

CPOP Advisory School Board Minutes
August 9, 2021

Mission Statement: The mission of Christ, Prince of Peace Catholic Elementary School is to educate and nurture the whole child - body, mind and spirit - in a Christ-centered, loving environment.

Attendance: Fr. Chris, Cindy Fitcher, Kelly Sullentrop, Jane, Eschmann, Krista Baucon, Jerry Heet, Julia Lembeck, Holly Lauter, Nicole Vihige, Eric Hannah, Nicole Rogels.

Meeting called to order by Kelly at 7:03 Opening Prayer: Fr. Chris

New Board Members Jerry Heet, Holly Lauter, and Julie Lembeck were introduced.

Minutes from the June meeting were reviewed and approved. Nicole Rogels moved to approve and Nicole Vehige seconded.

Kelly Suellentrop reviewed What it's like to be a Catholic School Board Member and the Ten Commandments of the Board/Principal Relationship.

Principal's Report: Cindy Fichter

Mrs. Fichter led the Board on a tour of the school to show all the new things happening at CPOP. The Cafeteria was painted this summer, and new screens were purchased with EANS (Emergency Allocation to Non-Public Schools).

CPOP has a new prayer room/chapel on the first floor. Mrs. Underwood is no longer in her small room. She is now in a classroom in the middle school hallway. The Youth Ministry room is now Mrs. Benoist's classroom. In the primary hallway, last year's second ELC-4 room is now back to the reading room. Last year's reading room is now used for Speech Pathologists who come to work with CPOP kids. Upstairs, the old prayer room is now the new Spanish Room. The STEM room received new tables as well that are more conducive to projects.

Outside of the school building, the Christ, Prince of Peace sign was painted white and the Virtue Rock Garden is moving to the water garden outside the gym. We have 8 new picnic tables and hammocks on the hill for outdoor learning classrooms. More Ipads and smartboards are being purchased as well and a mobile smartboard to be used with the new outdoor classroom..

There are currently 224 kids in school ELC-8th. We are up from last year's number, which was 207.

BACK TO SCHOOL:

A letter to parents will be sent soon. We want to come back to school as safely as possible. Mrs. Fichter, Fr. Chris, and the COVID Task Force from last year propose that we start the school year off in masks, and eventually move away from wearing masks once the data and

case trends support that. The children would not have to wear masks outside, during lunch or during PE class. Lunch will be handled the same way as last year.

School board discussed mask wearing at school.

The question was asked if we are asking for vaccination cards from people? CPOP is allowed to ask about vaccination status, but we will not keep cards on file at this time.

All but four adults in the school building are vaccinated.

The students are going to be moving throughout the school building this year more than last year. Instead of having special teachers coming to the classroom the children will go to the teachers room. There is more positive than negative this year!

The plan is to see where Covid numbers are after Labor Day and review mask policies. Our goal is to not be in them all year.

Virtual Learning protocols were discussed.

Parents will no longer have to fill out the Google health form in the morning, however they will need to monitor if their children have any symptoms.

Board members shared what they had been hearing about parents' opinions on masks. People are hearing both sides.

Parents will have the opportunity to ask questions about mask policies at Back-to-School night, which will be held in the church on August 12 at 6:30. Masks are optional for vaccinated individuals and required for unvaccinated.

The board voted and decided to start the year wearing masks. The hope is to go to a hybrid setting eventually as the year continues. This would involve wearing masks when in shared spaces, but masks would be optional in homeroom classrooms.

The Board was asked their opinion on whether Curriculum Night should be in-person or virtual. The consensus was to defer to what the teachers preferred. The plan is to bring back parent/teacher/students conferences in-person.

School handbook update:

Logo shirts are optional for this school year. Middle school parents need to purchase chrome books for their children, unless otherwise grandfathered in with rentals from last year. Parents can drop off birthday lunch for their student but cannot stay. All 8th graders will be taking Algebra this year. There is no longer a pre-Algebra option.

Pastor's Report: Fr. Chris

CPOP's 50th Anniversary is coming up. Invite to follow. New upgrades around the property, including new floors in the rectory. Fr. Doyle just turned 82. Deacon Greg has a new position.

Building is getting ready. Excited to welcome students back. Pray for the end of COVID!

PTO Report: (Sent by Lisa Perez - not in attendance)

Ice cream on playground tomorrow night for ELC-Kindergarten

August 16 - Ballwin Sno Cone fundraiser night

Plan to have a PTO signup table at GIDD

Thinking of having a 50th Anniversary event geared towards kids, possibly in November

September 9th is the first PTO meeting.

Finance Report: Eric Hannah

Enrollment increase had led to better than projected income from tuition.

There has been an increase in janitorial expenses. Overall we are in good shape.

Development Report: Nicole Vehige

No Report

Marketing Report: Nicole Rogels

There are new spirit cart items. Erin O'Keefe will start an online order system soon.

Tears and Cheers is coming back for new families.

Yard flocking with gators has been brought up as a way of fundraising and marketing. There was discussion about who gets the money and who would take charge of organizing and running it.

President's Report: Kelly Suellentrop

New board members (Jerry, Holly, and Julie) will need to attend the Archdiocese's Orientation. Registration will be communicated once it is received.

Board members were reminded of their duties and obligations. They were also encouraged to attend Back-to-School Night so they can be introduced to the community.

New member committee placements: Jerry Heet will work with Eric Hanna on Finance, Holly Lauter will work with Nicole Vehige with Development, and Julia Lembeck will work with Nicole Rogels on Marketing

Emily Genoveses handed out teacher thank you cards and assignments to Board members.

Buzz Report: Everyone

Mrs. Fichter encourages everyone to let school know about family travel plans so that COVID protocols can be adequately handled.

PSR is back in the building and students will wear masks.

Mrs. Fichter is In contact with the different after school activities to discuss options for this year.

The question was posed about what Get It Done Day will look like. Mrs. Fichter explained it will run the same way as last year.

The meeting adjourned at 8:59 pm.

The next meeting will be September 13 at 7:00pm.

Notes submitted by: Emily Genovese