions to gather information to send to Rome. Fr. Alex at Corpus Christi will be gathering the information concerning parishes in June.

For the first Sunday of Advent we will have ARISE at 1:00 p.m.

**Principal's Report:** Kristen Girten submitted her written report to the School Council prior to the meeting via email.

Parent-Teacher conferences were very well attended. Parents had the option for in-person, phone, or virtual conferences. Most parents chose in-person.

GSCS will be hosting a Take a Tour Tuesday event on November 16<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. for prospective families. Brandee Schnarr and her husband will be giving the tours. No RSVP was required.

For the Evansville Rescue Mission Project GSCS will be collecting cans of green beans. These will be part of the Gobbler Gathering Thanksgiving Feast. The goal is 500 cans.

GSCS participated in the Operation Christmas Child this year. Jeanne Goedde headed the project which was a huge success. Our third grade class will fill the boxes, readying them to send, as their November service project.

GSCS students will be joining with Memorial and partner school students to raise money for the Honor Flight for veterans. Students had a patriotic free dress day on November 11<sup>th</sup> for a donation. Over \$800 dollars was raised with all proceeds going to the Honor Flight program.

The Spell Bowl Team will participate in the virtual statewide competition on Monday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Sammet and Mrs. Watson are the coordinators of this academic team.

Winter uniforms will take effect Wednesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Spiritual Growth Committee has planned activities and prayer services for the students during Advent. The school will have a prayer service each Monday during Advent. Students will take turns being present in the church while others join virtually.

Melanie Baker has agreed to teach music while Mrs. Creek is out on maternity leave.

We will not be having the traditional Christmas program this year. Mrs. Creek and Mrs. Baker are planning to film the students performing and send the link to families. Mrs. Beudel, the band director, is working on a small concert for the band students on December 16<sup>th</sup>.

Liz Harvey has agreed to step in as our volunteer school nurse. She will shadow Danielle Hudak this year as she transitions into this new role. We are grateful to Danielle Hudak for her years of service and dedication to GSCS as our school nurse.

**Preschool Report:** Brandee Schnaar reported the Halloween parade and class parties were successful with some parents attending and helping. We are working hard to ensure that every parent who wishes may attend at least one class party to assist (Christmas and Valentine's parties will be coming up.)

The Evansville firetruck and fire fighter visit was successful with weather cooperating in the month of October for the outdoor experience.

Our Pre-K teachers had a collaboration session on data collected from STAR Early Literacy and Dibels assessments. They will continue to use the data to drive their instruction and differentiate for each student.

New applications for the 22-23 school year will be mailed on December 1, 2021. We are in the process of gathering prospective student names from the parish office and school families. We will host a Preview Night for our prospective families on Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Mesker Park Zoo will be coming for an on-site field trip on Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Elpers is working on the details for an off-site field trip in December.

The open preschool spot was filled. The student will begin in January with the start of the new semester.

**Legislative Liaison Report:** Marcy Groves had no report.

**Athletics Report:** No report

**Tech Team Report:** Mark Schuler sent a report from the Technology Committee. Wow has been updated with increased bandwidth.

The third graders now have 1:1 iPad usage. They will need updated devices in the near future. Go Guardian has been ordered for grades 6-8. (120 licenses for \$1,800 for annual subscription) This lets the teachers see the students' Chromebooks adding security. We are starting to hear concerns about the computer lab. The desktop home screens are being changed causing frustrations.

**PTO Report:** Brooke Joergens gave the PTO report.

In October Trunk or Treat was held. Kona Ice donated their sales from the event.

Azzip is our currently running fundraiser.

On December 12, 2021, there will be Snacks for Santa in the Parish Hall with crafts. The PTO is looking for student volunteers.

A PTO meeting will be held by Zoom on Monday, November 15, 2021. More financial information will follow that meeting.

**Financial Report:** Beth Keck sent a report that the Finance Committee met on November 10, 2021.

The proposal presented was the School Council's recommended 2% tuition increase, with removing the cottage cost from Little Rams budget (moving it into the entire school budget) and a 4.5% increase in the salary budget to cover (a) 2% increase for all Little Rams staff and (b) balance to get the three teachers who are not on the pay scale up to the pay scale level for their experience. This proposal was accepted.

### **Items for Decision**

The 2% tuition increase was accepted by the Finance Committee.

The Admission Policy for Little Rams aligns with the GSCS Policy Steps 1-4. Little Rams not under Steps 1-4, but attending Pre-K classes, would be next for consideration for kindergarten slots.

### **Items for Discussion**

COVID Update: We are in the yellow. Masks are optional. Masks will be required if the spread increases to the orange or red level. The church will follow the school mask requirements. We have had only two recent positive tests. We are still sanitizing. Cases of the stomach bug have been reported.

Strategic Plan: The goals of the Strategic Plan were reviewed with some slight changes. Mrs. Girten will send them to the School Council members with the changes.

The Come Holy Spirit prayer was prayed together by the council. The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m. The next GS School Council meeting is scheduled on December 9, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Piper, Secretary

