**Queen of Peace School Board Minutes- February 16, 2021**

**Present:**  David Douglas, Karin Sabyan, Brandon Swanson, Mary Marquis, Sr Lisa Maurer, Renee Gaffney, Kevin McGrath, Kim Evander, Joy Brekke

**Opening Prayer**: Prayer from the School Board handbook; Prayer of Excellence.

**Review/ Approve previous meeting minutes**: Minutes of the January 2021 meeting were accepted.

**Communications**:

Finance Council- Next meeting 2/23. It is open to School Board members, would be good to have someone attend on a regular basis. Brandon would like to attend this time, but would like someone else on the board to be the liaison.

Future of Hope- Donut Sunday averaged approximately $400/weekend. The open house did draw some families. Kindergarten Round-up is scheduled for 3/3, in person. Joy is putting together a video and will put it on Facebook and social media. Postcards will be sent to parish families; Mary will help the day of the event.

Grounds- New blue rugs have been placed at the entrances. Donations to replace the remaining brown rugs are being sought.

Catholic Schools Week- Sr Lisa relayed that there was a very positive response from the Benedictine sisters to the cards sent by the students and commended Mr Douglas on his efforts. There are definite pen pal possibilities if the school is interested.

**Principal Report**-

30-year plan:

-Approach has been to view the school as a mission rather than a business, which is why it is being extended to 8th grade rather than contracted to 4th grade. Lateral enrollment and new children coming in are keeping numbers up and it looks like it will continue to be strong. Despite COVID the school has remained in person the entire year, which is significant compared to the experience of students in the surrounding public schools. (Renee brought up a concern regarding ongoing communication gaps with parents and feeling somewhat disconnected because of the changes COVID protocols have caused. Brandon encouraged her to bring her concerns to the individual teachers as the best way to improve situations like that).

- Finances are key- we are not paying a living wage, which results in turnover. We need an additional $150,000/yr to pay the staff living wages. Possibilities for raising the necessary funds: 1) Increase the endowment fund to $3 million from the current ½ million. 2) Propose missionary support of our teachers/staff through monthly pledges in the same way people pledge missionaries in other organizations. Involves a paradigm shift to a missionary focus. 3) Focus on stewardship within the parish. (The parish did have a stewardship push a few years ago, which resulted in increased giving). Mr Douglas will be including information on these ideas in the school segment of the bulletin.

**New Business**- Professional Development Day this Friday.

Next Meeting: March 16, 2021 at 6:30 pm