

St. James School Council Meeting Minutes

11/13/2024

Those present:

- Mr. Eric Chamberlain
- Michelle Wilson
- Michelle Rainey
- Fr. Andrew Thomas
- Eric Kassenbrock
- Ryan Dewig
- Josh Elpers

The meeting was opened with prayer. Mission Statement read by those present. October minutes are approved and will be posted.

Old Business:

School Family Accountability Plan Update – Create an account by 1/1/25, Official rollout 6/1/25 but can start entering hours now for practice. Fr. Andrew, Elisha, and Mr. Chamberlain will be meeting 11/15/24 to make a contractual agreement for the School Family Accountability Plan. The council will discuss and approve the agreement at our January meeting.

Architectural assessment/requests have been sent out for updates to the school/campus. Hafer design will be given all information from initial listening sessions and any other information needed to create and present plans for St. James campus updates.

Fire exit stairs from old school was discussed again. No definite solutions have been reached due to waiting on plans for updates to the school campus. Kids will be reminded to drop off books they don't need before using the stairs in old school. Teachers will also be asked for suggestions to help with student safety.

Principal's Report:

Safe Environment Audit – All went well and passed without any “flags”

Speech meet success: Week 1 – 3rd place, Week 2 – 2nd place, Week 3 – 2nd place, Currently in 2nd place of all participating schools

Christmas Card Contest – Winners have been selected and will be notified soon

Dressing – 1,033 gallons made and sold

Parent Engagement – Have a meeting on Friday to finalize policy and draft agreements

Fall Observation and Meetings – All have been completed using Encompass Tool. Year 1, previously used ELEOT. Will begin Spring Observations in March using Diocese of Evansville Tool

Serra Award Winners: Congratulations to 8th Graders Aubrey Sollman and Kate Finney – Enjoyed a luncheon at the Catholic Center

Upcoming Events:

November 18th: Faith Sharing with Sr. Irma

November 20th: City Speech meet

November 21st: Free Dress/Spirit Bottoms

November 24th: 7:30-10:30 am Breakfast with Santa
November 26th: 2pm Character Counts Assembly – Fairness
November 27th: Youth Group Service Work at Tristate Food Bank
November 27th-29th: No School – Thanksgiving Break
December 2nd-6th: Book Fair Week
December 5th: Spirit Dress
December 5th: 6:30 Advent Program – Doors open at 6pm
December 6th: St. Nicholas Day
December 9th: Holy Day of Obligation – Immaculate Conception, Children’s mass moved from Tuesday, 12/10 to Monday 12/9
December 9th: Faith Sharing with Sr. Irma
December 10th: NO Children’s mass – Moved to 12/9
December 11th: Mater Dei/St. James Band Performance at Mater Dei
December 19th: Free Dress/Spirit Bottoms
December 20th: Secret Pals Lunch
December 20th: End Quarter 2
December 20st: Free Christmas Dress
December 21st-January 5th: NO School – Christmas Break
Return to School Monday, January 6th.

New Business:

2025-2026 school year calendar will be brought to January meeting for approval.

Handout given regarding the new academic and behavioral club and athletic eligibility policy. This is a diocesan wide policy.

Possibly wanting to add a reading specialist to the staff. We will discuss it more at a future date.

Sub-committee reports:

Marketing – The Message and Star Times have been covering St. James activities. Open enrollment will begin after the first of the year.

Legislative- No report

Youth Group – Service Day at the Tri-State Food Bank on 11/27

PTO – handout given from October meeting

Athletics – Cross country teams potentially dissolving and instead allowing students to run with MD or GSHS feeder teams.

Technology – No report

Meeting closed with prayer

Next meeting will be January 15th, 2025, at 5:30 pm in the Resource room