

**RLS Board Open Session Meeting Minutes**  
**October 21, 2021**  
**\*In Person Meeting at RLS**

**Voting Board Members Present:** David Robison, Tim Farmer, Michelle Wood, Bee Persson, Bill Xenakis, Chris Johanson, Mackenzie Sottini.  
**Absent:** Neil Porter, Tom Farr

**Non Voting Board Members Present:** Bob Unger  
**Absent:** Pam Daniels, Pastor Jonathan Blanke.

**Staff Present:** Rosie Creasy, Deb Mahan, Robin Hester.

Presiding Officer David Robison opened the meeting at 6:31 PM. David Robison led the opening prayer.

**2022-2023 Tuition**

After having researched Tuition Insurance as requested, Deb reported that these policies don't cover the tuition until a student has been in school for 14 days.

We will table discussion on collecting more money upfront at this time.

We have not increased tuition in 2 years except for leveling church member tuition with non-member tuition for one flat tuition rate across the board in 2021-2022.

Information was sent to board members prior to the meeting detailing RLS tuition histories, other area private school tuition rates, and per student costs for RLS elementary and middle school as well as some percentage increase scenarios. Dave asked us to consider a 4% increase for elementary and a 5% increase for middle school. Discussion ensued and the following motion was made:

**MOTION:** Bee moved to set RLS tuition for all students at \$8800 for the 2022-2023 school year. Chris seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** The motion passed. RLS tuition for the 2022-2023 school year will be \$8800 for all students.

After reviewing our fees and payment structure and to clarify our policy, the following motion was made.

**MOTION:** Tim moved to make the RLS Enrollment Fee, Instructional Fee and 10% Deposit all Non-Refundable. Bee seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** Motion passed. RLS Enrollment Fee, Instructional Fee and 10% Deposit are all Non-Refundable payments.

It was asked that staff clarify and change the Enrollment Agreement (contract) and website to reflect this information ensuring it is uniform in all printed locations. Re-enrollment will be November 15-29, 2021 and then enrollment will open to the public on November 29, 2021.

### **Principal's Report**

Bob reported that RLS is staying safe and healthy as there have been no other covid incidents at school.

He reported on the flooding damage (October 9) most prevalent in the preschool and the displacement and repairs that are happening in that building. While the school also had some water issues with this event, the damage was minimal. The drainage issues are being addressed, but there is a lot to be done to fix this reoccurring problem in extreme rain conditions.

Robin announced that RLS basketball will begin this week for practices with masks being worn. We are able to seat about 70 spectators during competition and tickets will be sold to visitors (Ticket Spicket). Tickets for RLS parents are included in their athletic fee.

Bob shared that he has approved our first off-campus field trip (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade) and the precautions being taken. Our school will be the only group present so there will be no mixing with other groups. We will be using carpooling for transportation. Students will need to have parental permission to ride with a specific driver. Masks will be worn by everyone in the car unless it is strictly one family.

### **Admissions & Marketing Report**

Rosie reported we will have reached 184 students as of 10/25/21.

She is setting a goal of 180 students for next year.

During our January meeting we will discuss the continuation of JK and the number of K, 1 & 2 grades we will have.

There will be staff development tomorrow for the teachers with a 1 1/2 hour program on how to have successful parent conferences.

The playground renovation is underway, the equipment is here and all is on schedule!

The PSO is sponsoring a new fundraiser – a Sweet Potato sale 5lb. bag for \$8.50.

Deb reported that November 30 will be Giving Tuesday and the kick-off to our Annual Fund Drive. Helen Gibbs (PSO) is helping her and they would like the Board Members to offer a \$2500 match for the first \$2500 raised. They will also encourage Class Competitions to help get everyone motivated as well.

RLS may be helping with RLC Trunk or Treat offering games with prizes or trunks – participation yet to be determined.

### **Treasurer Report**

Tim reported that all looks good. We are well within the budget but with Classroom Direct Expenses off just a bit due to the additional K & 1<sup>st</sup> grade classrooms.

### **Principal Call Committee Update**

Dave reported we have a great committee who met October 5, 2021. The Job Description was updated and they will be looking for a full-time administrator with development experience. They also worked on questions to ask in interviews. The next step will be to receive names for potential candidates from Tom Kolb, LCMS District Office. Individuals can also submit a candidate, but our normal protocol is to go through the district office as we look to hire a Called Lutheran Candidate for Principal.

### **November Planning: Academic Calendar**

Bob will bring a 2022-2023 proposed calendar to the board next month for discussion and potential approval.

### **Mask Optional Discussion**

Several emails were received from parents asking us to consider now making masks optional. Discussion was shared giving many points of information and viewpoints.

It was decided to continue with the current Healthy Together protocols which include masking indoors until our January 2022 Board Meeting. At that time, we will discuss the request again as vaccinations should then be available for 5-11 year olds, we get through the Holidays, can consider town and state mandates as well as transmission rates, and other relevant statistics at that time. We will also continue to check our highly qualified resources (medical and school management) that RLS has consulted for information and mitigation advice since the beginning of the pandemic.

A letter will be drafted to include in the Lion's Tale this weekend to share our current decision.

*Presiding Officer, David Robison adjourned the meeting at 8:41pm.*

*Minutes submitted by Secretary Michelle Wood*