

St. Lawrence School Advisory Board Minutes
September 9, 2025

Present: Brenda Anderson, Ted Hendricks, Kelly Peters, Emily Bjordahl, Father Tom Hartman, Paul Dhaemers and Jackie Loeschke
Absent: Barry Whipkey

The opening prayer was recited and the meeting was called to order by Ted Hendricks.

There was a motion to approve the minutes from April 2025 by Jackie Loeschke and seconded by Paul Dhaemers.

Principal's Report:

The theme for the school year is "Our Father: Building God's Kingdom Together." This ties in with the theme for Catholic Schools Week, which is a safari theme entitled "Kingdom of the Son." Each section of the Our Father prayer will be reviewed each day and there will be a dance on Friday night.

Enrollment this school year for K-6 is 93 students. Preschool has 54 students with two openings in the afternoon 4-year-old preschool class.

The funds for the Kremer scholarship (\$12,000), KC's scholarship (\$5,600), and St. Mary's scholarship (\$3,000) have all been received. There were no recipients for the Presentation Sisters scholarship this year. The funds for the SDPE scholarship (\$33,200) has not yet been received.

The book fair will occur the dates around Grandparents Day and books will be provided by Whimsy on Main.

Grandparents Day will be on October 10th. Grandparents are invited for mass and then fellowship following.

Greenery sales will start next Wednesday, September 17th.

Old Business:

Set Ablaze goals will remain the same for this year, with advancement being the priority. The goals for the school are as follows:

- Improve social media marketing
- Match teacher's salaries to 100% that of the public school
- Increase enrollment to 140 students K-6

The next Catholic Liberal Arts training will be October 13-14. The social studies curriculum has been updated so teachers are working to establish new lesson plans.

The Open House was completed this year the week before the start of school. Changes will be made to the structure next year to make it go smoother. Mrs. Anderson will send a notice that tuition payments will be due at that time and that all students need to bring supplies that day. Each student will be given a time slot for the open house and there will be 3 people working checkout for financials.

New Business:

Education in Virtue is a program suggested by the diocese that is now being implemented. It reviews the Cardinal Virtues in a 3-year cycle.

School safety has continued to be addressed. Programs are being put into place so children have a safe place to report concerns and an evacuation plan will be established for the church. The students and teachers have been reviewing safety plans. Mrs. Anderson will send a message to parents so they can discuss these protocols with their children. There is a grant through Homeland Security that can be pursued in order to improve security for the school.

New Bylaws for the Advisory Board have been established. The bylaws were reviewed and changes were made to include members of the pastorate. There was a motion by Emily to approve the changes and was seconded by Jackie. The motion was approved. There then was a motion by Jackie to accept the Bylaws. This was seconded by Emily and was approved.

The next meeting is set for November 11th at 5:30 pm.

The advisory board meetings will be November 11, January 13, March 10, and April 14 for this school year.

The closing prayer was said and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Peters