

St. Lawrence School Advisory Board Minutes  
September 19, 2023

Present: Brenda Anderson, Ted Hendricks, Kelly Peters, Emily Bjordahl, Steve Hoffman, Father Bryan Eckrich and Barry Whipkey  
Absent: Jackie Loeschke

The opening prayer was recited and meeting was called to order by Ted Hendricks.

There was a motion to approve the minutes from April 2023 by Kelly Peters and seconded by Steve.

Election of officers was conducted and the new officers are as follows:  
President- Ted Hendricks, Vice President- Barry Whipkey, Secretary- Kelly Peters

Principal's Report:

Current counts for each class is as follows:

Pre-33, K- 19, 1<sup>st</sup>- 11, 2<sup>nd</sup>- 18, 3<sup>rd</sup>- 11, 4<sup>th</sup>- 12, 5<sup>th</sup>- 14, 6<sup>th</sup>- 6. Total students K-6 is 91 and total Pre-6 is 124. We are up 4 students from the end of last year.

New staff members for this year are Brittany Bray for Preschool and Jessel Stengel for OST. Mrs. Anderson and Ms. Johnson have resumed the lead teacher role for OST.

There have been multiple scholarships offered and utilized for the 2023-2024 school year. The Kremer scholarship totaling \$10,000 was split among 12 students. The Knights of Columbus scholarship was awarded to four students (two students from two separate families). The Presentation Sisters awarded \$750 to one student. The SDPE approved 8 scholarships for a total of \$12,900 and 3 students are on the TBD list.

The theme for the school year is "Trust God".

Student Council Report

Meetings will be held 1-2 times per month. Focus for the year is completion of service projects. The student council store has started and will be held every other week after mass on Fridays. Materials for the Gaga Pit have been purchased and insurance and Father have approved the details. Fr. Bryan will have announcement placed in the bulletin.

LIFE Group Report:

The Dinner Theater will be held on November 17-18 and will have a costume/disguise theme. Discussion was held on how to revitalize the LIFE group and recommendation was made for current members to bring one new individual to next meeting.

Old Business:

There was no old business to report.

New Business:

The future of 6<sup>th</sup> grade was discussed as Mrs. Rausch has announced her retirement at the end of this school year.

The preschool format was discussed. Currently, there are two groups of 3-year-old preschool on Th/Th and two groups of 4-year-old preschool on M/W/F. Due to difficulty with deciding morning versus afternoon enrollment, it has been proposed to have one larger class of both 3- and 4-year-old with a para-assistant for four days a week. Further discussion will be held regarding scheduling.

Father Bryan reviewed the Set Ablaze expectations. The school reps will be Sara Whipkey and Brenda Anderson. Planning will begin in October with town hall meetings being held in November.

Future school advisory board meeting dates for this year are as follows: November 14, January 9, March 12, and April 9.

The next meeting is set for November 14 at 6 pm.

The closing prayer was said and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kelly Peters