



Norwalk Catholic School Governing Board Meeting Minutes November 19, 2014

Present: Dennis Doughty, Jay Anderson, Andrew Shella, Jen Naseman, Pat Schwan, Frank Van Dresser, Msgr. Morman, Rachel Cefalu, Andrew Welfle, Julie Roberts and Denny Camp

Absent: John Evans, Fr. Recker and Sue Riley

Guest: Mike McLaughlin, Tom Kueterman, David Kidd, and Fr. Nathan Bockrath

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Chair, Pat Schwan

1. Opening Prayer – Rachel Cefalu

2. Dennis Doughty shared that Valerie French had been to Washington, D.C., to receive the 2014 National Blue Ribbon Award of Excellence.

3. Minutes – the October 15, 2014, Frank VanDresser moved to accept the minutes, Andrew Shella seconded motion, motion passed.

4. Financial Report – Mike McLaughlin reviewed the October YTD report.

5. Public Participation – David Kidd is grateful to gain the experience of being in a church and school setting. He realizes he is getting to see the whole picture which will be a tremendous asset to him when he is ordained.

6. Fr. Bockrath reviewed his Chaplain Update handout which included the new activities he has implemented this year and the continuation of the activities from the previous year for our students. David Kidd arranged a vocation presentation for our boys and girls.

7. Tom Kueterman reported on the State of STEM and the progress he has made with the Rocket Club. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students who are interested in science, math, and engineering.

8. Chris Knight, diocesan superintendent, postponed his visit due to bad weather. We look forward to his visit in the near future.

9. President's Report – The President's Breakfasts are going well. Dennis Doughty acknowledges our schools challenges and celebrates our successes. Bishop Thomas will be visiting NCS on March 25, 2015, to celebrate our annual regional mass with our sister schools. The Bishop will speak with our senior class in the afternoon. We discussed the ODE and Catholic Conference in regards to testing requirements. According

Norwalk Catholic School Mission

Develop Disciples of Christ
Academic Excellence
Foster a Respectful
Community

Governing Board Members

Pat Schwan, Chair

Frank VanDresser, Jr.
Vice Chair

Msgr. Kenneth Morman

Rev. Anthony Recker

Jay Anderson

Rachel Cefalu

John Evans

Jenifer Naseman

Julie Roberts

Andrew Shella

Andrew Welfle

Denny Camp, Ex-Officio

Sue Riley, Ex-Officio

Dennis Doughty,

President

to the diocese, we don't need to do testing at this time. Dennis Doughty, on the other hand, feels strongly the freshmen do need to do the testing at the risk of being behind in the future. Dennis Doughty will be reaching out to Chris Knight. Dennis Doughty would like to freeze or curb tuition for at least one year. Based upon review of recent past years; a tuition increase subsequently resulted in a enrollment decrease. He will work on a three to five year plan to review with Board so we can get an idea of what income and expenses will look like.

10. Chair Report – Pat Schwan thanked the board for their fellowship after masses and at the Pancake Breakfast. Pat Schwan was pleased with the pancake breakfast at both the St. Mary and St. Paul parishes. We plan to host fellowship after masses at St. Mary and St. Anthony. Pat Schwan is ecstatic to hear about all of the excellence that is happening academically and in extracurricular activities in our school. He congratulates the students for their dedication, commitment, and efforts. At this Thanksgiving time he is thankful for this board. He is working on a retreat with Ally Sterling after the first of the year, on a Wednesday in lieu of a Board meeting from 5 p.m. – 9 p.m.
11. St. Paul Parish report – Msgr. Morman invited the board to attend the Guadalupe celebration on December 7th. There will be a penance service for the students in elementary through high school on December 11th. The parish is looking into building a vestibule or portico on the west side of the church. They have a rendering of the proposed structure. If the parish decides to move forward with the project, they must also get approval from the diocese, the City of Norwalk and the State of Ohio.
12. St. Mary Parish report – In Fr. Recker's absence, Msgr. Morman reported that the board was thankful for Sue Lesch for assisting them with their capital campaign. They plan to begin renovations after Christmas and hopes to be back in the church for Easter. The steeple is up! The St. Mary Dinner Theater was a great success.
13. Standing Committee Reports –
 - a. Executive Committee is pleased with the initiative the board members have taken with their committees.
 - b. Catholic Identity/Parish Public Outreach – Bishop Thomas' visit will impress into the students our Catholic Identity. Dennis Doughty is stressing Catholic Identity with our staff. There will be an hour long program for teachers discussing "becoming holier" and this will help teachers include Catholic identity in their subjects.
 - c. Development & Marketing – Julie Roberts has been involved with the Endowment Board for 15 years. The board contributes money back to the school. Julie attended a Friends for the Future meeting and brought materials that have been developed for this year's campaign, including the current Return on Investment, and materials for prospective families.
 - d. Technology – Andrew Shella is happy with the Rocket Club and STEM being introduced at NCS. He suggested that we look at the engineering lab at St. Ignatius and maybe have a STEM related camp at our school. Work is continuing on our server. The tech committee will be meeting to work on an expansive technology plan.
 - e. Curriculum/Staffing/Academics – No updates to report.
 - f. Finance – Mike McLaughlin gave the finance report.

- g. Facilities – This committee met last month. Topics they discussed were replacing windows, sealing masonry on buildings and buses. This is an active committee that uses restricted funds for many of the maintenance projects.
- h. Retention/Enrollment – Rachel Cefalu reported that Sue Lesch is working on a welcoming protocol which includes partnering new families with established families. She is also working on an exiting student protocol and a plan to market the Blue Ribbon.
- i. Vision/Nominating – John Evans and Pat Schwan will be working together to update the vision and actively recruit for the next board position opening.

14. Executive Session –

- 15. Dennis Doughty shared with the board that Barb Schnellinger would like to retire effective December 19, 2014. Msgr. Morman motioned to accept Mrs. Schnellinger's retirement, effective December 19, 2014, Andrew Shella seconded the motion, motion passed. The Governing Board would like to thank Mrs. Schnellinger for her years of dedicated service and commitment to Norwalk Catholic School. She will be missed.
- 16. Dennis Doughty recommended we hire Steve Reer as a full-time maintenance person effective December 1, 2014. Frank VanDresser motioned to approve the recommendation, Msgr. Morman seconded, motion passed.
- 17. Additional/New Business – The Parochial School Trust will continue to support the Norwalk Catholic School financially.

Next meeting is December 17, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Paul High School Library, Mr. Tokarsky will be the presenter. John Evans will have the prayer.

Respectfully submitted by
Anne Harbert