

**SETON EDUCATION COUNCIL**  
**MEETING MINUTES – JANUARY 27,**  
**2015**

**At SETON CATHOLIC**

**Present:** Fr. William Reamer, Fr. Timothy Canaan, Fr. Scott Seymour, Brian Snell, Michael Howley, Stacie Chapman, Stephen Gagnier, Patrick McGill, Martha Frost, Sr. Helen Hermann, Cathy Russell, Sally Yanulavich, John Deon

**Excused:** Msgr. Dennis Duprey, Christopher Hay

Vice-President Brian Snell called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m. Opening Prayer was led by Fr. Scott Seymour

**Agenda:** Motion to accept – Patrick McGill; second by Fr. Scott Seymour – approved.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the November 18, 2014 meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve the minutes – Patrick McGill; second by Fr. Reamer – approved.

**Public Comment:** None

**Student Council Report:** None this month.

**Principal's Reports:**

Mary Forbes – Athletic Director at Seton Catholic (and many other titles)  
Athletic Director Forbes presented information on several topics.

1) Student numbers for athletic teams is a concern. She put forth merger ideas for some programs. Swimming – the boys season is in the winter, the girls season is in the fall. She has been approached by some parents regarding a swim team – her thought is no pool no swim team but the possibility of merger with another school may be an option. She was concerned about “watering down” existing sports during those respective seasons. For the winter Seton has experience with mergers for boys and girls hockey. Pertaining to mergers she also reported that Section 7 would now look much more closely at merger requests and the athletes involved.

2) The New York State Public High School Athletic Association

(NYPHSAA) changed the rules for private schools. There are new rules for students transferring between schools – the rules are more restrictive.

3) Selective Classification. This involves younger students (particularly a 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grader playing a sport at a Varsity or Junior Varsity level. Such athletes will now need to pass a physical fitness test and a physician's approval of that student's application to do this.

4) Basketball – Boys and Girls. Section Seven is returning to the Champlain Valley Athletic Conference and Mountain Valley Athletic Conference concept for basketball only.

Seton had been in the CVAC prior to the recent change to one conference. Mary favors Seton joining the MVAC rather than the CVAC when the Section basketball program is reconfigured. The schools in the MVAC are more Seton's size in number of students. There may be some additional travel but the games should be more competitive and enjoyable for the athletes. She indicated Lake Placid also seeks to move to the MVAC. A motion was made by Patrick McGill to have Seton join the MVAC for basketball – second by Stephen Gagnier. Unanimously approved.

#### Sister Helen – Seton Academy

Sister submitted a written report for all Council members and indicated she had nothing to add to her report.

#### Cathy Russell – Seton Catholic

Cathy also submitted a written report for all Council members. Included with this report were a copies of the following: the Catholic Identity Survey done by the faculty; an agenda for Catholic Schools week at Seton Catholic; and an estimate from Mars Mechanical pertaining to replacing one of the boilers in the Seton Catholic school building. Regarding the boilers, Cathy reported \$6,000 has been spent on boiler repairs already this school year. Also that one boiler is down and inoperable and that the second boiler was leaking. If the second boiler becomes inoperable the building will be come unusable. Steve Gagnier who is chair of the buildings and grounds committee was asked for input. Steve indicated that the price was fair but did not include individual room temperature controls and that Mars has done good work for the school in the past. There was discussion regarding the efficiency of a new boiler with the natural gas fuel source. He indicated the Facilities Committee would discuss this issue at their upcoming meeting. Brian Snell indicated that the Finance Committee would also discuss this issue.

## **Committee Reports:**

### Academic

See the Principals Reports. No report from the Committee.

### Buildings and Grounds

Steve Gagnier was heard from during the discussion regarding the boilers at Seton Catholic. No other report from Steve.

### Catholic Identity

Fr. Timothy indicated all was going well.

### Development

There are four candidates being interviewed for the Director position on January 28, 2015.

### Finance

Seton Catholic – Sally Yanulavich provided a report regarding expenses and receipts to date. Brian Snell also reported (see below).

Seton Academy – John Deon provided several written reports and was present for any questions.

Brian Snell reported on the Joint Finance Committee meeting where tuition rates for next year were discussed. That information is needed as both schools will be having Open House sessions in March. The Committee recommends a tuition increase for students from affiliated parishes of \$100.00 for the year and, for students from non-affiliated parishes and other local students, \$200.00 per year. This will apply to both schools. The actual tuition rates for Seton Academy were presented on paper. Seton Catholic tuition for high school students from affiliated parishes would be \$4,400 up from \$4,300 and for these students from non-affiliated parishes and other local students \$5,200 up from \$5,000. For middle school students in the yearly increase would be the same. The current middle school cost was not available from anyone present. A motion was made by Patrick McGill to increase tuition as recommended by the Joint Finance Committee and seconded by Fr. Scott. Approved unanimously.

### Fundraising:

The wreath sale profit as of the date of the meeting was \$800 but the

sale numbers are not complete. The raffle is ongoing and the 20 Week Club begins soon. The Christmas dinner had a profit of \$9,818.00. We still need a coordinator for fundraising, as Elizabeth Murray is not only no longer a Council member but is unable to continue to coordinate the schools fundraising activities. Thank you “Biz” for all you hard work for the schools. The bag sale will realize a profit of about \$3,500.00 on sales of \$7,000.00, which is less than was projected.

Student Life

No report

Membership:

A new member is still needed.

**Unfinished Business**

Development Office

As noted above interviews for the Director position will take place on January 28. There are four candidates.

**Executive Session**

A motion was made, seconded and approved at 8:09 p.m. to go into Executive Session. The Executive Session ended at 8:38 p.m.

**Adjournment**

**Next Meeting at SETON CATHOLIC on TUESDAY, February 24, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted

Michael J. Howley  
Council Secretary