

Redeemer Lutheran Board of Christian Day School Education
5-23-2022

Voting Attendees - Debbie Braley, Jean Blank, Rachel Satterfield

Non-Voting Attendees - Jenny Norman, Crislyn Grubb, Jessica Wittcop, Renee Wade, Suzanne Gardner, Russ Reaver, Karyn McChristal, Lauren Restina, Kristin Reagle

It was decided that, because only 3 out of 5 board members were able to attend, items for approval will not be voted on tonight. Topics will be discussed and presented, but formal voting will occur at a special board meeting where all board members are in attendance.

Debbie opened the meeting in prayer.

Old Business

1. Karyn and middle school teachers and the properties board reviewed the work requirements for moving classrooms. It is doable and will be done internally.
2. Discipline and Attendance Policies have been added to the handbook for approval. The teachers are about $\frac{2}{3}$ of the way through the Handbook revisions.
3. The Admissions Review/Application Approval Signature Form for new admissions was submitted by Jessica Wittcop. It will be reviewed at the special board meeting.
4. PTO leadership has been established. See PTO report.
5. Math information needs to be added to the web site. Work on this is ongoing.

PTO Report - Renee and Suzanne reported.

1. Mother's Day store was a success.
2. Amy Grace Duncan catered a lunch for the teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week.
3. Donuts with Dad went well. Over 35 dads attended.
4. Middle School was gifted PTO funds to go off campus. They went to Play Money Pinball. It was a success.
5. End of the year Fun Day is tomorrow. Middle school will be included.
6. A PTO board has been selected. Karen Sidwell will be the secretary, Milena Martin and Amy Grace Duncan will be the Co-chairs. Alexis Rackstraw will be the treasurer and Melissa Newman will be the Volunteer Coordinator.
7. The incoming PTO leaders would also like to add a position for the PTO Facebook page management. Josh Cook has volunteered to fill this position. The school board welcomes this, but the posting requires administrative supervision. Any posts should be approved by administration before they are posted. The purpose of the PTO Facebook Page is to remind parents of upcoming events or to repost items that have already been shared. There are currently no formal guidelines for what is posted on this page. Debbie asked Renee and Suzanne to write up some guidelines for the PTO Facebook page posts, so it can be added to the PTO Handbook.

8. Suzanne and Renee will share their binder of scheduled events with the board and incoming PTO Co-chairs. It contains the bylaws and describes what a typical year looks like. The book is in the principal's office.
9. It was discussed that a communication should go to the PTO whenever a family leaves or joins Redeemer to remove non-Redeemer families from the Facebook site and welcome new families.
10. Sarah Anderson will chair the Auction Committee for next year.
11. The new PTO Co-Chairs ask if any board member can attend the school board meeting rather than only the Co-Chairs. The board will consider this at our follow-up meeting when all board members are present.
12. A parent asks if Curriculum Night can be continued. They are looking for a night when parents meet with their child's teacher as a class, to see the classroom and learn the teacher's expectations. Karyn shared that there is a plan to hold this type of event in the fall. Discussed the option of having childcare available that night. Lauren and Kristin felt that would be possible if the preschool and K-8 meetings were held on different days. Debbie shared that there should also be an all-school presentation to share general school policies, etc. with all parents prior to dismissing them to individual classrooms. Debbie and Karyn will work together to plan this.
13. Parents asked if Chapel time can be moved back to 8:30 so parents can attend right after school drop off. Chapel was moved to 9:05 so that middle school students, who begin at 8:15, will not miss two class periods every Wednesday. It was shared that Katie Wenger is considering offering a parent coffee for the half hour between drop off and chapel. This would give parents something to do while waiting and provide fellowship.
14. Jenny shared that with the required PTO volunteer hours, and non-completion fees being reinstated, that funds will once again go into the PTO account for the 23/24 school year.
15. Renee and Suzanne are eager to remain involved with the school and are willing to serve on other boards as needed.

Teacher's Report

1. Asked about School Calendar Approval - See Principal's Report
2. Donna is working on collecting devices, prepping them for next year or deprovisioning them for sale, and preparing new devices. Donna arranged renewals for the applications, extensions, and software the teachers and students are using daily on their devices.
3. Cristina shared the MAP testing science results for middle school students. Our class averages are above the national average, with multiple students in the 90th percentile and above.
4. Debbie has worked with Cristina to create a class report of MAP scores for standard reporting and ongoing assessment.
5. The teachers are hoping that next year 3rd - 8th grades all do Science testing next year. Some of the younger grades did not do the science testing. Pros and cons of this were listed. Debbie asked that the faculty discuss this at their next meeting and the board will support their plan.

