

SJV School Committee

Monday, June 7, 2021

6:30 P.M.

Attendance: X = Present; E = Excused; A = Absent (Enter committee member names below)

x	Sara Dwyer	A	Halligan Czarnecki	x	Jeni Janson
x	Heather Ferber	x	Pat Bergin	A	Mary Pentler
x	Colleen Gilbert	A	Sarah & Jeff Karst	x	Anders Hendrickson
x	Kelly Rauch	A	Elizabeth Matzke	x	Ashley Smith
x	Kevin Galezewski	x	John Sloane	x	Rev. Edwin Kornath
x	Greg Herrle	x	Brian Shimon	x	Andy Smith
		x	Monica O'Brien	x	Pam Pyzyk

Opening Prayer (by Colleen Gilbert)

Discernment of new of School Committee members (by Colleen Gilbert)

- Discerning members introduced and shared replies to discernment questions:
 - Mrs. Jeni Janson
 - Mrs. Mary Pentler
 - Mr. Anders Hendrickson
 - Mrs. Monica O'Brien
 - Mrs. Ashley Smith

Discernment of new School Committee officers

- Tabled until the entire committee can meet virtually.

Committee Chair reports and priorities for summer/next year:

Advancement Committee (by Heather Ferber)

- Advancement is still working on the Alumni success stories video and the evergreen video to add to the website and is coordinating the 4th of July parade with Cub scouts and Home and School. Once details are finalized a communication will be sent out to families.
- Community building activities for the summer include the Parade on July 3rd, Popsicle Playdates, Food Truck Fridays, and the Festival.
- Advancement will meet this summer to discuss additional ways to promote SJV and enhance enrollment.
- Moving into next year, Advancement will promote SJV academic successes including standardized test results and merit scholarship awards in both the Shamrock Weekly and Bulletin. Other ideas include making a school comparison chart, sending letters to new homeowners, hosting another speaker series, telling our success and legacy family story more.

Finance (by Greg Herrle)

- Greg detailed the finance committee's responsibilities for the benefit of discerning members.

- This year, the Finance committee also did a deep dive into donations and funding sources.
- One goal for next year is to more effectively communicate why tuition is set as it is. Finance would like to transparently communicate the actual cost to educate each student and the role fundraising plays.
- At the last Pastoral Council meeting, a motion was made and approved, that going forward there will be a permanent position for a School Committee member on Parish Finance.
- The addition of a second K3 class has been evaluated and approved.
- Pastoral Council member, Andy Smith noted that parents of students receive the Shamrock Weekly, however parishioners may like to be included. It was noted that parishioners can opt in to receive the Shamrock Weekly via the SJV website. This may be an opportunity to communicate with parishioners who want to learn more and support the school in other ways (SCRIP).

Policy Committee (by Kevin Galezewski)

- Policy is working to reduce the size of the parent-student handbook while ensuring alignment with new Archdiocese policies.
- Policy met with Mr. Shimon on May 19, 2021, to finalize editing tasks.
- Editing tasks will now be assigned to policy committee members.
- Edits are to be completed by July and a copy will be sent to Mrs. Peterson for publication.

Home and School (by Colleen Gilbert):

- The July 23rd Food Truck Friday activity will be Summer Olympics, hosted by the School Committee. If you can assist running activities, reach out to Colleen Gilbert.
- Maggie Enlund will be the new Home and School chair next year.

Long Range Planning Committee (by Pat Bergin)

- Long range planning received 115 responses to the parent survey.
- More than eight percent of responses were received the day the survey was sent.
- Long range planning met to discuss results. Math curriculum and homework were identified as two areas of focus.
- Math education check-in survey was sent. Results indicated 80% of respondents felt more math homework could be appropriate as students appear to spend fifteen minutes or less per night on math homework. Results around ALEKS and additional support needed were discussed. Most common feedback for improvement was to get back to small groups. This will be implemented again in the next school year at all grade levels, it was only paused this year due to Covid safety protocols.
- Mr. Shimon noted that SJV has discussed math advancement with the Archdiocese, Mrs. Blaha, curriculum experts, and local high school professors. All felt students were best served developing strong foundations in grade school. Without strong foundations, students can struggle in courses like calculus during their high school years. Nonetheless, given the survey results, Mr. Shimon will reconvene his team of experts to examine the math curriculum and to make recommendations.

- The committee recalled the presentation SJV hosted last year with Principals from Marquette, DSHA and Catholic Memorial highlighted that SJV students outperformed their peers. They also shared that SJV students were leaders among leaders.

Principal's Report (by Mr. Brian Shimon)

- For the 2021-2022 school year, SJV is not implementing a mandatory Covid-19 vaccination and will not mandate masks. There will be no policy differences for the vaccinated vs. unvaccinated.
- In consultation with parish leadership, Mr. Shimon is opening positions for members to join the medical advisory team.
- This year the medical advisory team listened to the CDC and Dept of Health and Human Services. The medical advisory team then translated those recommendations into policy for approval from SJV Administration. SJV had the best Covid-19 numbers of the area schools.
- Enrollment is consistent with budget predictions. SJV currently has twenty-four K3 students, and 247 students in K4 through eighth grade.
- Mrs. Bourne has made it possible for families to shadow classes. Three new families recently agreed to join SJV this fall. Some feedback included an appreciation for SJV's Covid-19 policies.
- Annual parent survey highlighted some growth areas:
 - Math and science skill development.
 - Mr. Shimon shared that a new middle school science teacher is joining this fall.
- Strengths:
 - SJV staff inspire my child's best efforts.
 - School staff are courteous and helpful.
 - Staff are responsive to my concerns.
 - I am satisfied in my child's skill development in English, social studies, and religion.
 - I am satisfied with communications from my child's teachers.

Action/Follow Up Items:

Action Item	Who is Responsible?	Target Date
New Leadership Discernment	All	June 22, 2021
Finalize 2021-2022 Parent-Student Handbook	Policy	July 1, 2021
Leadership turnover meetings	All	Aug 1, 2021
Set targets and plans for committee work	All Chairs	Aug 1, 2021

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin J. Galezewski
School Committee Secretary