

St. Joseph School  
School Board Minutes  
December 10, 2007

Members Present: Todd Gregoire, Todd Rogers, Joan Boddicker, Sharon Beduhn, Sue Jaeger  
(Out-of-Parish, St. Victoria)  
Ex-Officio Members: Maggie Smith

Call to Order 6:30 (Executive Session)

Open meeting 7:25

Approval of November 12, 2007 minutes

### **1. Curriculum**

- Many of St. Joseph students are on the A or B honor roll for their class. Some students are getting bored in class and need an accelerated learning track.
- Maggie is talking to teachers to see if there is a way to help keep students challenged, as well as reach those who are struggling.
- Separating classes by strength in the subject matter does not seem to be the appropriate way to go.
- We could use more teacher training to help the teachers learn how to get to all the kids.
- This would be an excellent area for the school to work with the home and school committee to help develop/obtain resource materials that would be available to challenge students
- The Board is interested in reaching students on both ends of the learning spectrum.
- Maggie will talk to other schools to see what they do.

### **2. Dakota Trek**

- Fundraising is an essential part of the trip. The students who do not participate in the fundraising miss an important part of preparing for the trip.
- The intention of early fundraising is to keep kids excited about attending St. Joe's until eighth grade.
- Sixth grade is early to start fundraising, but it gives them a chance to learn about the fundraising piece.
- The classes try to keep the fundraising minimal for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Maggie oversees which grades get to do which fundraisers.
- The Board agrees with limiting the fundraising that is done in the earlier years.

### **3. Committee Reports**

- The Advancement Team is working on an alumni newsletter.

- \* They are not yet prepared to announce what their fundraiser idea is.
- Maggie met with Andy Wagner from Computer Easy to see about leasing our computers.
  - \* Todd R. is still trying to meet with the computer teacher to see how the resources at SJS compare to other area Catholic and public schools.
- The athletic committee is having conflicts with kids joining the Waconia Basketball Association.
  - \* SJS teams have instituted penalties for players who miss practice and/or games.
  - \* SJS is trying to work with WBA so tournaments are not on the same days.
- The Board accepts the updates.

#### **4. Pet Policy**

- The pet policy was updated to include bird issues.
- The pet policy, although thorough, is notably longer than other policies.
- The Board accepts the policy as revised.
- Maggie will get the policy summarized with the full policy to be in the appendix.

#### **5. Grievance Procedure**

- As suggested by the staff, the Board will change the name of the policy from “complaint” back to “grievance”.

#### **6. Principals Report**

- The Saints, Inc. program is instituting new policies and offering new services to raise money.
- Maggie attended an update on legal issues.
  - \* The Insurance company says no stability balls are allowed in classrooms other than in gym class.
- The insurance company is requiring two adults per car on field trips.
- The Board will investigate these issues and discuss them in more detail at the next meeting.

#### **7. School Board Goals**

- We need to find a way to make SJS stand out.
- The number of honor roll students from WHS and from Holy Family who are SJS grads should be determined to see if that can be a selling point.
- A sub committee will be formed to brainstorm about ways to market SJS this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45.

The next meeting will be January 14, 2008 at 6:30 in Room 211.