



Advisory Board 8-15-24

Minutes

Present: Father Bo Beaty, Kelly Mechelke, Hiram Morales, Bailey Broussard, Steve Eckstein, Andrea Gentile, Jennifer Hay, Alex LaFasto, Jessica Louthan, Taylor Locke, Will Silverberg, Patrick Wade, Mary Marlowe

Called to Order at 4:00 p.m.

Prayer by Dr. Mechelke

- August meeting minutes were approved
- Alex Cain, Alderman Ward 1 spoke about possible solutions to traffic issues. He encouraged people to attend their board meetings. The second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 6:00 p.m. He said people can have 3 minutes to address the board at the end of the meeting to share their concerns.
 - Possible solutions are traffic light, round-a-bout, stop sign
 - A new traffic study would be a good idea since the population has increased in the last five years since the previous study.
- Approval of August meeting minutes.
- Topic discussed
 - SJNCS By Laws-Yearly review of By Laws
 - edits are not "changes" merely "clarifications". There are two edits:
EDIT 1: Article III #2
(fiscal year begins July 1 and ends June 30)
EDIT 2: Article VI #1
The voting for the officers will take place at the July meeting or the first meeting after the beginning of the fiscal year.
 - Two Advisory Board members will be done on the board in June of 2025. The new members will begin in July 2025. At the July 2025 meeting or the first meeting after the beginning of the fiscal year (which starts July 1, 2025) the board will vote for officer positions.
 - Mary Marlowe mentioned that Sacred Heart has a board application process. Do we want to look into that? Dr. Mechelke will look into this and visit with Father Joe about this possibility.

- The Advisory Board Presentation Template was practiced by the SJNCS Advisory board ensuring the document works the way intended to help our school community that want to present to the SJNCS Advisory Board.
- The Advisory Board said this template will help funnel items the Advisory Board does and doesn't discuss taken from Article IV, #2 of the Advisory Board ByLaws. The items that need attention that are not Advisory Board issues will be passed along to the appropriate party(ies).

Mission and Catholic Identity

- Our new superintendent is helping ensure we are teaching Theology of the Body. Our religion teachers met and are noting when they teach all necessary content of Theology of the Body. The teacher will note the topics and add to the syllabus for the 2025-26 school year in middle school. SJN will be looking into a parent resource to include families more in Theology of the Body learning.

Governance and Leadership

- Working on getting our advisory board invitation for presenters out two weeks before the next meeting time. All families may also send anything they would like discussed to the advisory board to bring forward through an advisory board member if they are unable to attend or prefer not to present. Any person may reach out to an individual member or email the chair of the advisory board at advisoryboard@sjncs-knox.org
- Father Joe accepted the recommendation for the removal of *Violent Delights*, by Chloe Gong and the sequel. He did caution us all to use the process we have all agreed to follow for book reconsiderations found on our website.

Academic Excellence

- We are up for renewal of accreditation. Surveys will be going out to families, students, and staff Monday, September 30. They are due Monday, October 14. We are gathering all academic testing information to provide to the Cognia accreditation committee that will be coming to our school in December for their visit. Cognia also ensures our Catholic faith is present throughout the school and cross-curricular.
- Currently we share with parents the STAR, IOWA, and CogATs. We will continue to share those results as well as add ARK results to the list of what we share with families after the students take those assessments for the 2024-25 school year.

Operational Vitality

- Working on updating security measures in our building and our policies. Working with our security officers, staff, and other local professionals to improve the safety and security of our building and our processes for safety drills.

Other:

- Meetings are scheduled for 2024-2025
 - Oct. 17, Nov. 21, Dec. 19, Jan. 16, Feb. 20, Mar. 27, Apr. 17, May 15, June 19 (4:00-5:30.p.m.)
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- Father Bo lead ending prayer
- Meeting adjourned 5:15 pm