

ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 5, 2024

AT-LARGE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Lisa Alt, Lori Bernard, Mikey Disbennett, Bridget Eichhold, Mike Essen, Greg Hardig, Karen Kovacs, Brian Linnemann, Nick Roos, Brian Schmutte, Kris Schoettmer

AT-LARGE MEMBERS ABSENT: Alan Gerken

CLERGY IN ATTENDANCE: Fr. Tom Mannebach

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Donna Frazee, Rick Fulks, Angie Heisel

CALL TO ORDER: President Brian Schmutte

OPENING PRAYER: Mikey Disbennett

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS PASTORAL COUNCIL (PC) MEETING MINUTES:

Brian Linnemann made a motion to approve the February 2024 PC meeting minutes. He was seconded by Kris Schoettmer. Motion passed unanimously.

SCHOOL UPDATE:

Principal Heisel reported.

- 1) **March Happenings:** The second trimester ends on March 8. The 6th graders will be headed to Camp Joy the week of March 11, and the group traveling to Nancy, France to visit our sister school, the Lycée Notre-Dame Saint-Sigisbert, leaves on March 16. The 7th graders and the 2nd graders are making final preparations to receive the sacraments of Confirmation (7th) and First Holy Communion (2nd).
- 2) **Enrollment 2024-25:** Headcount will be around 1176. Preschool is completely full.
- 3) **Tuition and School Budget 2024-25:** Please refer to the Finance Council Update below for further information.
- 4) **Transitioning to FACTS Management for Tuition Payments:** The FACTS Management automated system will be used next year to handle tuition payments. Payments will begin in July. Most other area schools have transitioned to FACTS for online tuition management, and doing so provides several benefits. The hope is to use the system for most school transactions, although cafeteria payments will not migrate to FACTS, as they need to remain synced to the student ID scanning system.

FINANCE COUNSEL (FC) UPDATE:

Rick Fulks reported.

- 1) **Tuition 2024-25:** Principal Heisel created a new tuition model, using the results of this year's EdChoice Scholarship award demographics. The maximum EdChoice award is \$6165 per pupil. Of the school families who were eligible to apply for EdChoice, 47% received full tuition coverage. Given that, tuition for 24-25 has been set at \$5120. Families who do not qualify for EdChoice will have the opportunity to apply for a St. Ignatius School Grant of up

to \$800/student. Other St. Ignatius financial aid sources, such as SGO funds, will also be available.

Benefits/Takeaways from the new tuition model:

- Eliminates the need for a parish subsidy.
- Increases teacher salaries, so that our wages remain competitive.
- Tuition can remain mainly constant for parents.
- St. Ignatius School will be more competitively priced than other area parochial schools that have opted to raise their tuition to \$6165.

- 2) School Budget 2024-25:** Angie Heisel and Rick Fulks presented the proposed 2024-25 School Budget to PC this evening. Not only is the proposed budget balanced, but it also forecasts a net income of \$197,000, which eliminates the need for the parish to subsidize an operating loss. FC reviewed the proposed budget in February and is recommending that PC endorse it. After review and discussion, **Pastoral Council voted unanimously to approve the FYE 2025 St. Ignatius School Budget as presented this evening.**

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) Pastoral Council Elections:** The decision was made to attempt to move forward with an election process for recruitment to fill the 4 positions expiring in June. A call for nominations will be going out as soon as possible in various parish media. Brian Schmutte will work up a "PC Member Job Description," and Bridget Eichhold will create a nomination/application form (print and digital). If more than 4 people are interested in serving, candidate bios will be published, and the parish will have the opportunity to vote during an election in May. Fr. Mannebach and PC will review candidates at PC's April meeting.
- 2) Pastoral Council Structure Update:** Fr. Mannebach was asked about a timeline for implementation of an "Assembly of Leaders" (AOL) model. He indicated that because the AOL model relies on a departmental and staffing structure that is currently not in place at St. Ignatius, the focus for the near future will be on the reorganization of roles and functions of current pastoral staff to bring them in line with Beacons of Light (BOL) recommendations, as well as revitalizing the ministries that would fall under each department. In combination with these efforts, work will continue on crafting a parish vision statement and a new mission statement, as well as defining 5-year pastoral priorities. Restructuring PC into another configuration (such as AOL) might follow from that.

PASTOR'S COMMENTS:

- 1) Pastoral Staffing Update:** Interviewing continues for the Youth Minister position.
- 2) BOL Vision Statement:** A draft of a preliminary parish "vision statement" was presented to PC this evening. Fr. Mannebach asked that PC members prayerfully review it and bring comments to discuss at next month's meeting.
- 3) Parking Lot Resurfacing:** The parking lots are in need of resurfacing. Mary Dadosky is looking into options and bids from local contractors.
- 4) Tennis Courts:** The contractors who came out to advise on the parking lot resurfacing have also indicated that tennis court ground is not safe for use at the present time. Accordingly, the courts have been closed until further notice.

- 5) **Mass Conflicts for Select Sports:** The Archdiocese of Cincinnati directs its Athletic Associations to avoid scheduling on Sunday mornings, so that athletes can fulfill their Sunday Mass obligation. It has come to Fr. Mannebach's attention that several of the select sports leagues (not affiliated/run by the archdiocese) do schedule games and tournaments on Sunday mornings, which creates a conflict for families trying to get to Mass. This has been an issue for some time, and PC encouraged Fr. Mannebach to be in conversation with his brother pastors regarding ways to address this.

CLOSING PRAYER: Bridget Eichhold

NEXT MEETING: April 9, 2024, at 7 PM, in the School Library.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Frazee
Pastoral Council Recording Secretary