

St. Patrick's School Board Minutes February 11, 2008

Present: Gina Higgins, Kimberly Fangman, Lisa Meyer, Don Ridder, Julie Kaup, Cindy Engel, Mike Socha, and Wendy Anderson; Absent, Steve Morrissey; Absent, Excused, Pat Adler

We began with a prayer and approved last month's minutes.

Home and School: Julie reported that February's Home and School meeting had been cancelled due to bad weather.

Adult Formation: Julie said the Adult Formation Committee was pleased with the positive response of RF families to the Sienna Francis House meal project.

RF: Gina reported Jan Martin spoke with the RF Committee about the budgeting process. RF is also discussing with the kids how to "contend with their demons" (our parish Lenten theme).

Parish Pastoral Council: Wendy commented on the great coverage Locks of Love received in the *Post-Gazette* newspaper. In regards to Parish Pastoral Council, Wendy reported that the budget income looked good. Members toured the new addition of the school in the last meeting, and everyone seemed pleased.

Finance: Lisa and Cindy met to look over the school budget. Don and Lisa attended the Finance meeting, and the school budget was well-received. Tuition will be increased by 9%, as will books. Don suggested news of the increases should be mailed to families, and it should be noted that the tuition increase is similar to last year's. All members agreed.

A change will be made to the timeline of tuition payments, as tuition will be collected from July through April to more evenly distribute the cash flow. Mike suggested we continue exploring the option of accepting credit card payments.

Don said we had made cuts in the budget for the new addition, going from approximately \$95,000 to \$63,000. Cindy suggested we use people who have expressed interested in helping with technology when installing the new computers.

Development: Cindy reported the dinner auction was a big success. Over \$42,000 in raffle tickets alone were sold.

Safety: Don said it would soon be possible to open the south entrance to the school, but he wasn't sure that was a good idea, as it might complicate traffic flow. Mike suggested opening the south entrance on Sundays, but not on school days.

Continuous Improvement Program: Kimberly reported that the CIP Committee had distributed surveys to parents, students, and staff and will discuss the results in the next meeting.

Principal's Report: Don reported:

- Catholic Schools Week went well.
- Don will be meeting with Father Gilg for the Symposium of the Archdiocese on February 12. Don will report the results at the next meeting.
- The blood drive went very well, with 105 out of 112 volunteers able to donate. Don had been hoping for a turnout of 70. Next year, the event will be held on a Tuesday or a Thursday rather than a Wednesday.
- Locks of Love went well, also. Twenty-six had their hair cut.
- Lenten preparations are in full swing at the school. Father Dan has done a great job with the Stations of the Cross with the students. The fourth through eighth graders drew and posted pictures of the Stations.
- Don raised to the Board the possibility of reducing the size of next year's preschool classes and using part of the current preschool space for the Spanish program. As Gina Bruning will be retiring, we will be down to one full-time preschool teacher. Cindy motioned that this plan be implemented, Lisa seconded, and the Board approved the motion.
- The Board discussed staffing changes for next year.

Other News: Mike mentioned that the Athletic Committee has approached him about having a representative on the School Board. The Board will discuss this issue at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be March 10 at 6:30 in the math/science room.

We closed with a prayer and a tour of the new addition.

Respectfully,

Kimberly Fangman
Secretary