

Mission Statement

The mission of Holy Spirit Catholic School is to provide a welcoming environment where students live the Gospel message, exhibit high achievement, and provide service to the community.

Holy Spirit Catholic School Minutes of the School Board Meeting of Wednesday, March 9, 2022

Present: Karianne Earnest (Principal), David O'Neill (Chair), Sandra Flores-Montez, Gretchen Kinghorn, Misty Foltz (PTC), Marcia Ney, Deacon Scott Pearhill

Excused: Barb Siciliano, Brian Hinz (representing PTC),

Opening Prayer: David led us in prayer.

Minutes: Minutes were accepted as written.

Pastoral Report: Deacon Scott reported.

Exterior Cameras at St. Anthony – installation is finished.

Exterior Cameras at St. Joe's have been adjusted.

Thomas needed to resign in order to care for his mom.

The Parish Council has been tasked with revising their Mission and Vision statement so that it more explicitly states the essential role of the school in parish life.

We have a very full parish December 2021 schedule:

December 9, 2021 Advent Penance Service– 7:00 pm St. Anthony

December 12, 2021 Las Manañitas 5am St. Anthony, 2:30pm Celebration in Gym.

December 16, 2021 Theology on Tap, 7pm St. Anthony Hall

December 19, 2021 La Gran Posada 2:30pm St. Anthony Gym

December 24, 2021 Christmas Eve Masses

5:00pm & 10:00pm St. Anthony

8:00pm St. Joseph

December 25, 2021 Christmas Day Masses

10:00am St. Anthony English

1:00pm St. Anthony Spanish

PTC Report: PTC agreed to reimburse teachers for various projects and supplies. Those funds were disbursed at the meeting. Each teacher had \$200 from PTC. Younger kids may go to the Children's Museum for cultural enrichment.

Principal Report: 135 student school enrollment.

The school was able to feed 100 people at Thanksgiving. 30 meals were provided to our own parish homebound and 80+ community. Great service project.

The Turkey Trot was a great success. 80 people participated. Bengal Catholics ISU (St. John's) helped with the Turkey Trot. Dave was the race-master.

School Wreath Sale raised \$4000, about the same as last year.

Raffle Ticket was not as successful, happening at the same time as the other fundraisers.

Holy Spirit 365 has made \$27,745 so far. Last year was around \$30k. HS365 is not over yet and may raise more than last year.

School Auction date will be Feb 26th, 2022. Committee has been formed, meetings will recommence in January. Misti F. will reach out to Kimberly Ward to organize the silent auction.

Pajama Drive & Christmas Carols. Collecting Pajamas to low-income families in need.

Scholastic Book company will donate a book with each pajama. Along with this, the school is promoting healthy sleep habits, part of a wellness effort.

School Advent challenge: a different healthy or spiritual activity each day.

Karianne has been boosting morale during the month of December, with different fun activities each day.

Christmas concerts by the school this month: Dec 16th, 6pm in the church (not church hall)

Old Business: Father Henry and the Parish Finance Council unanimously supported the idea to assist the school financially during December 2021 and January 2022 when school cash flow is low.

New Business: Tuition rates: not raised last year (actually there was even some discounting for families with several children). That was approved by Father Henry for one year. Karianne asked the school board to help decide what the increase in tuition should be in 2022. \$6300 to educate a student at HSCS (140 students divided by total annual operating costs of \$900,000). Currently tuition averages around \$4,300 — around a \$2000 gap per student. One suggestion is to raise tuition \$200 per student rather than use a percent increase. The school board will research and provide some guidance. The feeling is no parent will be shocked that tuition is going up a little. Perhaps a two-year bi-annual tuition commitment would defray sticker-shock. In other words, we say to parents, X is the cost and it will stay that way for two years. Tuition increases only every two years?

There was a discussion about what Pocatello needs in terms of education. There is a need in Pocatello for early learning and childcare. Preschool and PreK doubled this year from last year. If we wanted to look at more early learning and childcare, we are already licensed through Idaho Stars (although we would need to be open for about four more weeks).

Motion: Before Fr. Leaves for Columbia, the school board will make a tuition recommendation.
Motion approved.

Motion: In January, the board will discuss the idea of expansion of ELC, preschool, preK.
Approved.

Next meeting: January 12th, 2022. 7pm School Teacher Lounge