



School Advisory Council (SAC) - St. Peter Catholic School

January 18, 2023

5:00 - 6:15 p.m.

**Location:**

Virtual Only (inclement weather)

**Agenda:**

1. Call to order (Mr. Gormley)
2. Opening Prayer (Mrs. Brook)
3. Approval of Minutes (Mrs. Kosiarek)
  - a. Mrs. Thompson moved to approve the minutes from the 127/2022, 12/15/2022 and 1/5/2023. Mr. Hammons seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.
4. Principal's Update (Mrs. Brook)
  - a. Registration is open. There have been no major issues; all is going smoothly. So far there are no complaints on the tuition increase.
  - b. Catholic Schools Week (beginning 1/29) preparations are underway. The week is a movie theme. Bishop Golka will celebrate a SPCS Mass on 2/1/2023. There will be no diocesan-wide school Catholic Schools Week Mass at the decision of the Bishop. There will also be Tuesday Mass and First Friday Mass that week for the students. See the *Crusader* for details of daily events and for signups to assist with the Mass and Open House.
  - c. Gala (2/10) preparations are also underway.

*Vision Statement*

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- d. Middle School Dance (1/13) was a great success. Another one may be planned later in the year.
  - e. On Tuesday 1/17 there were police cars outside the school. There was no threat to the school at any time.
5. 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning (Mrs. Dover)
- a. September 16, 2023 will be the event date. A carnival for the kids will be from 1-4 p.m. with an adult event and beer garden from 6-9 p.m. Food trucks will be present. A band or disc jockey may be hired.
  - b. Bishop Golka and Monsignor Bob will attend. Other local dignitaries will be invited.
  - c. Next planning meeting is 2/27 with more frequent meetings thereafter.
6. SAC Science Fair Meeting (Mrs. Brook / Mrs. Kosiarek)
- a. A subgroup of the SAC met with the 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grade science teachers and Ellen Nelson (Science Fair Coordinator) on 1/9 to discuss parent concerns about the Science Fair. The discussion included brainstorming around frequency of Fair participation, collaboration across subjects (e.g., Language Arts for research paper, speech for presentation, art for poster board), potential for a Fair that incorporates more than just science and many other ideas. The teachers will consider the suggestions and ideas and, if appropriate, make changes for the 2023-24 school year.
7. Volunteer Requirements (Mrs. Brook / All)
- a. Families are required to volunteer 15 hours (preschool) or 30 hours (K-8) per school year. Approximately 10% of families do most of the volunteer work, but they get burned out.
  - b. In the 2023-24 registration, there is a required explicit written affirmation that the families understand and will commit to the volunteer requirements.
  - c. Brainstorming around encouraging more participation. Many ideas presented to Mrs. Brook.
    - i. Find more ways for people to volunteer with their kids. Make it more personal than Signup Genius. Give more appreciation to volunteers. Write personal notes. Remind parents of their call as Christians to help out. Give more upfront clarity on what the events and what skills are

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needed and the tasks involved. Make available more prescriptive info (more than word of mouth) for running events. Consider asking families who are less involved why they do not get more involved. Create additional strong community ties to the school (e.g., Moms' Night Out, park outings). Present the opportunities more frequently and/or differently than just at the start of school year survey. Consider a volunteer committee. Create incentive rewards for students (by class) if the parents meet the volunteer requirements.

- ii. Other schools charge fees that can be given back when volunteer hours are fulfilled and/or allow parents to buy out of their hours.
- iii. We need to be mindful of people's personal circumstances and finances. Some families may need an exemption.

- 8. Vacant Officer Position (Mr. Gormley)
  - a. Mr. Hammons volunteered to be the Vice Chair.
- 9. Thank you (Mr. Gormley and Mrs. Brook)
  - a. A special THANK YOU to all SAC Member for their time and commitment!
- 10. Closing Prayer (Mr. Gormley)

### **Attendees**

Debbie Brook, Principal  
Alicia Thompson  
Blake Helgoth  
Debbie Dover  
Jenni Helgoth  
John Gormley, Chair

Karen Kosiarek, Secretary  
Maxine Biggs  
McKenna Anderson  
Stew Hammons, Vice Chair  
Tatiana O'Hanlon  
Tess Bussa

### **Next meeting:**

February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 5:00 p.m. in the Lecture Hall

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