

Guardian Angels Central Catholic  
School Board Meeting Minutes  
January 15, 2025  
6:30 p.m. - Rectory

Meeting was called to order by Mark Wooldrik.

Fr. Weeder opened the meeting with a prayer.

Roll Call was taken: Board members present were Ben Borgmann, Allyn Knobbe, Leanne Ritter, Carmen Schlickbernd, Tracy Schwer, Mark Wooldrik, Fr. Weeder, and David Karnopp. Board members not present were Matt Ridder and Dan Woodbury.

School Administration present were Andrew Bradley and Paula Peatrowsky.

Matt Schlaebitz approached the school board with some concerns. He was heard by the school board. Mark thanked him for sharing his concerns.

Booster Club: Shea shared that they would like to hang up the banners/flags of conference affiliates in our gym. There was a need for some changing tables in the bathrooms in the gym. They have paid for two new tables. Leanne mentioned she thought one was being replaced. Shea also mentioned that the Booster Club in general is witnessing a lack of interest. For example, at the last meeting there was only one other person in attendance that did not have to be there. He mentioned that this club is for fundraising and that only happens with participation. He feels that at some point the Booster Club will fail to exist in its current structure of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer. Shea worries about the future of the club as there are no people wanting to sign up and volunteer. Leanne asked if there have been any discussions at their meetings about this. Is it possible it would become a subcommittee under the Development committee in the future? Or, do we want to keep it separate?

SPA- Paula mentioned the Chamber Bucks drive for the teachers was well received. The teachers were very appreciative of it. The Christmas luncheon was sponsored by SPA.

Capital Campaign- Lisa said the main focus of the meeting was it is nearing the end of the first year and we need to wrap up soliciting. The intent was not to solicit all five years. We started with 800 identified people we wanted to solicit and of that approximately 150 have been contacted. She shared that we have not actively solicited teachers since we are raising money for them. We currently have 295 unique donors. We have \$2.1 million in pledges. We have collected \$2.1 million. We have \$2.1 million in the bank collecting 3.6% interest. We received a check in December of \$38,000 just in interest. We have collected \$64,000 from the alumni drive.

We will follow up with people who made a pledge, but have not yet sent in their money. The first project to benefit from the Capital Campaign will be the HVAC in the elementary school. Lisa mentioned we did receive the Lavigne grant. It is a \$200,000 matching grant. We have to collect \$200,000 in NEW donations in 2025. Only cash deposits from January 1, 2025 through December 1, 2025 will count toward matching this grant. The donations must come from private donations. We cannot count the pledges we have received in the past. It must all be new

donations. Lisa once again asked for more help. Justin S. mentioned that there are probably 450 cards that will receive a letter from the campaign. The letter will mention the matching grant from the Archdiocese. There are approximately 100 cards in the box that still need to be contacted. The goal is still \$9 million AND 800 unique donors.

Finance Committee- Dave mentioned they have met with the Parish Council finance committee to identify which bank accounts will stay with the church and which will move to the school. Andrew mentioned the budget shortfall for next year. He believes some of this could be made up with the Eusterbrock donation toward tuition.

Governance- Mark stated that they are providing the structure for the committees, and now they are moving toward the self-evaluations to the board members and evaluations and other organization members.

Advancement/Development- Carmen mentioned they have met with Governance to go over their structure and now they have to find people to lead the different subcommittees. They would like to have quarterly meetings with the leaders of these groups. They are also working on ways to bring new students to our school. On January 20, they will begin meetings to plan the Lincoln alumni event they hope to have in March 2025.

Mark reminded those who were in attendance that the minutes are online. We became a Board of Limited Jurisdiction on January 24, 2024 (formerly we were an Advisory board). In the past months: we hired an interim-president, who started February 14, 2024; we have had an audit; started a capital campaign; in order to be good stewards of everyone's money, we have evaluated many things on the facilities side; hired Sue Wolff as a Finance Director; set up new committees, and we are trying to recruit new people to get involved in these committees. He stressed how proud he is of this team and the work that has been accomplished so far. The role of this board is: finances, tuition, development, hiring Mr. Bradley, and then holding Mr. Bradley accountable.

Facilities: Leanne indicated they have finished the walk-through of all of the facilities: grade school, high school, and activity center. A final report will be put together to share with the board. HVAC: from what we have heard the high school has been comfortable (temperature-wise). Jerry Kaup has been working on the thermostats, which affects the work we are doing with Rutts, and what we want to do as far as moving forward with them and the high school. There is a company coming in the next week or two to inspect the boiler and advise us if it can be patched and give us another five or so years, or does it need to be replaced? After these issues have been corrected, we can begin planning on what we need for space in the schools.

President's report- Andrew reminded us that he, Justin Wardyn, and Paula Peatrowsky are combining their reports into one report. In regard to the formulation of the Strategic Planning Committee, there are some faculty members and community members who want to be a part of it. Andrew is asking for the participation of school board members as well. This committee will be made up of faculty, staff, parents, school board members, and alumni.

Minutes from the November 2024 meeting were reviewed. Leanne made the motion to approve the minutes. Carmen seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed. Tracy made the motion to approve. Allyn seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

New Business- Andrew spoke about the Eusterbrock bequest from Dennis Eusterbrock and Richard Eusterbrock. In total, between the two schools, \$5.4 million is to be used toward tuition assistance. In addition, the amount allocated to the high school is specifically to be used toward tuition and/or college scholarships. Currently, the bequest is in the endowment funds/money markets receiving 4% interest. We need to look at intentional ways to use this gift. Do we raise tuition and offer each student the Eusterbrock scholarship? This enables us to meet the need of raising tuition, without impacting families. We still need to explore the true needs of tuition assistance in our community. Andrew is exploring different avenues to find the tuition needs in our community. Leanne likes the idea of listing it on the invoices as a line item to honor the Eusterbrock brothers' gift. Andrew pointed out that currently the high school tuition is listed as \$3,323, but in fact the tuition is \$3,623. Every student currently receives \$300 from the Livestock Feeders Grant. Currently, it costs \$83,000 for students of staff members to attend our schools. This is not a line item on our budget, but it needs to be accounted for. There is \$32,000 we offer in the second child discount that also needs to be accounted for in the budget. It is possible some of the Eusterbrock grant could fill those gaps.

During the last Capital Campaign meeting there was talk about having an all school-parent meeting for a "state of the school" meeting. There has been no final decision about this.

Leanne requested we move to Executive Session at this time.

The School Board came out of Executive Session. Ben made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Tracy seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tracy Schwer