6. Cristina would like to have a new science curriculum for next year. She recommends the elementary teachers look into STEMscopes for science. This publisher also has a math curriculum. Middle school uses Savvas for both math and science and they find using the same publisher for both subjects seems to work well for the students. Teachers discussed that they'd like to update the Science first, then Math. The need for a new Language Arts curriculum was also noted. Systemized curriculum updating has not been occurring as the teachers and board would like. Additionally, the curriculums are not necessarily aligned through the grade levels. Debbie asked the teachers to create a plan for ongoing curriculum updating.
7. Jessica shared MAP testing results for Math. She noted growth among advanced students and lower achieving students.
8. Fifth grade student's math scores showed a need for additional support.
9. Cristina and Jessica have worked out alternate middle school schedules that would provide 2 science classes and 2 Course 1 math classes to accommodate for the varying levels in those two subjects while filling in the gaps that are noticed in the MAP results. They note it would be very beneficial to have a 4th part-time teacher available in the middle school because this would open their two schedules to provide for those changes for next year. Jessica shared 4 alternate middle school schedule options.
10. Jessica shared math resource information with 5th grade parents supplying them with resources for summer work and tutoring support. No parent has reached out to request what was offered.
11. Teachers are applying for four grants being offered by LCEF (Lutheran Church Extension Fund). They provide funds for Faculty Health and Wellness, Curriculum Development, Outreach and Student Engagement, and Technology. Donna, Lauren, Jessica and Cristina will be applying for these grants. Debbie asked for a monthly report on the progress of these grant requests.
12. Jessica Tornese shared an update on first grade activities. MAP testing went well. Jessica is using the phonics based reading system and her students made good progress. It was shared that we don't have a continuous curriculum spanning K-8. The goal will be to realign the curriculum.
13. DC Trip - Crislyn does not believe it will be possible because we cannot make the minimum of 35 people. The teachers have been talking about a 3-year rotation. All of middle school would go on each trip together so they could make the numbers required to be economical.
14. Crislyn spoke to Cheryl about carrying over extra funds earned by an individual family toward class trips from one year to the next. Crislyn proposes that students be allowed to keep the money they've earned to be used for future trips. Crislyn shared that Cheryl said it was doable from her point of view. It would be accounted for by family, not by individual students. If the family leaves the school, that money would not be refunded, it would move into another fund. It was shared that Cheryl is resigning. Russ will talk to Cheryl to gain understanding about how this would work and how difficult it would be for a new finance manager to manage.
15. Crislyn also advocated for considering an additional fundraiser to support the upper grade trips. The board will consider this at the upcoming special meeting.

16. Renee and Suzanne volunteered to run fundraising events or a fundraising committee. The desire for community building, like what occurred at past dinners and dessert auctions, was shared.
17. Parents are having Grub Hub drop off lunches for students with parents. It has become excessive. The teachers have not yet gotten to the lunch portion of the Handbook. Rachel reviewed the current policy in the handbook which prohibits food delivery except for special occasions.

Principal's Report

1. An all staff retreat will be held in October in Bradenton. Our staff usually attends the retreat in September, but would like to attend the Bradenton retreat which is in October. It covers spiritual wellness and there is no charge. It was recommended by Jennifer Tanner, our district representative. It would involve changing the school calendar. It is October 7-9, which is Friday through Sunday. Karyn recommends we attend the October retreat. Karyn will work on the calendar and also consult with Pastor Dave regarding the church staff attendance. Teachers would like to consider moving the extra days off from September that will not be used, to possible teacher work days.
2. Staff will work on handbook completion.
3. Rick Armstrong, a FL-GA resource leader, is coming on May 26th to meet with teachers for group support.
4. Notification was sent to parents of students with excessive absences.
5. Heather shared the list of the students and the number of days missed among those with excessive absences. The number of absences ranged from 19 days to 48 days. Debbie asks that the board be provided with a quarterly report so we can support the teachers and also limit absences going forward. All present agreed the number of absences was excessive and needs to be addressed for next year.
6. 8th graders were introduced during 8:30 service Sunday morning.
7. Summer reading requirements will be optional this summer. This was made optional because so many parents were fighting it and the work did not get done. Discussion followed.

Finance - Reported by Russ Reaver

1. Over \$200,000.00 has been allocated for campus upgrades over the summer. All bathrooms will be remodeled. It is felt that it's financially advantageous to purchase the materials for all the rooms at once and remodel all bathrooms at the same time.
2. The gym will be resurfaced over the summer.

Personnel