

**ST. BONIFACE**  
**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL/FINANCE COMMITTEE JOINT MEETING**  
**February 13, 2019**

The meeting was opened at 7:00 p.m. with prayer by Father Joe. The purpose of this meeting was to decide the future of the PreSchool Program at St. Boniface School.

Members Present: Father Joe, Tim Cable, Kathie Fahey, Ron Heidemann, Tom Lienhart, Bill Nastold, Mike Nolan, Peg Reed, Carol Roosa, Joe Ruter, Rick Salerno, Doug Weiss, Henry Wessler, Rosemary Welz. Sister Miriam Kaiser and Jenni Lindgren were also present.

Sister Miriam explained the background of the preschool program. The program moved to St. Boniface from Concordia Lutheran School which was closing. The person who ran it was a Director/Head Teacher. The preschool was listed under Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services. St. Boniface was the first CISE school to get a preschool. The preschool takes only 4-5-year-olds. The other CISE schools that have preschools are listed under the Ohio Department of Education. When the original director/head teacher left, the principal at that time took over the role of director. At that time the paperwork and assessments from ODJFS were minimal.

Now the paperwork is much more extensive and is difficult for the principal to keep up with along with her other duties. Now the ODJFS and Preschool Promise require schools to be part of a program called Step Up to Quality. This program has a star rating and the more stars a school has, the more money per student they receive. Each step up includes more requirements.

Our program does not have the money to hire a Director/Head Teacher. The current teacher is a recent college graduate and does not have experience as a preschool teacher or director. There also have been some discipline problems with some students being asked to leave the program. There are currently only 12 students enrolled in our program. There are usually 10-12 students from the preschool who enter our kindergarten, but these are usually ones who have siblings or other relatives already at St. Boniface and would probably enter our kindergarten anyway.

Sister said that, if we could go through ODE to be a preschool, it would be easier. However, it would be necessary to close the current program under ODJFS and reopen it under ODE. Sister proposed that our current preschool program be closed at the end of the 2018-2019 school year. At that point, Sister Miriam and Jenni Lindgren left the meeting so that her proposal could be discussed by the Parish Council and Finance Committee members present.

After discussion, Rick Salerno moved that the current St. Boniface Preschool Program be closed at the end of the 2018-19 school year with the option of reopening it at a later time through ODE. Tom Lienhart seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Sister Miriam and Jenni Lindgren reentered the meeting and Bishop Joe Binzer and Father Jan Schmidt also joined the meeting.

Bishop Binzer explained that the Hispanic community of San Carlos is looking for a new place to worship. They have been worshipping at St Charles Borromeo Church in Carthage, which is now called San Carlos. There are approximately 1500 members in the San Carlos Community. The San Carlos church building has deteriorated to the point of being beyond repair and there is minimal parking.

Since the St. Boniface membership is declining, the Archdiocese suggested the San Carlos Community could combine with St. Boniface. There are two Hispanic priests currently serving San Carlos. Some members of the San Carlos Community have toured St. Boniface and are enthusiastic about combining the parishes. Archbishop Schnurr is also in favor of the merger.

We have room for one of the San Carlos priests to live in our rectory. We would possibly have two Saturday Vigil Masses—one in English and one in Spanish--and several Masses on Sunday in English and Spanish.

After discussion, the Parish Pastoral Council and Finance Committee agreed that we should proceed with welcoming the San Carlos Community to St. Boniface. Several of those present volunteered to aid in the transition.

The meeting was closed at 9:00 p.m. with prayer by Bishop Binzer.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Welz, Secretary