

**March 11, 2009**

**School Advisory Board  
Minutes to Meeting**

Attendance: Father Dennis Dirx, Lauren Beckmann, Lisa Lesjak, Tom Zale, Jane Boland, Jane Connell, Laura Maly, Bill Schlise, Matt Heiptas, Matt Linn, Joe O'Neill, Dan Davis, Clark Gridley

**Opening Prayer**

**Pastor's Report**

- The 2009/2010 budget is being completed. Both revenues and expenses were reduced. The budget will be presented to the parish council for final review.
- As part of the budgeting process, there is a possibility of a salary freeze for all parish employees for the next fiscal year. However, should the economic circumstances change, they could be reviewed again in early, 2010.

**Principal's Report**

- A lengthy discussion took place regarding the budget. Three different scenarios were discussed regarding expense reduction. The consensus thought regarding tuition was that it should be held under \$3,000 per child for a parish family. Further discussions will take place on this matter.
- In terms of our continuing consumerism discussion, Lauren received responses from the faculty regarding rewards given to children in the classroom setting. Interestingly, Occasion Gifts and Achievement Rewards were more common than Participation Gifts and Incentives & Prizes. Behavior Rewards were the second most popular reward system category. Lauren's goal is to create a value statement around consumerism in the school. Several parents offered up statements. "We value hard work and delayed gratification" and "We value intangible gifts" were just two statements that were offered by board members. Matt Linn handed out an article called John Paul II and the Problem of Consumerism for the board to read. Lauren will continue to examine this overall consumerism matter.
- There is a lot of curriculum work going on for the 21<sup>st</sup> century skills or standards. Teachers will work on this during the summer. Lauren may seek some federal dollars to support this work.

**Policy Report**

- Jane B. provided a draft for crisis management to Lauren for her review. Catholic Mutual has a policy that Jane reviewed and she will see how it relates to our school. The previous crisis management policy was written in 2004. It now has to be rewritten for our current day situation.

**Education and Formation**

- Bill stated that Martha Flaherty proposed deepening the art curriculum at the last E&F meeting. She recommended 1 hour of art per week and an annual art supply budget of \$15/student. She also further explained the Art-for-Youth program.
- The collections for the library should be labeled by the end of this week. Jane C. recommended that there be a \$20 per student fee to help offset library expenses. She suggested a fee per student because it is what the Common School Fund has averaged for the public schools in the State of Wisconsin for the past 15 years.
- The committee recommends using Usborne as a vendor for the Book Fair on a trial basis for next year. It was recognized though that H&S ultimately makes the vendor decision.
- In terms of enrichment, there are 39 kids taking chess class and the Kid's Stage drama workshop will begin in April.
- It was noted that it appeared to be a well received fundraiser at Culvers for the Shorewood schools where the faculty serve as food servers. It is something for us to take note.

### **Development Report**

- Lisa reported that we are still on pace compared to last year. We'll wait until the Emerald Auction is over to start up again. Lisa asked SAB members if they would sign a letter asking those parents who haven't contributed this year to make a contribution. We agreed. There will be more phoning and emailing to come.

### **Marketing Report**

- Lisa reported that our estimate for enrollment for next year to date is 320. We are budgeted for 330. The drop can be explained with a large 8<sup>th</sup> grade class graduating and a projected small K-4 class of 15 coming in.
- Clark reported that the committee is going to get a student life section on our website to be overseen by a faculty member.
- April 30<sup>th</sup> is targeted for a marketing brainstorming session. Details will follow.
- A play next year called Old Befana has been booked for the school. It will be held at our school in the winter. Similar to Movie Night in July, this will be the winter version of a community relations event.

### **Technology Report**

- Matt reported that the committee wants to help by providing structure to the summer 21<sup>st</sup> century skills project. The committee will help to figure out what this means and how to communicate this project to school parents. Content is not being thrown out, rather it is being beefed up. The big question is how does this content get integrated into the 21<sup>st</sup> century project and how the implementation of the 21<sup>st</sup> century skills will look.

### **Finance Report**

- Please see the budget discussion under the Principle's Report.

### **Environment Report**

- Dan reported that the library project is moving well. The go/no-go depends on the Faith in Our Future cash flow confirmation in April or May.
- There are three components to enhance accessibility so that someone can fully navigate the school. The costs associated with this project are within the \$600,000 targeted in the Faith in Our Future budget.
- Lauren and Dan met with Dave Olson(parish landscaping committee) regarding various exterior improvements. Areas of discussion included the dumpster, the courtyard area at the school entrance, the area between the two Gym entrances and the church entrance flower pots.
- For interior upgrades, the color board was recommended to determine a more aesthetic color scheme.
- Dan will make an effort to increase the size of his committee of one.

### **Home & School Report**

- Joe reported that H&S discussed a Code of Conduct at events. It may be a legal document.
- Event wrap-ups were discussed at the latest H&S meeting including Green Week, Middle School Showcase, Mother Daughter Tea and etiquette classes amongst others.

### **Parish Report**

- Please see Father Dennis's Pastor's Report

### **New Business**

- An ad hoc committee of Tom and Clark will examine the school board member election by-laws to elect next year's new board members. They will email their election process recommendations to board members prior to our next board meeting.
- Jane Boland announced her resignation from the board to be effective at the end of the school year. She will be completing her second year of a three year term. Her pre-announcement will greatly assist in planning for her replacement for next year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Clark Gridley