

**SETON EDUCATION COUNCIL**  
**MEETING MINUTES - May 23, 2017**

**at**

**SETON ACADEMY**

**Present:** Msgr. Dennis Duprey, Fr. Timothy Canaan, Fr. Scott Seymour, Fr. William Reamer, Christopher Hay, Brian Snell, Michael Howley, Stacie Chapman, Patrick McGill, Cheryl Kabeli, Lynn Gilbert, Susan Pellerin, Christine Boule, Sally Yanulavich and John Deon.

**Excused:** Martha Frost and Stephen Gagnier

President Christopher Hay called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. Fr. Reamer led the Opening Prayer.

**Agenda:** Motion to accept – Brian Snell; seconded by Patrick McGill - unanimously approved.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the April 17, 2017 meeting were reviewed. Brian Snell moved to approve the minutes with minor corrections (from Stacie Chapman); seconded by Stacie Chapman – unanimously approved.

**Public Comment:**

Several parents and students were in attendance. They were Ariel Masten; Donna Primiano-Masten; Lori Sheporaitis; Helen Pennington; Jon Glover; and Heidi Glover. These parents and students were concerned with the arts programs at the two schools, particularly the music program. They were concerned about having a music teacher for the next school year. It was pointed out that participation in music and the arts has increased and continuing those programs could assist with student enrollment. Sports numbers may be down but participation in the arts, particularly band, has increased in the last several years. One speaker pointed out that the kids like these programs. President Hay spoke about the numbers of students being an issue, not the finances, and that there is concern about teachers leaving every year, which reduces consistency and has a negative effect on our students. In response to a parent comment that it does not seem that the teachers seemed concerned about money, pointing out that one teacher came to Seton from a higher paying job and was a graduate of the Crane School of Music, President Hay pointed out that most teachers we lose due to the salaries. The teachers need to be able to express their concerns in their exit interviews. The parents expressed concern about looking long term for the benefit of the programs. President Hay thanked them for their comments and concerns expressed to the Council this evening. Public Comment was then closed.

**Student Council Report:** None

## **Committee Reports**

### Finance

Seton Catholic – Brian Snell reported that the Finance Committee met over the last two months working on budgets for next year (2017-2018). The budgets for each school were handed out to all council members to be discussed and voted on next meeting. Sally Yanulavich prepared a report that was sent to all Council members. There was no discussion regarding that report. Christine Boule spoke and pointed out that enrollment for international students is slow and that she is concerned we will not meet the goal of 30 students for next year. The public schools are now recruiting these students. There is a 3% salary increase in the budget. There is a 4<sup>th</sup> bus in the budget that was used 7 times this year so far. Msgr. Duprey asked about costs for this bus, which are \$8,600.00, plus \$1,500.00 for insurance. The water heater issue is being worked on. Brian congratulated Sally and Christine for all their hard work throughout the year, pointing out that Sally breaks down income per student.

Seton Academy – John Deon spoke about the budget that was handed out indicating that it contains realistic numbers and is up 3.1% from the 2016-2017 year. It reflects a salary increase of about \$750.00 per teacher for next year. There are staffing issues based on the number of students. Health insurance costs are a concern. There are no capital projects in the works and there is a contingency built in. Seton Academy is in good shape for this year. Deposits for next year have not been used to cover any costs remaining for this year.

### **Principal's Reports:**

#### Sister Helen Hermann – Seton Academy

Sr. Helen submitted a written report, which had been sent to all Council members prior to the meeting. Sister reported that she and two teachers attended a math workshop and that one teacher attended a literacy workshop. Enrollment figures are in her report. Kindergarten is at 18, which will likely be more than one classroom.

#### Lynn Gilbert – Seton Catholic

Lynn submitted a written report, which she provided to all Council members. She went over that report. There was an update for the Strategic Plan. They hope to have more college courses next year. Staff evaluations are completed and all the teachers but one who already indicated he was leaving have signed contracts. She is still working on the bussing issue from Chazy with their Superintendent. Things are progressing regarding the Articulation Agreement with Clinton Community College and this may be in place for the Fall of 2018. They are working on ESL for the foreign students to encourage them to participate in this.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### Buildings and Grounds

Stephen Gagnier was unable to be present but provided an e-mail regarding the roof issue and chimney issue. This was sent to all Council members.

### Development

Susan Pellerin provided a report. The Gala was huge success. Cheryl Nauchbauer (sp?) was touted as being dogged in getting donations. The change in location to the City seemed to be a good idea. There were 179 meals served but lack of bartenders was an issue that will be addressed. She estimated the profit at \$20,000.00. Mossbrook completed the Memorial Garden in eight (8) days. The gazebo arrived on May 23. The annual Reunion is this upcoming weekend and is tied in with the Golf Tournament. Items for the garage sale in June seem to be less this year. She discussed marketing items such as license plate covers and pens. The Easter mailing went well - \$7,000.00 to date. There was an alumni visit from Jorge Miguel Morales over Easter Break who attended Seton his sophomore year – he wants to send Seton some students from Mexico. Susan is meeting with the President of Norsk Titanium to show him the benefits of the Seton schools so he can let his employees know. The Gala has 10 corporate and two other table sponsors but help is needed with the event.

**Unfinished Business** – discussed in Lynn Gilbert’s report.

### **Executive Session**

Brian Snell moved that the Education Council enter Executive Session. That motion was seconded by Stacie Chapman and passed unanimously. The Executive Session commenced at 7:15 p.m. At 7:58 p.m. Patrick McGill moved that the Council end Executive Session; This was seconded by Stacie Chapman and unanimously approved. The Council emerged from Executive Session.

### **Topics for Next Meeting**

The committee reports for the next meeting are Buildings & Grounds, Development/Advancement, Finance and Membership.

### **Adjournment**

Adjournment at 7:59 p.m. Motion to reopen meeting at 8:02 and motion by Brian Snell; seconded by Cheryl Kabeli; unanimously approved. Motion to adjourn at 8:02 p.m. by Stacie Chapman; second by Brian Snell; unanimously approved.

**Next Meeting - Seton Catholic on June 19, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted

Michael J. Howley

Council Secretary