

CPOP Advisory School Board Minutes
November 8, 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: Kelly Suellentup, Jerry Heet, Julia Lembeck, Cindy Fichter, Lisa Perez, Nicole Vehige, Nicole Rogles, Eric Hannah , Fr. Chris Dunlap, Krista Baucum, Holly Lauter, Emily Genovese

Meeting was called to order by Kelly Suellentrop at 7:05

Opening Prayer- Fr. Chris

The October Meeting Minutes were reviewed and approved. Nicole Rogels moved to approve and Julia Lembeck seconded.

Kelly began the meeting with a statement about positively contributing to the climate of the CPOP community. This does not mean always being happy or never having concerns or issues, but the way in which we respectfully address them is important. As Board members, it is our duty to serve as an example of this, whether in a Board meeting, in the parking lot, on the soccer sidelines, or at parent parties.

Principal's Report (Mrs. Fichter)

The administration will be sending out Check-In Surveys for parents. The Board reviewed and offered suggestions for questions to include, settling on a mix of scalable and open-ended responses. Results will be collected and shared with the community and will be used to identify any trends in issues or attitudes and help inform decisions.

As there have been instances of expressed dissatisfaction and concern about a few varying issues (COVID, parent/teacher relations, curricular questions), these surveys will help us gauge to what degree these issues affect our community at large, as well as how to help address individual concerns.

One of our goals is to continuously review our CPOP Handbook and make necessary updates. One section that needs an overhaul concerns threats of violence that occur in our school community. It needs to be reorganized with protocols more clearly defined, especially concerning real threats versus those made as juvenile jokes, which are both prohibited under

our school's zero tolerance policy. A more lengthy review of the violence policies will occur during our School Improvement Process (SIP). But Mrs. Fichter moved that we amend and include edits to the following "Violence" section on page 24 of the handbook:

"All reported or observed instances of threatened or actual violence, including those intended as jokes or without serious intention, will be addressed by the school administration. Appropriate disciplinary actions may include parent conference, counseling, suspension, withdrawal for cause, and legal actions depending on the severity of the incident."

The Board voted on the amendment and it passed unanimously.

Vaccine and Mask Update: Currently, there is not much change in the situation nor in recommendations, so there is no change in our school policy. We will continue wearing masks for the time being. The Task Force will be meeting with Dr. Kristy Hagget in the coming weeks to review what the different possibilities are moving forward.

The question was asked if we would go virtual after Thanksgiving and Christmas break. Mrs. Fichter stated, "as of now, no."

SIP (School Improvement Process) Update - The teachers are currently working on their goals and assessments. Once that is finished, the individual committees will begin meeting.

Pastor's Report (Fr. Chris)

50th Anniversary celebration is still in full swing. Joe Ferris is coming to speak on December 6 and 7 for the Parish Mission. The "Advent on Tap" event for men is on December 4th. The "Advent by Candlelight" event for women is on December 5th. A reminder that December 8 is a Holy Day of Obligation. We will have an all school mass on this day. Chuck Neff will be coming to speak in February.

Fr. Chris continues to be concerned over low mass attendance, but is seeing improvement. He challenges all of us to question, "Where does God fit in my life?" The mass counts for October were decent. For comparison, October 2019 had 1000 people at mass, October 2020 had 300, and October 2021 had 700. We continue to live stream mass and receive about 100 views on average.

The parish annual report will be coming out soon.

Looking ahead at campus updates, we would still like to renovate the big playground, as well as the bleachers in the gym. It still remains to be seen exactly how the Archdiocese \$25,000 project cap will impact these things.

PTO Report (Lisa Perez)

The next PTO meeting is this Thursday, December 11. This one is going to be more of a social gathering.

The RF Home Co fundraiser night will be the first week of December.

We will be running a Waterway fundraiser for a few weeks in December.

Happy Birthday Jesus is being headed up by Mrs. Petry and Mrs. Jones this year. Masks will be required for everyone entering the building.

We are looking into possibly having a family night at The Main Event in Chesterfield, possibly over Christmas Break.

The Chick-fil-a fundraiser raised \$300. We will likely do another in the Spring on a day where there is a noon teacher faculty meeting so we can get their lunch catered from there to take advantage of the fundraiser. We are also thinking of selling Culver's ice cream at lunch. Families would order ahead of time

Financial Report (Eric Hannah)

Overall, everything looks good. Tuition revenue is up. Salary expenditures are good.

Other expenditures: all the batteries were replaced in the fire detectors, the cafeteria received a new coat of paint, the elevator was inspected.

We are still waiting on our EANS reimbursement money. It is a very slow process, but we are in good financial shape even without it.

Development Report (Nicole Vehige)

No report at this time.

Marketing Report (Nicole Rogles)

Thanks to Mrs. Fichter and Sarah Nodine for getting the "You've Been Chomped" campaign off the ground. People seem to be having fun with it. If chomped, the gators stay in a family's yard for three days.

The Spirit Merch website is up and running.

We are still waiting to update the marketing video until the kids are no longer in masks.

President's Report (Kelly Suellentrop)

Along with Krista Baucom, we discussed ways to help highlight the positives in our community. We came up with a gratitude challenge. In the weeks leading up to Thanksgiving, we will ask our families to send notes of thanks to their teachers, to other CPOP parents, and also to their children.

The December Meeting will be our Holiday Social at Kelly's house. The date will be moved from December 6th to December 13th due to scheduling conflicts. It will begin at 6pm.

Prayers were requested for Jane Eschmann and her family for the loss of her niece.

Open Forum - What's the Buzz? (Round Table)

The question was asked about why some specials teachers are only part-time and if full-time would be a possibility, specifically for more Spanish instruction. The answer was that not only do we currently share our Spanish teacher with another school, our curriculum does not really allow space for more Spanish instruction. If there are parents interested in more advanced instruction, we could look at offering after-school tutoring options.

There was a concern as to why kids weren't doing reading at mass. It is just K and 1st, who are emerging readers, who do not do readings. Mass readings are sacred scripture, proclaimed as the word of God. It is important to first teach them about the word of God.

A parent asked about the ability to set up a flu vaccine clinic on campus. It was agreed that given the large number of locations where flu shots are already readily available and that many students receive them through their pediatrician offices, it would not be something we would undertake at this time.

Clarification was asked about whether school board meetings are open to the public? The State of the School meeting in February is open to everyone. Overall, those meetings have historically drawn very small numbers. As far as monthly meetings go, the regular agenda items are closed to the public in order to protect confidentiality in the event topics sensitive to individuals need to be discussed. However, any parent wishing to address the board at a meeting may contact the

President prior to the meeting date to arrange for a period of open forum. In addition, Mrs. Fichter and Fr. Chris are always available to meet and speak with families.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:54pm.

Next Board Meeting: Monday, December 13th @ Kelly's House

Notes submitted by Emily Genovese