

**THE NEXT ST. FERDINAND SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
WILL BE VIRTUAL ON THURSDAY, MARCH 17 @ 7:30 PM.**

*If you would like the code to join this month, please contact Advisory Board Chairperson
Richard Wiltse @ r.wiltse@hotmail.com*

**St. Ferdinand School Advisory Board
Minutes from Thursday, November 18, 2021 Meeting**
(approved at Thursday, January 20, 2022 Meeting)

Principal Folino called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM. In attendance were Principal Erin Boyle Folino, Pastor Fr. Peter Gnoinski, and Brother James Drangsholt; Advisory Board Members Mary Ann Barnhart and Mario Rodriguez; and School Parents Onix Flores, Joanne Crame, Richard Wiltse, Jessica Wiltse, Isaura Isalas, and Ronald Miller;

Minutes from the September 2021 Advisory Board Meeting were approved.

Principal Folino gave updates on the following school MARKETING items:

- Enrollment as of 11/17/2021 was at 183 (155 last year, 178 in 2019-20)
- Principal Folino and Administrative Assistant Margaret Brumann handle the Marketing via social media, parish bulletin articles, newspaper ads, Catholic media. Teachers assist with photos and notices about events in their classrooms. Mario Rodriguez presented Principal Folino with a potential connection to a Marketing intern.
- St. Ferdinand School will participate in the CELLO Program through the University of Notre Dame. The CELLO program assists in Marketing a school, with emphasis on ethnic diversity, especially the Latino population. Folino and Brumann attend monthly virtual meetings with other principals and marketers in the Arch to gain insight in this area from experts at Notre Dame.

Principal Folino asked for input on the designs presented by Chicago Event Graphics for the Belmont Avenue lightpost banners, which will be hung this school year. Discussion ensued regarding primary interest in designs V3A, V1, V2A. Folino will follow up with the company to alter the designs based on the suggestions, and the Board will review updated designs at the next meeting in January.

Principal Folino reported on TEACHER PLACEMENT and RECRUITMENT.:

- Mr. Phillip Mundine had been added to the Title I learning support team by Catapult. He will take over the Reading Assistance aspect of Title at all grade levels.
- There is currently a long-term sub in PE. Archdiocesan head-hunters are assisting in finding a permanent teacher for the position.
- Ms. Elizabeth Brent was hired as a part-time Art teacher for 1.5 days a week.

Principal Folino gave updates on FUNDRAISING:

- Fun Run via Boosterthon was a success, generating over \$11,000 profit
- EANS I (Emergency Assistance to Non-public Schools) grant monies in excess of \$500,000 are being utilized to purchase educational supports (SmartBoards, digital teaching supports) to make up for COVID losses.

--->

- ECF (Emergency Connectivity Fund) monies will provide for new Chromebooks and iPads for students
- Dine-and-Shares continue to be planned by School Office Staff
- Candle Order is underway

Principal Folino reported that COVID protocols have remained in place since the first day of school. There are few cases of COVID reported and no cases of spread within the school. The school is waiting to see if how or when the Archdiocese would like to have records of student COVID vaccinations kept.

Discussion on official roles of volunteers on the School Advisory Board were presented. Those interested in leadership roles introduced themselves. The following attendees were nominated to the following roles for the School Advisory Board:

Chairperson- Richard Wiltse, accepted

Vice chairperson- Brian Flores, upon acceptance as he was not in attendance

Secretary-Isaura Islas, accepted

The following Topics/Questions/Suggestions were brought up:

1. Virtual School Advisory Board Meetings will be considered in the future due to COVID worries..
2. CSW Mass is scheduled for 8:30 AM on Sunday, January 30, 2022. Open House follows. Onix Flores and Joanne Crame were interested in assisting with open house as tour guides.
3. More banners in the neighborhood, like in public places if permission were to be granted, would be an asset to promoting Open House
4. Reaching out to businesses in order for them to share St. Ferdinand posters should be continued.
5. Fr. Peter mentioned reaching out to Alderman Rebojas in order to have the brown street signs pointing in the direction on St. Ferdinand School placed on busy streets.
6. More visible signage for St. Ferdinand School is needed and could become an objective for the Advisory Board to pursue. Discussion of a new electronic sign, additional banners, and signage and lighting on the outside gym wall (after new gym roof is completed in the Summer of 2022) calling attention to the school name and location were discussed so the public and passers-by know there is a school at this location. Richard Wiltse offered to explore options for the electronic sign with companies and with the parish end and report back at the next School Advisory Board in January.
7. The school Christmas Program is scheduled to return to an in-person performance on Thursday, December 16, at 7:00 PM. Masks will be required and only 2 adults per family will be admitted.

Respectfully submitted,

Isaura Islas, Secretary

Erin Boyle Folino, Principal