

St. Emily School

**MEETING MINUTES**

7:00 PM – 8:00 PM  
September 12, 2024

**TOPIC:** To foster Catholic education, advise administration and support the mission of St. Emily Catholic School.

**Attendees:** School Advisory Board Members  
**Facilitator:** School Advisory Board President, Janine Schoen  
**Note Keeper:** Amy Cattapan

**MEETING MINUTES:**

7:02 p.m. In the absence of Fr. Presta, Ms. Booth led us in an opening prayer.

Minutes from the May 2024 meeting were approved.

**Pastor's Report:**

(shared via email)

- Fr. Presta appreciated the "Get Well" video from the St. Emily families.
- Fr. Presta encourages families to attend Mass every Sunday and the St. Emily Feastival.

**Principal's Report:**

School Highlights:

- Progress on Archdiocesan Goals 2024-2025:

Goal		St. Emily	
Faith Formation	75% of students at each school will "Strongly Agree" that "God is present in my life" by 2024-25	✓	79% Strongly Agree 21% Agree
School Culture	All schools will be rated Strong on at least 3 of the 5 Essentials, including Supportive Environment, at the conclusion of 2024-25	✓	Yes - only 17% of schools in the Archdiocese have done this.
Academics	75% of students at each school will achieve typical annual growth in reading & math by 2024-25		Reading - 65% Arch - 63%
			Math - 60% Arch - 56%
Enrollment	Systemwide enrollment will increase 3% each year. Each school will fully enroll its kindergarten.	✓	37 enrolled in Kindergarten

## 5 ESSENTIALS PERFORMANCE

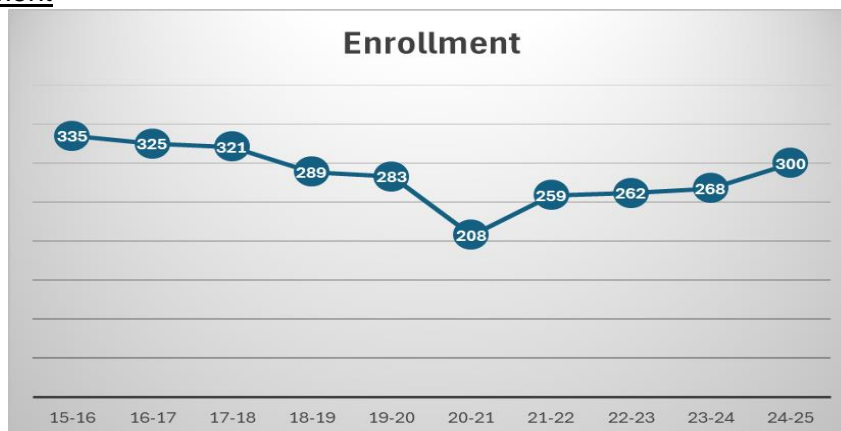


FY	Overall Performance				
	Effective Leaders	Collaborative Teachers	Involved Families	Supportive Environment	Ambitious Instruction
FY22	Organized	Well Organized	Well Organized	Well Organized	Well Organized
FY23	Strong	Neutral	Strong	Neutral	Neutral
FY24	Strong	Neutral	Strong	Strong	Strong

Research from the University of Chicago indicates that schools that are well organized, safe, and supportive are much more likely to be successful. Schools strong in 3 or more of the Essentials are ten times more likely to improve student outcomes than schools weak in 3 or more Essentials.

- Applied for and received an additional \$15,000 from the EANS final reallocation grant. The funds were used to purchase Chromebooks for the new students.
- We held four successful parent nights. Beside our regular back to school nights, one for grades K-3 and one for grades 5-8, we held one just for fourth grade parents and one for all our new families back in June.
- Track-a-Thon funds were used to paint the gym walls, ceiling, and beams. New baseboard will also be installed.
- Expanded extracurricular offerings: Dance Club, Junior Passports, Lego, STEM, and Jr. STEM.
- A very generous family is donating family shirts to each student and staff member.
- Family mass is returning on the following dates:  
 October 20, 11:30 A.M., Grade 4  
 November 17, 11:30 A.M., Grade 6  
 December 8, 11:30 A.M. Grade 5  
 January 26, 9:30 A.M. Catholic Schools Week, Grade 3  
 February 9, 11:30 A.M., Grade 8  
 March 16, 11:30 A.M., Grade 7

### Enrollment



93 new students:

- 49 in K-8
- 44 PreK
- 80 new families

## New Staff

- Lisa Anderson – ELA grades 7/8
- Nikole De Vita – Kindergarten
- Heather Ewen – grade 3
- Peggy Kontos – grade 1
- Patti Modory – PreK 4
  - Brianna Rice – PreK 3
- Sr. Molly Spiering – Religion grades 6-8

## FSA Report

### Events:

- 5 Dine-n-Shares this year
- Lou Malnati's certificates happening now
- Taffy Apples next month
- Spring fundraiser – Butterbraid
- Teacher's luncheon October 22
- Trunk or Treat in October
- Breakfast with Santa
- Holiday luncheon in December

## School Initiatives/Development

- Working on setting up PowerSchool for re-enrollment.
- Working on raising awareness of the Holy Family Fund/Scholarship.
- Giving Tuesday – December 3, 2024. Focus will be on raising funds for scholarship fund. Advertised in bulletin.
- Ms. Booth will send out a parent survey regarding our current uniform provider.

## Marketing

- Discussed ways to check in with new families
- Discover Catholic Schools Week in November
- Catholic Schools Week and Open House in January

## Athletic Report:

- Sept. 26 – First Pep Assembly
- Considering holding a golf outing for a fundraiser in the spring or summer.
- Request to plan early for summer camps to be hosted here due to all of the early registrations sent out by other schools, park districts, etc.
- Working to have more concession stand items available for sale. Might use a punch card system for Pack the Gym Nights or other incentives to get kids to come to games.
- Possibly sell school-related T-shirts to sell at games.
- Dress Down Days will be allowed for attendance at games.
- Two volleyball teams for girls: grades 7/8 and 5/6
- Cross Country has a JV and Varsity team
- No soccer team at this point. Might join with another school.
- Athletic Website is up and running.
- Running club started for grades 3 and 4.
- Tournaments stopped due to lack of volunteers to run them and too much money to enter and run.
- Might offer a 3 and 3 tournament for grades 5-8 some time in January.
- Basketball starts on November 1.
- Next Athletic Board meeting on Thursday, October 10.

8:17 p.m. Closing Prayer

Next meeting: November 21, 2024

