

**Good Shepherd Catholic School Council**  
**Good Shepherd Cafeteria, 6:00 P.M.**  
**Thursday, October 13, 2022**

**Call to Order**

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

Sara Ice called the meeting to order.

**Prayer:** Fr. Zach Etienne led the prayer.

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

**Approval of the Minutes:** The minutes from the meeting on August 18, 2022, were approved as written.

**Reports**

**President's Report:** Sara Ice had no report.

**Pastor's Report:** Fr. Zach Etienne reported that on Saturday, November 12 Good Shepherd Catholic Church will host a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner for all parish volunteers. A Youth Ministry event will be incorporated into the ARISE event starting in November. Wade Lovell is helping plan these events.

On Wednesday, October 12, three companies toured Good Shepherd campus after receiving the Request for Proposal (RFP) from the Strategic Planning Committee. Once a company is chosen, the company will lead interviews of different stakeholders on the needs of the parish and school. Father Zach also assigned homework to parishioners to write a 100 word essay on what they feel is needed at Good Shepherd.

Marcy Groves has requested a statue of St. Mother Theodore Guerin be placed on campus.

Father Zach will incorporate this request into the long-term plan.

November 1 is All Saints' Day. The 5:30 Mass will include a remembrance of the deceased this past year.

So far 135 families have given to the CPC Campaign. We still need \$164,000 in pledges. The electronic pledges have not yet been included.

**Principal's Report:** Kristen Girten submitted her written report to the School Council prior to the meeting via email. Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for October 20-21. We will be dismissing both days at 12:30 p.m. On Thursday, October 20, the conferences will begin at 1:00 and run until 6:00 p.m. Friday, October 21, conferences will run from 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Congratulations to our 2022-2023 Student Council members, Rosalee Boyer, Avery Schaefer, Andrew Robak, Eli Barchet, Chloe Frazer, Lauren Lee, Graham Deckard, Braden Keck, Whitney Smith, Kendall Guthrie, Davis Schnarr, Cale Schiele, Jack Deckard, Chase Bowden, Greyson Schnarr, Sarah Claire Broshears, Nathan Neisen and Jaydon Probst.

This year's Red Ribbon Week will be October 24-28. Mrs. Kessler and Mrs. Girten will be working with the Teen Power students to plan the week of activities.

Good Shepherd was awarded the School Safety Grant from the Indiana Department of Homeland Security. These funds will be applied to the cost of the Youth First school social worker.

Good Shepherd was awarded the Formative Assessment Grant from the Indiana Department of Education. These funds will be used to purchase the iReady Assessment.

Good Shepherd participate in the annual Knights of Columbus Hunger Bowl. The students received a casual dress day for a donation. GSCS raised \$800. That money was combined with other east Catholic schools for a final donation of over \$21,000 for the St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry.

Upcoming school-wide service projects includes the Operation Christmas Child and the Green Bean Collection in November for the Evansville Rescue Mission Gobbler Gathering. "Take a Tour Tuesday" is scheduled for November 15 from 8-10 a.m. This is an opportunity for prospective families to see our school "in action."

**Preschool Report:** Brandee Schnarr reported that the Little Rams have been busy this fall. Lauren Batten is on maternity leave since her baby arrived early. Andrea Brown, who holds an elementary teaching license, is her substitute. Hannah Goad and Marlena Sauer are splitting the week to cover the assistant position left by Andrea.

The classes have had two on-site field trips. Storyteller and children's book author, Mary Jo Huff, came to Good Shepherd on September 28 to entertain our students through music, movement, children's book, and storytelling. The fire department came to Good Shepherd on October 5 for a presentation and firetruck hands-on experience. We are thankful to Fire Station 4 and the fire fighters that came to teach our children about fire safety.

The preschool and pre-K teachers are preparing for parent-teacher conferences. They will join the K-8 grade teachers with the conferences on October 20-21.

The PTO purchased a STEM cart for our early childhood teachers to share. This is a great addition to the center choices offered to our students each day. Thank you, PTO!

A mailing with new application and enrollment information is being prepared to go out December 1. Our parishioner list includes 26 prospective students who will be eligible to start school next year and the Pre-K list includes 36 possible students, of which 18 are currently enrolled in our preschool program. The new tuition for Little Rams needs to be determined for the School Council meeting next month to include in the information going out December 1.

**Legislative Liaison Report:** Marcy Groves reported nothing major at this time.

**Athletics Report:** Ben Goede sent a report regarding winter sport student participation in his absence.

Basketball practices started October 11 with 66 third to eighth grade boys and 39 third to eighth grade girls. The sixth-grade girls will be coached by Good Shepherd Alum, Mallory Russell.

The wrestling start date is to be determined. There are seven kindergarten-eighth grade boy wrestlers.

There are 22 fifth -eighth grade girls signed up for cheerleading. This is an increase from six last year.

Good Shepherd is the host site for 3rd and 4th grade boy and girl basketball leagues. The leagues run for ten weekends from November to January, starting the weekend of November 5-6. The concession stand will be a fundraiser for the eighth-grade class to help fund their class trip to St. Louis in May. The eighth-grade students and parents, with their teachers (Mr. Carey and Mrs. Fulton), will cover the concession stand for the majority of the basketball season.

New cheerleading uniforms are under review for purchase.

Six or eight new basketballs of each size (28.5 and 29.5) will be purchased to help replace worn out basketballs.

The concession stand will soon be fully stocked with drinks and snacks for the basketball season.

Archery information was sent out to fourth -eighth grade students on October 13.

**Tech Team Report:** Mark Schuler was not present. Mrs. Girtten reported that he met with the tech team. Technology for teacher planning is under consideration.

**PTO Report:** Brooke Joergens sent a report in her absence.

Paragon delivery is set for October 19th with money due on October 26<sup>th</sup>. The profit will be available at next month's meeting.

We had roughly 100 in attendance for the PTO movie night. We made \$150 profit at concessions. All profit went towards the eighth-grade trip. We received great feedback to help plan next year's event.

Trunk or Treat is set for Sunday, October 30th from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Feedback from this event will be shared at the November meeting.

**Financial Report:** Beth Keck reported the financial year end report was presented at the September meeting. School is good with the budget. The government funds for the meals was good. The cafeteria is now identifying use of the funds.

With the cost of supplies for the preschool increasing, a tuition increase is needed.

More families are eligible for the assistance plans and people are taking advantage of them.

## **Items for Decision**

### **Items for Discussion**

A Little Rams tuition analysis was prepared by Beth Keck for the 2023-2024 school year. Current budget has \$3,000. An increase to \$3,450 is proposed. The school principal and the head of the Little Rams have not seen the budget, so asked for a copy of the general ledger from the parish office. Four options for Little Rams tuition were proposed. Fee increases were discussed due to increases in the costs of t-shirts, field trips, etc. The School Council has asked Beth to present Option 2 (2% increase) to the parish finance committee.

Beth Keck is proposing that the finance sub-committee educate families about choice and what Catholic Education encompasses. They may use this to urge an increase in giving and possibly tie it to a Capital Campaign. Choice per EVSC is \$6,400.

Mrs. Girtten attempted to delve further into the School Culture Survey results, but funds to do so were not available.

The Diocesan School Workshop was held virtually on September 8 due to having two time zones involved. Topics covered were marketing, Project: Lead the Way, and INPEA. They are looking to change the format to session choices.

Uniform policy will be revisited in regard to boys' hair and girls' leggings.

The Come Holy Spirit prayer was prayed by the Council. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. The next GS School Council meeting is scheduled on Thursday, November 10, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Piper, Secretary