



ST. LAWRENCE ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES from March 8, 2021

Present: Brenda Anderson, Fr. Gary DeRouchey, Chirs Kelly, Rondi Scoular, Dena Van Lith, Susie Wendland, and Scott Wiese.

Absent: Ted Hendricks.

An opening prayer was read. There were no minutes to approve or review.

Principals Report: The 2021-2022 school calendar has been set up and was handed out for review.

Proposed enrollment for 2021-2022:

19 of 20 packets for M/W/F preschool have been returned.

15 or 16 packets for Tu/Thur preschool have been returned.

17 of 19 packets for Kindergarten have been returned.

Catholic Schools Raffle was completed and we exceeded our goal of \$13,000 and achieved \$15,615. We had lowered our goal by \$2000 because just weren't sure how COVID would affect the fundraising efforts. Top sellers were Riley Krause, Aiden Kelly, Keaton Johnson, Mick Loeschke, and Andrew and Isabella Karels. The top selling grade was 2nd grade and received a pizza party for their achievement.

Smarter Balance Testing for 3rd-6th grade dates have been set and are posted on the school home page. The science exemption was denied so we will have to complete the science testing as well. South Dakota is looking at new science methods for the future.

The Gala is set for April 30 at the Big Stone Legion. The theme is the Kentucky Derby and the committee is busy working on donations. Shady Beach will still cater the event at the new location.

The Mystery Dinner Theater dates have been set for October 8 and 9 and they will use the same script that was prepared for last year.

Student Council Report: Student council is working on planning a food drive for Easter as the food pantry had asked them to delay Thanksgiving food drive until Easter as they were not in need of items at that time. Due to COVID there was no formal Student Council this year but hopefully will resume for the 2021-2022 school year.

Old Business: South Dakota partners in education scholarship applications are now available. We are waiting on approval from Governor Noem for the change to availability and student at any level away from 1st or 2nd and 3rd year scholarships. The 3rd application is correlated with the 6th year of school. We currently have 8 students utilizing the scholarship. There is a \$40 application fee that can be reimbursed by the LIFE group.

New Business: EANS - Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools is a federal funded program that is given to states and then the states must disperse them as they wish. South Dakota has applied and is waiting for approval. If South Dakota is accepted then Fr. Gary would have to complete the application from the State for St. Lawrence School. There is no specifics as to having to keep records of spending for a determined amount of time. They do wish that schools that are awarded the funds to spend them as quickly as possible. If St. Lawrence were to receive them the current plan would be to purchase more/updated Chromebooks.

The Budget for the 2021-2022 school year was reviewed.

Fr. Gary did present a Diocesan Tuition Comparison for other Catholic schools in South Dakota and St. Lawrence was one of the lowest priced schools in the state and we are able to maintain that due to the fundraising efforts and the endowment.

The board did enter into an executive session.

Next meeting is Monday, May 10 at 6:15 pm.

A prayer was recited and the meeting was adjourned.

Rondi Scoular
Respectfully submitted:

**All school council meeting dates are published in the bulletin and listed on the parish website.*