



School Advisory Council

March 10, 2021

Attendees: Ms. McKenna Anderson, Ms. Liz Wilson, Ms. Robin Schneider, Ms. Ashley Edwards, Mr. John Gormley, Mr. Travis Flanigan, Ms. Sandy Shook, Ms. Sheila Whalen, Ms. Julie Malone, Ms. Jen Sweere, Ms. Kristen Calvani

1. Call to order
2. Opening prayer
3. Review of minutes from February
 - a. Ms. Wilson made motion to accept
 - b. Ms. Shook seconded
 - c. Group approved
4. Principal update
 - a. Current pre-enrollment numbers examined
 - i. At what point do grades split into two classes? Do they just need an aide to do instructional time when classes are above 22 students?
 1. Each class would need a minimum of 15 students to pay for the teacher.
 2. What about when there are 23-30 students per class? Too few for another teacher, but perhaps too large for the existing teacher and maintaining small class sizes.
 3. If adding classes, need to find a work-around to make room in the current building. Room 103 could be made available as an additional classroom.
 4. Art class is supposed to move back to room 209 next year.
 - ii. Getting stuck when trying to plan needs for next year. How do we know when there is interest in having two classes for a particular grade?
 1. Maybe start with younger grades since most grades have attrition by middle school.
 2. If we make a second class, need to recruit specifically.
 3. Year-on-year growth has flattened mostly due to middle school attrition.

- iii. New families that are interested have already enrolled; none still waiting at present. May or June may see an increased interest due to military, unless transfers are delayed.
 - iv. Discouraged from taking 8th graders per Holly Goodwin unless they have been at a Catholic School previously or part of a family group.
- b. Long-term enrollment plan
- i. For this next year, perhaps we just let the demand for enrollment determine capacity to drive growth. See where it comes from and then establish a plan for kindergarten expansion next year.
 - ii. If lower grades expand into two classes, eventually that will lead to a need for a facility expansion. Currently have 2-3 classrooms that could be expanded into.
 - iii. May need to get more involvement from preschool parents to increase retention from pre-K to kindergarten or match older grade families to preschool families.
 - 1. Need subgroups to tackle different aspects. *Explore at next meeting.*
 - a. Growth. Can growth be justified?
 - b. Marketing approaches. Demographics and population statistics needed (Travis to look at D38 stats).
 - c. End goal for growth and size. Maybe 6th grade is the end of 2 classes per grade. What does that look like?
- c. No COVID restrictions released yet for next year to determine if classes can be combined, etc.
- i. Some families will expect the school to follow county guidelines to the letter.
 - ii. Increased vaccinations should help with decreased quarantining.
 - iii. Hopefully soon we don't have to report to El Paso County Health Department for positive COVID cases.
5. School growth strategy (see above "Long-term enrollment plan")
6. Other topics - Change meeting date to 1st Wednesday from 2nd Wednesday
7. Closing prayer

Next meeting: April 7th at 5:30 pm

St. Peter Catholic School, following the example of Jesus Christ, challenges all students to:

Grow in their Catholic faith Achieve academic excellence Demonstrate compassion for others Exercise personal integrity