

IC School Committee Meeting

3/8/16

Members present: Fr. Paul Rutten, Fr. Mike Wensing, Carol Dagele, Angel Oeltjenbruns, Jeff Mollenhoff, Patty Foley, Anne Hanson, Michelle Himmerich and Pete Bauman.

- I. Agenda – approved.
- II. Opening Prayer – Fr. Paul Rutten
- III. Minutes from the last meeting – approved.
- IV. Financial Report
 - a. End of Feb completes 67% of year. Total income 75% of budget. Operating expenses 70% of budget.
 - b. Catholic United Raffle – \$9350 tickets sold this year with. Each year we have to apply and are accepted to participate. We provide the local prizes for top students/family and these expenses come out of ticket sales. The local Knights of Columbus may consider a similar type of a raffle which would have all local winners with cash prizes.
 - c. IC School will be giving out 3 - \$1000 scholarships from the Scholarship Endowment Fund this year.
 - d. Laminator – unexpected expense to replace the burned unit. Costs to be covered by existing donations.
 - e. Budget Meeting – administration completed an initial budget for the 2016-2017 school year. Highlights include:
 - i. Tuition increase for all Preschool to 6th grades. The additional increase covers 40% of anticipated additional expenses.
 - ii. HN & IC parish subsidy reached 3% ceiling
 - iii. Holy Rosary subsidy \$2000 per HR student
 - iv. Salaries -
 1. Certified Teacher positions planned 2.75% increase. Non-Certified positions planned 2.5% increase. This along with FTE bonus gets staff to average of 85% of Watertown Public school salary amounts.
 2. Addition of FT Teaching Assistance position
 3. Health insurance 10% budgeted increase
 - v. Billing software – trying out the ProCare software with new preschool families as another option to SMART Tuition as could be a more cost effective alternative
 - vi. Budget to include expenses to resurface parking lot and/or playground areas. Bids will be received.
 - vii. Gym floor potential replacement. Based on past bids need to account for greater than \$40K to replace tile floor. Current floor is chipping and will need to be replaced within next year or two.
 - viii. Fundraising budget net \$60K this year. Increasing to \$65K next year.
 - ix. Comparison costs per student

2016-17: \$5077

2015-16: \$4819

2014-15: \$4665

V. Principal Report

- a. 2016-2017 school calendar determined with all staff having input. IC calendar based on Watertown Public due to busing service. Public has 8 early out days vs. IC at 2 days. IC exceeds class time requirements. School year will start after Labor Day.
- b. Senate Bill 159 passed today in SD Senate. Local leadership supportive of this legislation by Schoenbeck, Deutsch, & Holien. Waiting for Governor to approve. Bill would require insurance companies to share funds with education. Catholic United is incorporated in MN and their raffle is a way they provide funds back to schools.
- c. Diocesan Policy for the budget process & for guidelines for student handbook provided to all school committee members

VI. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Staff Retention & Development
 - i. Approved minutes from last meeting presented to school committee.
 - ii. Committee met last evening. Team feels obligation to help council/administration with salary discussion. After last council meeting administration met with Watertown resource to help with comparison of our existing resources given their existing education and experience levels. Results notes all over 80%. Subcommittee goal to make recommendations how to get to X%
 - iii. Points to consider – Compare driving range from Watertown for average salary comparison. Florence salary \$9K less than Watertown which is at \$44K. SF salary is less yet Catholic schools in Yanton and Pierre are higher. Inflation lower than the planned salary increase. Looking at salary comparisons across other catholic schools.
 - iv. Who is taking the salary topic on – administration or sub-committee. This is an administration task. Council is not allowed per diocesan policy to share individual salary details.
 - v. Strategic Plan - Suggested stated goal for strategic plan to ensure we maintain % of 'public'. Ensure evaluation of market value of positions. Planned intention of retention is 100% of staff.
 - vi. What if legislative bill 1158 passes and the average salary increases within the public schools? What are we going to do to address? We need to continue to discuss with our staff the opportunities within our school. Those who have taught in both locations have shared IC staff has less forms and documentation to manage and more time to teach. They have ability to pray and share faith.
 - vii. At this point the budget is based on what we know now and will revisit when monies and legislation are more clear
 - viii. Subcommittee has other areas can focus on and enhance and would like to make 2 recommendations: 1) suggest to have a conversation session with

administration, subcommittee, and teachers/staff as open opportunity to let them know what the purpose is of the subcommittee. Intention is to present a positive message. Requested to be yet this school year. Intend to share the bullet points from the survey of what they like about IC school with desire that others may share opening. Suggestion well received. Possible dates include early dismissal day on Apr 22 possible date (buses leave at 12:20) or a at a staff meeting. 2) suggest to include a teacher at each school council meeting to give a report. Subcommittee suggests starting next this with next school year. Suggestion well received.

b. Marketing committee – meeting next Tues

VII. Closing Prayer – Fr. Mike

VIII. Next Meeting April 12 at 6:30