

Assumption School Board of Education

Board Notes

October 9, 2023

Meeting called to order: 7:02 PM

1. Opening Prayer–All; A Board Member’s Prayer
2. Yvie Dierkes & Tere Bowman shared video and explained NWEA Testing experience and results–broke down specifics for age groups.
 - a. Next window will be in January; last testing window will be in April.
 - b. After testing; data is used to drive teachers’ instruction–training in progress on how to use the data.
 - c. Recommended to wait until second window to use measurable data to drive instruction and teachers will have had additional training by then.
 - d. IXL is compatible with NWEA–individual skill plans will be developed for students.
 - e. This test is meant for students to score 50% to determine accurate level of learning. If students are passing, the assessment will adjust and get harder to find the student’s “Ready to Learn” level.
 - f. ABVM scored in the 68th percentile out of all schools (i.e. public, Catholic, Lutheran, etc).
 - g. Questions asked:
 - i. Are teachers given adequate time to analyze data to develop lesson plans/drive instruction, etc? Time is built in on early release days, etc.
 - ii. Why are first testing data results not shared? NWEA is adamant about not sharing the first results because it’s not showing growth, mastery, etc.
 - iii. If you have students that scores low, what is being done for those students? Other assessments are being done (i.e. running records, etc).
 - iv. Is NWEA testing at the Archdiocese’s level or our school’s level? ABVM is piloting but still required to do ITBS in grades 4th, 6th & 8th grades. NWEA is school-wide and is more beneficial due to having the growth model.

3. Report for Administration:
 - a. From Dr. Hensley--continued with adding NWEA presentation and shared goal for the teachers this year is for teachers to be data driven to drive their instruction.
 - b. Due to time, Dr. Hensley's report was printed out for us to look over.
 - i. Question: What is ABVM doing to retain students? Dr. Hensley shared current plans in place. Recommendation to do a survey earlier in the year by several board members.
4. September meeting minutes reviewed & approved.
5. Cont. Report from Administration:
 - a. From Fr. Nick:
 - i. Meeting w/ City of O'Fallon regarding construction on Main St to make changes (i.e. roundabouts)--ABVM area is at Stage 3 (so a few years from now for completion).
 - ii. Shared that there were 27 kids at the Children's Liturgy 10:00AM mass.
 - iii. Question: When will the speakers be fixed in the Lobby/Narthex area. One amplifier just came in and the other shortly behind for updates.
 - b. From Holly Woytus:
 - i. PSR is fully staffed and subs are all arranged for upcoming leaves of absence (i.e. knee surgery, etc).
 - ii. Grandparents Day had a huge turnout, about 400 people.
 - iii. Dress Down Day for SVDP raised over \$700. This was huge for SVDP, cash is much needed to be specific gift cards.
 - iv. Children's Liturgy is up and running--Maria Tadlock is running program. Always looking for subs.
 - v. Report cards are being brought back for PSR for the teachers. P/T Conferences as well to occur for PSR families.
 - vi. Bible blessing for 5th graders.
 - vii. Reconciliation & Confirmation meetings are underway--Met w/ 2nd grade families last week. Next week is 8th grade families.
 - viii. Training on "Theology of the Body" will be starting soon to be implemented for next year.
 - ix. Turkey feather competition to raise money for families in need--"No Hunger Holiday". NJHS will help selling the feathers.

- x. Hallway of Holiness will be coming soon. Recommendations from teachers of students who have exemplified doing small things with great love.

5. Old Business:

- a. Security updates continued to be improved.

6. New Business:

- a. Safety/Security at Children's Masses
- b. Review of Handbook/Policies
 - i. Committee Update
- c. School/Life Balance discussion—concerns with the amount of homework; overall, there is frustration especially in the middle school.
 - i. Meeting this week to take place, Wednesday, regarding stakeholders—may just be staff at first.
 - ii. 1st grade teacher, Deanna Carlsen—can we do something to show support for her adoption? Ideas to be brainstormed. FYI, November is National Adoption Awareness month.
 - 1. Holly will sit down with Dr. Hensley to discuss ideas.

7. Remarks for the Good of All:

- a. Fall Festival—huge success!
 - i. Unofficial surveying of parishioners shared that NO carnival rides were preferred. Felt more comfortable regarding safety of families, kids running around plus lack of profit when splitting with company.
 - ii. Concern—hayride line (i.e. idea to do “time slot”/“fast pass”); short on volunteers overall.

8. Closing Prayer - Rachel Howard

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 13, 2023 at 7:00pm in the Meyer Room.

Meeting called to end: 8:58 PM