

**NOTE: OUR FINAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR
WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE
BACK "PARTY ROOM" AT THE NEST (on Irving, just west of Oak Park)
AS PART OF THE BI-WEEKLY QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING NIGHT ON
WEDNESDAY, MAY 17 @ 6:30 PM.
INTERESTED IN SEEING WHAT SCHOOL BOARD IS ABOUT?
STOP BY AND JOIN OUR CONVERSATION AT 6:30 PM**

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**St. Ferdinand School Parent Advisory Board Meeting  
March 16, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

**PARISH/SCHOOL STAFF REPRESENTATIVES IN ATTENDANCE:**

Erin Boyle Folino, Principal                      Fr. Peter Gnoinski, Pastor  
Br. James Drangsholt                              Jeff Ryan, Parish Operations Director

**ESTABLISHED SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Artur Stozynski                                      Karin Arroyo  
Ronald Miller                                        Renata Chocianowicz

**ADVISORY BOARD OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Richard Wiltse                                      Chairperson & Meeting Facilitator  
Brian Flores                                         Co-Chairperson  
~~Isaura Islas~~                                         Secretary

**Meeting Topics:**

1. General School Updates
2. Gymnasium Roof Update
3. Fundraising Update- Queen of Hearts Assistance & Other
4. Parents Club Update
5. Signage Update
6. Summerfest School Involvement
7. Open Forum for Q&A

**1. General school updates provided by Principal Folino:**

- A. Enrollment for 2023-24: School enrollment peaked at 182 students in the current academic year and is projected to be 150+ students next year. 84% of eligible students have taken advantage of the February freeze program.
- B. Staffing for 2023-24: Intent to return forms were distributed to all faculty. One teacher has disclosed an intention to move on from our school. However, on a

happy note, our new Science teacher, Mrs. Stypka, does intend to come back next year, which is fantastic news as it was a difficult position to fill.

C. Academic Updates:

1. Science Fair: Mrs. Stypka returned the Science Fair to our eighth-grade class this year. Our science team competed at Northeastern Illinois University as part of the Regional Illinois Junior Science Program and earned silver medals.
2. Annual Teacher Goals & Evaluations: Official teacher evaluations will be conducted during April and May. As principal, Mrs. Folino will also undergo her annual evaluation process in the coming months after personal reflection, a look at goal-setting and achieving for the school year, and commentary from her Archdiocesan Regional Director Ray Coleman and St. Ferdinand Pastor Rev. Peter Gnoinski.

D. Summer Camp: The summer camp flyer was sent home on March 16. Mrs. Finneke is coming back to lead the camp. She will recruit other qualified teachers and college students to round out the staff.

E. Catapult Tutoring: Catapult will likely be renewed to provide extra summer help to qualified students from June 27-August 4.

F. Spring Clubs: A host of teacher-led after-school clubs will be offered in the coming weeks. Sign-up sheets will be sent home soon.

G. Marketing: Ongoing marketing efforts continue. The school has run ads in local papers, we have new banners going up soon, and we offer Open House tours every Monday in March-May.

H. Alumni Night: St. Ferdinand faculty and staff hosted a successful Alumni Night event on a Fish Fry Friday on March 10. An alumni database has been established through this evening.

- I. Lenten Events: The following Lenten events will be offered at our school and church:
  - 1. Family Mass on Sunday, April 2, at 8:30 am.
  - 2. Rice Bowl fundraiser. Donation collection boxes are due back by Wednesday, April 5.
  - 3. Rice only lunch event will be on Thursday, March 23.
  - 4. Living Stations of the Cross will be conducted on Wednesday, April 5.
  - 5. Holy Thursday Triduum Service via Zoom in all of the classrooms.
  
- J. 5 Essentials Survey: Our school has surpassed the required response target for accurate data from students, staff, and parents.
  
- K. Our first annual Culture Fest event will be held on May 5. Information will be sent home with students soon.

**2. Gymnasium Roof update provided by Principal Folino:**

Unfortunately, our gym roof is still leaking. The matter will be brought to the Archdiocese's attention with the hope of getting the matter resolved. We intend to conduct additional repairs over spring break to avoid further disruption during the school day to student activities and classes.

**3. Fundraising updates provided by Principal Folino:**

There will be three fundraisers in the coming months. These include Pack the Gym on April 27, Culture Fest on May 5, and the Fun Run at the end of May.

**4. Parent Club updates provided by Principal Folino:**

The Parent Club is currently working on many upcoming initiatives, including the assisting with the Annual Bunny Night at the Fish Fry, an Easter Egg Hunt, Culture Fest raffle baskets via Room Parents, graduation gifts for our pre-k, kindergarten, and 8th grade classes, and the Annual End-of-the-School-Year Used Uniform Sale. Further information about all upcoming events will be distributed in our weekly newsletters and club flyers.

**5. Signage updates provided by Mr. Wiltse:**

Due to the roofing work limiting access to the parking lot, nothing further has happened concerning our school's signs. Mr. Wiltse will attempt to bring in a contractor to price vinyl signs to be installed over our gymnasium doors in late April or early May.

Our friends at St. Patrick's High School recently installed a new electronic sign very similar to the one we would like to have for our school. The cost of the project was reportedly around \$45,000. Members of the School Advisory Board would like to initiate a fundraising campaign to help our school get a comparable sign.

#### **6. Summerfest updates provided by Principal Folino:**

Summerfest will be from Thursday, June 22, through Sunday, June 25. Each day will have a different theme to make the event more diverse and appealing to the broader community. For example, Thursday will be a DJ, Friday will be Latin-themed, Saturday will be Polish-themed, and Sunday will feature our children's choir and another DJ.

Our school will seek parent volunteers to help staff Summerfest raffles on Friday, June 23, from 4-10 pm.

#### **7. Open Forum For Q&A:**

Ronald Miller again asked if we could get a crossing guard placed near the convent at Mason and Barry due to many cars not stopping at the intersection. Brother James will carry this inquiry forward to Fr. Peter.

**The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:45 p.m.**

*Respectfully submitted by Mr. Richard Wiltse and Principal Erin Boyle Folino*