OLS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
December 11, 2024
5:00 PM
Church Conference Room
MINUTES

Our Lady of Sorrows is a three-year-old through 8th grade school serving the Ladysmith community and surrounding areas since 1912. In cooperation with parents, parish, and community members, Our Lady of Sorrows School will provide a high quality educational setting in which children can grow academically, socially, physically, and spiritually. We strive to develop a better understanding of the Catholic faith within each student, as we prepare them to be confident, responsible, contributing members of the parish and community. We believe in nurturing and encouraging each student to realize his or her potential. Our Lady of Sorrows is open to families of all faiths, whereas one family, we will answer the call to know, love, and serve God.

I. **Opening Prayer**: *Fr. Papi opened the meeting with prayer. Those in attendance were Fr. Papi Yeruva, Dave Elliott, Jaimie Wilk, Jessica Wiles, and Bob Lecheler.*

II. **Approval of October Minutes**: *A motion was made by Jaimie and seconded by Jessica to approve the October minutes. The motion passed.*

III. **Action Items**

a. Approval of Mission Statement: *The new mission statement was reviewed. It is:* OLS provides a Christ-centered Catholic education for students of all faiths. Together, we will foster each student's path to heaven, pursuit of excellence, accountability, and service to others. *Dave indicated that it will be used on correspondence and report cards. A motion was made by Jessica and seconded by Jaimie to approve the new mission statement. The motion passed.*

b. Approval of Safety Plan: *The safety plan was developed utilizing the diocesan template. It was reviewed. A motion was made by Jessica and seconded by Jaimie to approve the plan. The motion passed.*

c. School Safety Training and Drill: *The School Safety Training and Drill document was reviewed. A couple of minor corrections were recommended. It will be corrected and signed by administrators and an executive board member.*

d. Other: *Jessica was asked to sign the Conflict of Interest form as she was not in attendance at the last board meeting.*

IV. **Old Business**

a. School Finance: *It was pointed out that the balance sheet is reflective of the whole parish, while the profit and loss report is just for the school. On the balance sheet, it was noted that a coding error shows the church general checking account at -$36,827.81. The bookkeeper is working on making the correction. The school general checking account is at $80,649.94. The hot lunch checking is*

at $8,923.88. Comparisons were made with last year's profit and loss. It was pointed out that this year's report is absent a DPI payment of approximately $70,000. It should be coming soon. Also, this year's report shows an additional payroll entry compared to last year's. It was noted that last year's report included a COVID payment of $187,526. Given the differences, it was acknowledged that finances reflect a negative balance of $288,077.81. It was suggested that the next report indicate the comparison of budget to actual.

b. School Report: *Dave provided a handout for his report. Teachers are continuing to work on reading and student goal setting. A calendar of events for the next two months was shared. An alumnus notified Dave with intentions of making a sizeable contribution to the school. The person asked for an update on the school activities, which Dave provided. Brian Groothousen was acknowledged for the work on the gaga pit recently set up at the school. Dave is working on recognition for the contribution. Five students have enrolled since the last board meeting, bringing the total to 87 students. More wreaths were sold this year than last: 148 compared to 127. Candy bar sales are going well. It was suggested that they be sold at the basketball tournament. It was decided that we will host the basketball tournament again this year, even though we do not have enough players for a boys or girls team. Kate will be asked to contact the public school to make sure we are scheduled. The raffle will take place again this year. The annual fundraiser will take place soon. Materials are being updated. We did not receive funding for Chromebooks. Dave is working on funding through E-Rate for technology upgrades. The new art teacher, Amanda Coggins, received a $500 grant from Weathershield for art supplies. A posting will be made for the principal position for next year. We received $3,100 from the Diocese of Superior. The money will be used to purchase 28 Acer Chromebooks. A summary of the lockdown procedures was distributed to the board members. There was a brief discussion regarding concerns other parents have brought to board members. Dave indicated that he cannot share details related to discipline. However, he stated that procedures have been implemented over a period of time, including most recently.*

c. Tuition Payments: *Personal payments this year are currently at $59,992.03, compared to last year at $26,309. Some of the 3K payment may have been coded into personal payments. Bob will check with the bookkeeper to clarify.*

d. Fundraising: *Bob and Dave will look at the list of those parents interested in serving on fundraising committees to set up a meeting and discuss short and long term goals.*

V. **New Business**

a. Staffing: *Based on the financial statement, consideration will be given to determine the feasibility of continuing with the same staffing for next year.*
b. Basketball Tournament: *It was determined during the school report that we will host the basketball tournament the first weekend of February, even though we will not have a girls or boys team.*
c. Parent Concerns: *The issues were briefly discussed during the school report.*
d. Other

VI. **Closing Prayer***: Fr. Papi closed the meeting in prayer.*

VII. **Adjourn (Next Meeting)** February 12, 2025, 5:00 p.m., OLS Church conference room.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Lecheler