

St. Emily School

MEETING MINUTES

7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

March 12, 2026

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

Attendees: School Advisory Board Members & Fr. Brendan Guilfoil
Facilitator: School Advisory Board President, Janine Schoen
Note Keeper: Janine Schoen (TBD)

MEETING MINUTES:

7:00 p.m. Fr. Presta led us in prayer.

Minutes from the last meeting were approved by Mannie & Stephanie.

Welcome to our newest member – Patrick Crame!

Pastor's Report:

- Continued teaching in the school is taking place that for west wing students includes story telling and coloring sheets whereas east wing students participate more in discussion and thought sharing. The current focus for all grades are topics such as Lent, St. Joseph and St. Patrick.
- Spring Sacramental Celebrations are scheduled to take place as follows: 1st Reconciliation on 2/25/26, Lenten Confessions 3/17/26 and 3/18/26, and 1st Communion on 4/25/26, and 4/26/26.
- Our annual St. Joseph Table is taking place 3/15/26 from 12-3 in the school gym. All donations received will be given to the Ministry of Helping Hands.

Principal's Report:

- I-Ready Mid-Year Diagnostic results were reviewed:

Grade	Overall Mean Scale Score Reading		Overall Mean Scale Score Math	
	Fall	Winter	Fall	Winter
K	359	392	347	371
1	423	461	387	403
2	487	513	412	430
3	539	559	445	455
4	542	562	451	459
5	572	588	468	481
6	604	616	498	510
7	618	621	504	514
8	632	634	525	534
Exceeds National Average (50 th Percentile)				

- Students recently participated in an educational assembly presented by Storm Science. The students thoroughly enjoyed the assembly and positive feedback has since been received.
- A current 1st grade student was Principal for the Day. Students really seem to enjoy this special day and again, positive feedback was shared about the events of the day.
- At the end of this school year, our current Athletic Director (Brian Gleeson) will be stepping down from his position.
- Track a Thon is coming up! Funds raised will be used to upgrade the PA system, purchase PreK White Boards and new Art Stools and Tables.

- Blue Ribbon Program was eliminated Nationwide. The IL Governor is developing a Statewide program that is similar to the Blue Ribbon distinction, but has not yet been released.
- Enrollment and Marketing was reviewed – as of March 2026 376 Students have enrolled!

	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27
PK3	19	17	26	14
PK4	40	26	31	50
K	39	22	37	45
1	21	32	24	39
2	27	19	35	31
3	17	27	21	42
4	15	16	31	28
5	22	15	17	34
6	24	21	17	23
7	17	23	25	33
8	29	17	27	39
	270	235	291	378
	March Comparison			

Athletics Report

- Spring Pep assembly is scheduled to take place March 13th at 1. The theme is “Flowers in God’s Garden” and the assembly will include prayers, songs and activities. Additionally, they will give accolades to the various clubs and winter sports. The MPFD will be present to recognize two students who reported smelling smoke during last week’s evacuation of the building.
- Summer camps and open gym discussions will be taking place. More information will be shared.
- Alumni games are scheduled to take place 4/11 with our present 8th grades vs. former student athletes.
- Athletic Banquet is taking place on 4/30. Currently discussing whether the group has outgrown hosting this banquet in Hadju Hall.
- A golf outing is being planned to take place in September at Old Orchard. More details to follow.

Development

- Development will be a focus for 2026/2027 school year.

Finance

- Sunday collections are slightly behind.
- The Holy Family Scholarship Fund was discussed, and it is currently well funded, it grows interest, and we only use it when we absolutely need it.
- Overall, the parish is in very good place financially with no bills outstanding.
- Currently focused on promoting the capital campaign.

FSA

- Catholic Schools Week includes Open House, Book Fair, and a Teachers Luncheon
- An FSA sponsored Galentine’s Day event took place in February.
- McTeacher night was discussed and is always a success.
- The Easter Egg hunt got great publicity!
- Spring Fundraiser is Fannie May
- Upcoming Events:
The Daddy Daughter Dance is scheduled to take place in April on a Saturday in the gym this year.
Chicago Dogs Mother/Son Baseball Outing in May
Teacher Appreciation Events to take place in May
End of Year School picnics taking place in June

Marketing

- Open houses yielded 30+ tours
- Another open house scheduled in February and another on March 18th

Old Business

- Grandparents Day – Goal to have a plan developed by June 5th
- Consider calling it “Special Persons Day”

8:10 p.m. Closing Prayer

Next meeting: May 14, 2026