

Guardian Angels Central Catholic
School Board Meeting Notes
November 20, 2024
6:30 - Rectory

Matt Ridder called the meeting to order.

Fr. Weeder opened the meeting with a prayer.

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

School Administration present: Andrew Bradley, Paula Peatrowsky, Justin Wardyn.

Minutes from the October 2024 meeting were reviewed. Mark made the motion to approve. Carmen seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Booster Club: The 125 Dinner is scheduled for January 19, which is a Sunday. Fr. Weeder would prefer it not be on a Sunday. Last year, this was canceled due to a snow storm. This dinner would be held in the cafeteria. Matt asked if there were any "away" game dates we could have for the dinner. Shea said they would explore a different day. Questions brought up as to who would pay the utilities in the future. Booster Club has paid them in the past. Shot clocks have been delivered and will be installed before basketball season. Shea is going to reach out to the Dinklage Foundation to see if they will help with the cost. Repairs were made to a side basketball hoop that was not lowering correctly. The new scoreboard at the football field was \$1,000. Projection is there will be a shortfall of about \$10k this year. There are some reserves available that can be tapped into. This is a smaller shortfall than in years past. Doing the same activities that have been done in the past, still results in a shortfall. They are actively thinking of new fundraisers such as Pasture Golf which raised \$7,500. JayRun does well. Fine Arts fundraiser does well, but this one is split between different groups.

SPA: Chamber Bucks will open December 2, 2024. Families that want to give to that can get the flyer online.

Capital Campaign: Lisa presented total pledges are \$3.69 million. We have collected \$1.26 million. We have had 242 unique donors not including Alumni responses from the letter. Alumni have sent in \$39,560. Roughly 50 of the t-shirts have been claimed. Sara Bradfield has agreed to mail out the one we need. She is donating her time and cost of the bags. We will be able to take advantage of the reduced mailing cost. There was a radio plug on Spirit Catholic radio. Updating the website with new pictures Lisa received from Justin Wardyn. There will be a reminder put in the bulletin for end of the year donations. As of today, no one has heard from the Lavign grant. Joann verified with the tax attorney that the receipts Tracy has been sending out in the thank you notes is sufficient. Lisa asked everyone please focus on soliciting before the end of the year for an end of year tax incentive. Lisa and Tyson are working together to combine one master list. Next dates for Capital Campaign meetings are: January 8 and 22,

2025, and February 5 and 26, 2025. The Alumni Event in Omaha went well. The cost was roughly \$1,100 and this was all underwritten by alumni.

Facilities: Leanne gave everyone a copy of the minutes from the meetings. The committee has walked through both schools and had numerous meetings about the HVAC in the high school. Tomorrow the group will be walking through the activity center. It is still possible to have the high school done in 2025. Rutts said that if we did the same system as we did in the grade school, the price would be similar, \$450k. Parts have been ordered for the grade school, but we will not have to make any payments until February 2025 when they are delivered. Justin mentioned that Jerry Kaup has been working very hard in the schools and temperature has reached a very comfortable level.

Finance: David mentioned we are looking at a forward looking budget. Andrew mentioned we will have some extra costs to carry forward next year. If we give the faculty a 3% salary increase, we will have a \$200k shortfall. We will need to figure out where those dollars will come from. He also mentioned that a tuition increase is not the best option because even if we increased it 10%, it would only result in an extra \$100k. Finalizing a meeting with the parish finance council and the school finance council to figure out the separating of funds. Currently there are donors who have paid for administration salaries and curriculum updates.

Governance: Mark talked about how board members are elected or re-elected. One is always appointed and others are as a vote. Next election will include a small bio of each candidate. Also allowing non-assessed parents to vote for school board members. More information will be sent out so these parents would make it a point to attend church on this weekend to vote. Working on the structure of the Development committee.

Advancement/Development: Carmen mentioned they had found a program that may work for keeping track and maintaining a donor database. We want to set up targeted events for outlying areas. For example, inviting Howells/Dodge kids to Edge Night. Regarding our Hispanic community, we talked about meeting with some members to see what we can set up. For the St. Paul's community, talking about a Dodgeball night or Cheer Camp.

Presidents Report: Andrew mentioned he would be combining Justin's and Paula's reports into his to give us one consolidated report each month. Andrew mentioned Spirit Catholic radio was at the school. Andrew and Paula met with a lady who helps with the Magis program out of Creighton University. Andrew is going to pursue this opportunity. The Christmas program is scheduled for December 18, and this is the same night as the next school board meeting. Andrew is beginning the evaluation process of the principals. Andrew is also shadowing both Paula and Justin for a day.

New Business:

Discuss/approve contract renewal for GACC President. Mark made the motion to renew Andrew Bradley's contract to be negotiated by Matt Ridder and David Karnopp. Tracy seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discuss/approve allowing youth athletic practice on Sunday. At a recent elementary coaches meeting, it was pointed out that there are parents looking at other facilities because there are 4th graders having practices starting at 8:30 p.m. on a school night. Leanne was asked to bring it up at the next meeting. Fr. Weeder mentioned that it is the Archdiocesan policy there should not be any extracurricular activities before noon on Sunday so all can attend Mass. There was concern for the students whose parents don't allow Sunday activities that those students are bullied or penalized. It was suggested to allow practices between 1 p.m. and 6 p.m., and those who cannot attend should not be held out of any games. It was mentioned that we reiterate to these youth coaches that all these young athletes are given equal playing time as we are developing skills at this level. In the past, a paper was handed out during the coaches meetings with the expectations. Andrew asked if these youth teams are technically connected to the school, as in school-sponsored. It is being run by volunteer parents/coaches. It was suggested the school look into an athletic club with a director so that parents have someone to reach out to if they have concerns/questions.

Mark sent out the Norfolk Catholic matrix for tuition. They utilize the FACTS management software system to help with their tuition. There are questions as to how this would work in a farming community such as ours. It can be reviewed on Norfolk Catholic's website. Justin has been exploring the financial aspect of the FACTS system. He and Andrew are still reviewing this system. Regarding the tiered system as a tuition based program, there needs to be ongoing discussion to process the pros/cons. There were some families who did leave Norfolk Catholic because they did not want to share their tax information and were put at the top tier. There is a large population of our community who also feel our tuition is not high enough. It is important to make our families aware of the full cost to educate each child. If we have a flat-rate tuition, we need to have a very robust scholarship program.

Matt suggested not having the December meeting and resuming in January.

Mark made the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Tracy. All in favor. Motion carried.

Meeting was closed with the Guardian Angels prayer.