

ASCA School Board Meeting February 24, 2015

Members Present:

Steve Lalonde	Dana Menendez	Lori Steiner	Regis Watson
Jennifer Nolan	Debbie Kosmach	Paul Weinewuth	Wayne Klein
Anne Marie Cronin	Jeff Berta		

Ex-officio Members Present:

Dr. Sandy Renehan	Fr. Dick Smith
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Others Present:

Patty Bajek	Mili Jain	Monica Risdon
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Prayer and Scripture Reflection: Steve Lalonde led us in a reflection on the gospel.

Regular Business:

Approval of Minutes – January Meeting minutes were approved.

Pastor's Comments

Fr. Dick Smith had nothing to report.

Fr. Dick Smith

Board of Trustees Report

No one present

Principal's Report

Dr. Renehan

- CogAT test scores reviewed. Test measures Verbal (language), Quantitative (problem solving) and Non Verbal (approach problems/problem solving sequences). Our students scored slightly above the standard for the Diocese.
- Iowa test scores reviewed. The National percentile rank was on target with the Diocese scores as well as our ELA/Grammar Spelling scores and Math scores. Social Studies/Science remains with the problem that our outline does not meet the test outline at the time of testing and therefore scores cannot align properly. Our composite scores were on target or slightly above the Diocese average. NCE scores are important to note if they are below 42 or above 58. Our Reading scores were above 58 and mostly in the 60's. ELA (English Language Arts) and Math scores were all above 60.
- Our current graduating class will have 86% attend Catholic High Schools in the fall; including Benet, Marmion, St. Francis, Aurora Catholic, Montini & JCA.
- The Gates Foundation is sponsoring research on ways to use technology to improve instruction. We have been selected to use it for a 5-8 week program with post-program testing. Grades 5, 6, 7 & 8 will have the opportunity to utilize it for more Language Arts whereas 4th grade will have Language Arts and Math applications. This program has no cost to us, but allows us access to the technology. Grade 4 is already underway in using this program. Grades 5 – 8 are inputting data before they can use the video snippets for writing. Students will take a pre-test, if they test to be slow in the area they will watch a video that will help them improve in this area.
- Our current Hot Lunch program will begin going out for bid before securing a provider for next school year.
- Two new Board of Trustees have been appointed. Mike Abernathy, a member of St. Michael's parish in Wheaton, and Joan O'Sullivan. We welcome both to assist in better serving our students and school.

School/Home/Parish Partnership (SHPP) Report

Mili Jain / Monica Risdon

- The Mother/Son Wolves game had a great response with 150 moms and sons in attendance.
- The Hospitality Committee hosted a Teachers Luncheon in January and a February Valentine's "sweet treat" Desserts day for the Teachers.
- Prior to the classroom Valentine's Parties a quick SHPP meeting was held with parent volunteers. A review of upcoming events and additional volunteer opportunities with these (and all events) were presented. Even "at home" volunteer opportunities for those not able to come to school were presented. Many new people signed up. Working parent asked for SHPP meeting minutes to be online. This is now being completed.
- CORE hosted Amy Logan, the Author of *A Girl with a Cape* and *A Girl with a Cape and her Jar of Pennies*. Ms. Logan visited with our students on Monday, February 23rd. Her books are great inspirational stories on how we can all be everyday heroes. She spoke to Preschool through 4th graders about kindness and paying it forward, visited our

Kindergarten and 1st grade classrooms and had lunch with a select few students. She then did a separate presentation to the 5th through 8th graders focusing on leadership, mentoring and setting a good example.

- SHPP is also working on an initiative to engage more of our Spanish speaking community to participate and increase overall involvement with the school & SHPP, by reaching out to them directly.
- Upcoming Events:
 - March 16-19th – Spring Book Fair – Sign up genius now accepting volunteers
 - April 11th – Daddy/Daughter Dance – Invitations going out next week
 - May 1st – Grandparents Day

Athletic Association Report

Kurt Gregus / Jerry Kyle

No one present

New Business:

- **Enrollment** – Re-enrollment is almost complete. Still waiting on some current families to return paperwork. Patty Bajek is in the process of sending out acceptance letters to newly enrolled families. We currently have 45 new students that will begin in the fall. In addition, we have 23 students not returning. Additional inquiries and tours continue daily as well.
- **Fees & Forms** – Patty Bajek attended the Athletic Association’s Meeting to discuss options about staggering their fees so they do not conflict with the timing of the schools fees & forms dates. Various options were discussed. Athletics will work on options and should be able to confirm back to the School Board prior to our next meeting.
- **FACTs Only Program** – Patty Bajek is in the process of finalizing this process. She is working with FACTs Management on shaping the different accounts that we require with the incidental accounts. Beginning next week further communication and education of this program, and how it benefits all once underway, will begin.

Committee Reports:

Education Committee

Dana Menendez / Lori Steiner

- The McGraw Hill Wonders reading program was selected to replace the current Houghton Mifflin Journey reading program. Wonders offers more technology which had a greater appeal over what we are currently using. Other programs considered were Superkids and Scott Foresman. Ordering of the new books can now begin to ensure we have everything ready in the fall to proceed with this program.
- Math literacy meetings will start up again in the fall.

Finance Committee Report

Diane Huber/Regis Watson/Paul Weinewuth

- Review of Financial Report Summary.
- The Finance Committee will be working on the budget in March after the Diocese receives final approval from the DOJ Finance Council. They will then meet on April 15th as a committee to put final touches on the budget and present it at a joint Board of Trustees/School Board meeting on April 28th.

Marketing Committee

Patty Bajek/Anne Marie Cronin/Debbie Kosmach/Jennifer Nolan

- Patty continues to work on Enrollment with new families and new inquiries to the school including tours and students shadowing.
- Next meeting this Thursday to review CSW reports from each parish, budget review for marketing initiatives for current and upcoming year, community building & exposure events, etc.

Facilities Committee

Wayne Klein/Jeff Berta

- Nothing to Report

Technology Committee

Steve Lalonde

- Nothing to Report

Closing Prayer: Fr. Dick closed the meeting with a prayer.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 24, 2015