

School Commission Meeting

April 6th, 2017

6:00 PM

Present: Christy Tobin-Presser, Mike Curran, Brendan Kolding, Tara Martin, Pat Galvin, Kevin McMahon, Sarah Katsandres, Joellynn DeRonghe, Mary Moan, Amanda Roberts, Ben Gauyan, Anna Horton, Dino Annest, Mary Ann Fessler, Julie Leonardo, Jennifer Kokkonis, Beth Martin, Andrea Geraghty

Absent: Brett Conway, Bill Skibitzke, Terry Burns

Opening Prayer

Principal Horton led the Commission in the opening prayer.

Approval of March Minutes

The March minutes were deemed approved.

Pastor's Report

In Father Oakland's absence, Principal Horton reported that Pope Francis has appointed Msgr. Daniel H. Mueggenborg to be an auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Seattle. Msgr. Mueggenborg replaces Bishop Tyson, who was appointed Bishop of Yakima in 2011. The episcopal ordination Mass will be celebrated on May 31st at St. James.

Principal's Report

Principal Horton reported that 5th-8th graders will be taking the ACRE exam (religious education) after spring break. This is the first year that HRS has offered this exam. The school is continuing to review three possible new religion curricula for next year.

Principal Horton has selected three families for each Commission member to interview, and will distribute their contact information electronically.

The accreditation team's site visit has concluded. HRS was deemed "effective" in each of the self-identified areas for growth (which is typical,) and "highly effective" (the highest ranking) in each other area of review. Principal Horton expects to receive a full, six-year accreditation, after which the school will focus on achieving its stated goals for growth.

Development Report

Beth Martin reported that a total of \$151,300 has been donated/pledged to the Annual Fund, of which \$40,000 remains outstanding. This is \$50,000 behind where the Annual Fund was last year. So far, 63% of families have donated or pledged to the Annual Fund.

So far, the auction appears to have grossed \$275,000. (This does not yet include corporate matching.) Expenses will be \$25,000 - \$35,000. The net will be at least \$25,000 above last year. HRS is looking for a new venue for the 2018 auction, as the Rainier Golf & Country Club does not have room to accommodate a larger crowd.

Enrollment/Marketing Report

Jennifer Kokkonis informed the Commission that families are continuing to tour the school. There are currently 8 openings in pre-K for next year and 4 in the new two-year-old's class. There will be a preschool open house, date TBD.

Financial Report

Tara Martin presented key points with respect to the budget.

Parents' Club Report

Joellynn DeRonghe reported that the final Parent's Club meeting of the school year will be on Thursday, May 11th. This meeting will be a celebration of the past year, and will feature the presentation of the 8th grade service award.

Dino Anest will be the 2017-2018 president. Parent's Club is actively searching for its next vice-president.

Update on Progress of Committee Goals

Committee updates were distributed via e-mail prior to the meeting. Key points:

- The marketing video is currently being edited.
- Sarah Katsandres will meet with Jon Barker to discuss a possible switch to MailChimp for the eFC.
- The blood drive on May 22nd will need 50 donors to meet the Red Cross' goal of 38 pints.
- The Facilities & Maintenance Committee has reviewed the design plans for the new fire alarm system and provided input. The committee feels that the gym should be upgraded along with the rest of the school.
- Northwest Playground Equipment's bid has been accepted for the new bark and small playground equipment.

Mike Curran presented on the Hours Committee's latest work and the Commission discussed various issues including whether 50 required hours is the most effective amount or whether it should be reduced; whether a paid subscription to Sign-Up Genius is worthwhile or whether a different program would be equally or more effective; whether there are too many hours opportunities, thus diluting contribution to events that are critical for School fundraising; whether there should be a slightly lesser hours requirement for incoming kindergarten families; and the value of including Parish service hours in the program. Mike will propose a framework for next year's committee at the May School Commission meeting.

Nominations

Kevin McMahon and Mike Curran moved to approve all five candidates who have applied to join the Commission. Sarah Katsandres seconded, and the Commission unanimously approved. Jackie Bryan, Kamila Kennedy, Karin Hansen, Charise Addicks and Molly Ward will assume seats on the Commission in the 2017-2018 school year.

Christy Tobin-Presser nominated Brendan Kolding to serve as the 2017-2018 vice-president. The Commission unanimously approved. Julie Leonardo volunteered to serve as the 2017-2018 secretary. The Commission unanimously approved.

Topics for Discussion

Christy Tobin-Presser informed the Commission that Jodie Underwood has resigned.

Mike Curran reported that he and Ally Aldrey would like to get the scrip program started in mid-October, right before the holiday season. The plan is to start small, only offering scrip from a few popular vendors. The school would either have to front money to purchase cards to sell or people could pre-pay. Dino Anest suggested having a presentation on scrip at a fall Parent's Club meeting.

The Commission discussed the ongoing issue of traffic congestion at drop-off.

Sarah Katsandres raised the possibility of students eating lunch in the School Hall which Principal Horton explained would be logistically difficult due to School Hall usage.

Principal Horton advised that the school is still working to finalize a few dates, including the auction, prior to the release of next year's calendar.

Closing Prayer

Amanda Roberts led the Commission in the closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned.

