

**St. Thomas More Catholic School Commission
January 2019 General Meeting Minutes**

Date, Time, and Location: Thursday, January 10, 2019, at 7:00 P.M. in the teachers' lounge

Meeting called to order by President Bob Brown at 7:07 P.M.

Attendance: President Bob Brown, Vice-President Kevin Foley, Secretary Pam Michel, Treasurer Mary Aydt, Michael Mesina, Humberto Perez, and Principal Sonja Keane

Absent: Frank Celarek, Leni Pedres, and Father Richard Rosinski

There were 7 members in attendance; a quorum was reached. No guests in attendance.

Prayer: Prayer was led by President Bob Brown - School Commission recited together.

Welcome: President Bob Brown

Approval of Minutes: Humberto Perez motioned to approve and Treasurer Mary Aydt seconded the motion to approve the December 4, 2018 School Commission Minutes.

Pastor's Report: There was no report given because Father Richard Rosinski was absent

Principal's Report: Given by Principal Sonja Keane

- The Breakfast with Santa was a successful fundraising event for the 8th grade class. The event was on Sunday, December 16, 2018 from 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 noon in the school gym.
- The week before Christmas was busy with Christmas festivities. There was an all school Christmas concert at the church led by Julie Tendy, the school's music teacher, on Tuesday, December 18, 2018. The Preschool and Kindergarten students performed in a Christmas play at 9:00 A.M. on Friday, December 21, 2018. Pictures, that were taken at the play, were sent to the Observer. A band concert was performed for the school children on Tuesday, December 18, 2018 before their night band concert on Friday, December 21, 2018.
- The Student Council sold Christmas grams. Each gram had an attached candy cane.
- The Student Council will sponsor a family sock hop on Fri., Jan. 18, 2019. Each family will donate a pair of socks, as well as, \$1.00/person.
- The Student Council is sponsoring Donuts with Dad on Fri., Jan. 25, 2019 from 7:15 A.M. - 7:45 A.M. in the school gym. Students can invite any male that is important to their lives - father, grandfather, uncle, cousin, neighbor, friend, etc.
- Catholic Schools Week runs from Sun., Jan. 27 - Sat., Feb. 2, 2019. A teachers' committee has been planning for activities during the week. Mrs. Foley, a parent, is chairing the PTO events for the week. Catholic Schools Week will start with the noon Mass on Sun., Jan. 27, 2019. Students will wear their uniforms, sit with their classes,

and will do everything for the Mass - choir and readings. Following the Mass, there will be a School Open House from 1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M. The week will culminate with a Fun Fair on Fri. night, Feb. 1, 2019.

- Our school students will be making invitations to be given to the RE students extending an invite to our School Open House and the Fun Fair. An email will be sent to all the RE families inviting them to Open House and Fun Fair. There will be information on the school's website and on the school's facebook page.

Old Business:

- Humberto Perez had called Elgin Community College to talk to someone who could possibly help us with a project to increase our enrollment. He was given the name of Professor Tim Carr, who is the professor of graphic design and the Communications Dean. Because the college has been on winter break, Humberto will be talking to Prof. Carr about being a partner with us on a project. Vice-President Kevin Foley tried to contact a person from Judson University to help us with this project. Also, because of winter break, Kevin will be contacting a professor. Judson only offers a spring class for seniors on marketing and developing projects. Kevin hopes to have a meeting with the professor to go over logistics. If it can't be accomplished this spring, he could plant a seed for future work with the university.

New Business:

- Once a month, the parish bulletin will feature an ad to invite STM Alumni to sign-up on the school's website. Then the alumni can look on the school's website, facebook page, and be informed of our Open House, etc. They may be available to help the school with many different facets.
- Kristie Alvey, the IT coordinator, created posters that will be distributed during the weekend of January 19 & 20th to neighborhood stores, restaurants, etc. advertising our school's upcoming Open House that will be on Sunday, January 27 from 1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.
- Postcards will be sent to parish families who have children from ages 2-12, who are not presently students at our school, and invite them to our Open House and aware of future tours and registration.
- School Commission members volunteered to either speak at a Mass and/or be at our School table in the Gathering Space after Mass to talk with future parents. The schedule will be as follows:
 - Sat., Jan. 19 - 5:00 Mass Humberto Perez speaks - Mary Ayt @ table
 - Sun., Jan. 20 - 8:00 Mass Frank Celarek speaks - Leni Pedres @ table
 - 10:00 Mass Kevin Foley speaks - Michael Mesina @ table
 - 12:00 noon Mass - Bob Brown speaks - Pam Michel @ table
 - Bob was ill - Matt Wojtas speaks

- Preschool Fair - Principal Keane will attend at Gail Borden Main Library on Tues., Jan. 29 for a couple of hours. We will have a board set up to advertise our preschool.
- School Commission members volunteered to be judges for the upcoming History and Science Fair @ St. Thomas More School. The 7th and 8th grade students will set up their projects on Fri. morning, Feb. 15, 2019. The student body will be able to walk through and look at the projects. That evening, Mrs. Craig, the 8th gr. teacher and in charge of the Fair, will assign judges to listen to specific students and their presentations.
- Mrs. Keane will be presenting the budget proposal for the 2019-2020 school year to the Parish Finance Council on Thurs., Feb. 28.

Topics for Next Meeting:

- Presenting the budget proposal for the 2019-2020 school year.
- Further discussion on marketing strategies to increase our school enrollment.

Adjournment: With no further business to come before the St. Thomas More School Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 P.M. A closing prayer was led by Principal Sonja Keane.

The next meeting of the St. Thomas More School Commission will be held on Thursday, February 7, 2019 at 7:00 P.M. in the teachers' lounge.

Minutes prepared and respectfully submitted,

Pam Michel
Secretary
St. Thomas More School Commission

Humberto Perez moved and Frank Celarek seconded the motion to approve the January 10, 2019 STM School Commission Minutes.

