

## **Board Briefs**

The Board of Directors met in regular session on Monday, October 23, 2017 at 6:00pm in the board room. The following items were discussed and/or acted upon at the meeting.

The board approved the monthly financials as presented. The board also approved the retirement of Rita Bishop and Mary Tomkinson effective at the end of the 2017-18 school year.

The board heard a presentation from Susan Keane on our efforts to recruit students to attend LSA. This will include open houses, visits to pre-schools and churches in the area to give information about the school. She also discussed incentives to get people to attend our open houses.

The board discussed starting a development committee in lieu of a development director at this time. The committee will assist the board in seeking funds for the overall operation of the school now and into the future. The goal of the development committee is to help to alleviate the overall association budget deficit.

The board reviewed the high school and K-8 principal reports as presented.

The board reviewed the athletic director report as presented.

The board reviewed the Admission directors report. The enrollment has increased by three students from the September census. We now have 254 students in grade K-8 and 115 in the high school. Susan continues to meet with prospective parents and students interested in attending.

As you may have observed the new playground is about 50% complete. It is our goal to complete the installation on Saturday, October 28. This could change depending on when the football team plays their first football game in the IHSA state playoffs.

The breakfast program has not taken off like we anticipated. We have 67 students eligible for a free breakfast and 21 students eligible for a reduced breakfast and yet we only have a total of 10 students taking advantage of the breakfast program. We are encouraging parents to arrive early to allow students to go into the cafeteria for breakfast in the morning. Also, we would like to encourage teachers to send students to the cafeteria if you think a student has not had breakfast and school has not started yet.

The new buzz in system for entry into the elementary school and high school have been installed. The system will require anyone who wants entry into the building after the start of the school day to identify themselves. The ALICE training went well, we are in the process of updating our crisis management plan to reflect the training. We should be operational with our new communication tool School Messenger by November 1. We are waiting for the training component before we go live. We will use School Messenger to inform parents about school closings, informational items and cancellation of school activities.

The State of Illinois passed a 5 year pilot Tax Credit Scholarship program. This means that come January 1, 2018 individuals and corporations may donate up \$1 million dollars to a scholarship granting organization. (LSA is a scholarship granting organization) In return the individual or corporation will receive a 75% tax credit from the state. Only individuals can designate where they want their dollars to go. All students who receive a scholarship from these dollars are required to take the state assessments. We will provide more information as it becomes available.

The board did discuss a possible COOP with Mt. Pulaski for high school football. The number of participants in football is a concern for us moving forward. Having Mt. Pulaski COOP with us helps us to alleviate this concern.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be on November 27, 2017 at 6:00pm.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to see me.

Have a great day!

Dr. Holmes