

St. James School Council Meeting Minutes

1/10/24

Those present:

- Mr. Eric Chamberlain
- Michelle Rainey
- Christy Karcher
- Eric Kassenbrock
- Ryan Dewig
- Evan Hipp
- Fr. Andrew Thomas – staff visitor

Meeting opened with prayer. Mission Statement read by those present.

November minutes approved.

Fr. Andrew came to give input on the facilities section of our School Improvement Goal 1 and answer any questions we had.

Old Business:

Evan contacted Dean Happe regarding funding/grant questions. The basic answer is that St. James can accept money/donations from anyone if we meet their criteria. It is up to the company/person giving the money to decide if we meet their criteria. It's also sometimes possible to ask the company for a religious exemption to allow St. James to qualify for some donations or grants. Grants are sometimes more difficult to get due to more restrictions placed on their application process, usually because we don't follow the equal opportunity hiring practices because we are a religious institution.

Principal's Report:

Veterans' Day Assembly was on Thursday, November 9th to honor and recognize our veterans and current military. We had 13 veterans present.

Dressing Update – Our team produced and sold 1,153 gallons, making the most profit ever.

Speech team won all 5 meets as well as 1st place at the Diocesan Speech Meet, becoming the Division 2 champs.

Breakfast with Santa was November 19th, hosted by the 8th grade class. It was the largest amount of money we have ever raised for this event.

4 new students: Preschool, 4th, and two 5th

On December 7th we celebrated the beginning of the Advent Season with our Advent Program. We had an outstanding turnout, and our students had a great evening showcasing their talents.

Secret Pals Lunch – The whole school met for a secret luncheon revealing their Secret Christmas Pal. Students ate together then played games during their recess times.

School Spelling Bee –

Elementary Bee: Champion-Elena Faraone, Second Place-Leah Thompson, Third Place-Jamison Macke Middle School Bee: Champion-Gabriel Faraone, Second- Luke Richardson, Third- Kysten

Newlin Elena and Gabriel will be representing St. James at the first ever Diocesan-Wide Spelling Bees on Tuesday, February 6th

Band – Mater Dei hired a band teacher, Mr. Colton Potter, meaning St. James will have band twice per week

Our Homeland Security Safety Grant was approved, allowing St. James to purchase or improve several school safety measures. These include cameras, walkie-talkie/radios, and paying for the Youth First counselor. St. James pays 25% and the grant covers 75%.

New Business:

2024-2025 Calendar is approved and will be sent out in next Friday's Newsletter.

School Improvement Goal 1 discussed and edited. Mr. Chamberlain will rewrite and send out the new version for suggestions and approval.

Sub-Committees:

Marketing – 4 new students joined St. James this semester.

Legislature – Grants vs. donations discussed in detail in old business.

Youth Group – Breakfast January 21st

PTA – no report

Athletics – hosted several home basketball games and all went smoothly. Exact profit from concessions and admissions hasn't been reported yet. Archery is looking for Archery coaches for the 2024-2025 school year.

Technology – No report

Goal 2 will be discussed at the next meeting.

Meeting closed with prayer

Next meeting will be Tuesday February 13th, 2024, at 5:30 in Resource Room