

ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
January 03, 2023

AT-LARGE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Lisa Alt, Dave Bender, Donna Frazee, Greg Hardig, Karen Kovacs, Carol Pieper, Kris Schoettmer

AT-LARGE MEMBERS ABSENT: Lori Bernard, Jeremy Menner, Nick Roos, Brian Schmutte

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Rick Berning, Fr. Christian Cone-Lombarté, Rick Fulks, Brian Linnemann, Fr Tom Mannebach, Kevin Vance

CALL TO ORDER: President Carol Pieper

OPENING PRAYER: Karen Kovacs

ST IGNATIUS SCHOOL REPORT:

Mr. Kevin Vance delivered his Principal's Report to Pastoral Council (PC). Some highlights:

1) Enrollment: Current Enrollment—TOTAL=1155; K-8: 1040; PRESCHOOL: 115.

St. Ignatius School is the largest elementary school in the state of Ohio and the 3rd largest in the nation. Several grades have wait lists for next year. Transfer requests are up, likely due to movements generated by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati (AOC) "Beacons of Light" restructuring process. The school is at maximum capacity; however, with current faculty staffing levels, aides, and Intervention Specialists, the students receive a lot of individual attention.

2) Facilities: The school was approved for a \$100,000 federal grant to be used for safety and security upgrades. The School Committee is currently prioritizing the items that will be paid for by the grant.

3) Open House 2023: After a Covid hiatus, Open House returns and will take place on January 29, the beginning of Catholic Schools Week. This year, Open House is reserved for current families only. Prospective families have a weekly opportunity to schedule a tour and meet with the administration. Tours are scheduled every Thursday after school.

4) 2023-24 School Budget: Tuition has been set in the proposed budget with an increase of 3% for K-8 (roughly ↑\$120/year), and a 5% increase for Preschool (roughly ↑\$65-\$230/year, depending on the number of days attending). Hourly employees will see a 5% wage increase. Salaried employees will see a wage increase of about 2% on top of step increases. Staff retention numbers for next year will be mostly stable. There is a significant increase in budgeted amounts for the Jon Peterson state scholarship, due to a larger number of students qualifying for it. The school is giving out less in financial aid because less families are requesting it; many are receiving aid from the AOC Catholic Education Foundation scholarship program.

FINANCE COUNCIL REPORT:

No financials this month, due to discussion and vote on the proposed 2023-24 School Budget.

NEW BUSINESS:

2023-24 School Budget Discussion and Vote: Rick Fulks and Kevin Vance took questions from PC as it reviewed the proposed 2023-24 School Budget. After discussion and vote, **Pastoral Council approved the 2023-24 St. Ignatius of Loyola School Budget as presented this evening.**

ONGOING BUSINESS:

- 1) **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** Kris Schoettmer made a motion to approve the December 2022 meeting minutes. She was seconded by Carol Pieper.
- 2) **Good News Report:** The 3pm and 5pm Christmas Masses were well attended but not jam-packed. The 3pm Mass in the gym had plenty of open space and may be reevaluated for next year. In general, Christmas Mass attendance was down across the diocese, due to bad weather and bad roads. The archbishop's Study of the Mass initiative has begun, using Bishop Barron's *The Mass* video series. People can still sign up to view the episodes.
- 3) **The "Covenant Letter"—One Year Later:** PC reviewed for Fr. Mannebach the thought process and rationale behind the "Parish Covenant" letter that was sent to all households in February of 2022. The "covenant" presented an invitation to live and share more fully in the life of Christ at the parish level and outlined 8 key ways for growing as an active and engaged member of the St. Ignatius Parish family. After discussion, Fr. Mannebach indicated that he would revisit the potential for creating a similar letter later in the year, perhaps at the time the Disciple Maker Index Survey results are shared with the parish. The survey results should be available around May of this year.
- 4) **Sound System in Church:** There are still several components that are currently being worked on.

PASTOR'S COMMENTS:

- 1) **Beacons of Light Pastoral Planning Process Update:** Fr. Mannebach has finalized the Beacons of Light Pastoral Planning Pathways Leadership Team at St. Ignatius. Members: Deacon Tim Helmick, Deacon John Homoelle, Larry Kiefer, Carol Pieper, and Kris Schoettmer. The archdiocesan liaison is Ken Cornish. This Leadership Team will help advise Fr. Mannebach on all structural re-organizations necessitated by the Beacons process. Chief among those will be a staff restructuring. All Families of Parishes will need to have on staff a Director of Worship, a Director of Stewardship, and a Director of Evangelization.
- 2) **Disciple Maker Index Survey:** St. Ignatius will be using a parish development survey tool, the Disciple Maker Index, to aid in pastoral planning. It is a confidential online survey evaluating spiritual growth needs and how the parish is helping with that. It takes about 15 minutes to complete. Answers are tallied anonymously, and the report addresses parish needs in aggregate. Beginning in late January, a link will be available on the parish website, and paper copies will also be made available for those without online access. All parishioners will be encouraged to complete the survey, as the results will greatly help future planning.
- 3) **Assembly of Leaders (AOL) Follow-Up:** Discussion continues on adopting an "Assembly of Leaders" expanded Pastoral Council structure, similar to the one in place at Good Shepherd parish. Fr. Mannebach indicated that Good Shepherd, before it implemented the AOL model, made sure that it had working commissions in place representing all of the

ministries operating in the parish. These commissions were an invaluable resource for parish staff as they organized into 4 major departments, each with its own director: Worship; Finance (including Stewardship) and Facilities; Faith Formation; and Outreach and Pastoral Care.

- 4) MA Theology for Staff Member:** Elaine Kroger, the parish's Director of Youth Faith Formation, is considering pursuing a Master's Degree in Theology. Since this would be of benefit to the parish, Fr. Mannebach would like the parish to help fund the program of study and has asked the Finance Committee to look into possibilities. PC supports the idea of developing policies for staff professional development needs. The school budget currently has a line item for faculty professional development, so there are already some protocols in place that could serve as a model.

CLOSING PRAYER: Donna Frazee

NEXT MEETING: February 7, 2023, at 7 PM, in the Fr. Gratsch Room of the parish offices.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Frazee
Pastoral Council Recording Secretary