

St. Joseph School
School Board Minutes
March 11, 2009

Members Present: Joan Boddicker, Mark Bradshaw, Tony Kirsch, Lisa Nielson, Susan Wright, and Todd Rogers.

Ex-Officio Members: Maggie Smith, Donna Woodard

Others: Bonnie Delaney, Diane Evander, Missy Isaacson, Don Whitaker, Daryll Arman, Ken Horner and James Johnson.

Call to Order 6:30

Approved minutes from February.

1. Code of Conduct for Sporting Events

- The MYAS has some guidelines restricting drugs, alcohol, and bad behavior.
- The St. Joe's Athletic Handbook has similar provisions.
 - * We could include the Athletic Handbook in the regular handbook.
- The Athletic Board will re-write the handbook to include current policy by August.

2. Middle School Christian Behavior Consequences

- Missy created a responsibility table to identify what each of the student, parent, and teacher are to do.
 - * The chart can be put on the back of the CBE form.
 - * The chart will include bullet points for more clarity.
- Children who don't turn in homework get a "ZAP" (Zeros Aren't Permitted) and must complete homework at lunch time on Tuesday or Thursday.
 - * Parents don't always here about this.
- Donna will send an e-mail letter to teachers about ZAP and the consequences of having 5 CBE violations.
- Maggie will update the CBE information in the handbook.

3. Enrollment update

- We are down 9% from our projected number.
- Donna will be making calls to families that may be interested in enrolling.

4. President's Address

- Describe the President/Principal model
- Purpose of Assessment tests
 - * The Archdiocese is mandating the SAT 10 for 8th graders in the fall.

- * SAT10 does not have the online access to be able to track students the way the Iowa Test of Basic Skills does.
- * We can get test results back in 15 school days.
- * The testing costs \$4,500 to \$6,000
- Spanish curriculum questions
 - * The curriculum will change over the next few years so that our 8th graders will have completed the high school Spanish 1.
- Meeting the needs of all the Students
 - * We will put tools and strategies into place so that teachers can address the differing needs (higher and lower) of the individual students.
- Math standards
 - * We will continue putting a process in place to meet the Algebra 1 expectation for ninth graders
- Closing the doors
 - * There is work being done on the staffing structure so that there will never be a need to turn away new students.
- Retention Planning
 - * We need to work on this. This type of planning will be facilitated by the principal/president model.
- Role of the School Board
 - * The Catholic Church makes school boards advisory. The Board will represent parents and Father takes board decisions seriously.
- Communication and Grievance Process
 - * Need to be proactive in getting issues addressed
 - * There is a particular process for grievances and it needs to be followed.
- Enrollment
 - * There is currently a 9% decrease in enrollment
 - * There is 0% growth public schools
 - * Retention is the key and it is everyone's job.
- Class sizes
 - * There are financial challenges in splitting the classes.
 - * The goal is to best meet the needs of all the students

5. SWOT Analysis and Key Strategic Issues

- For next time we need to put the two lists of Key Strategic Issues into one list of five to six items.

6. Ongoing Fundraisers

- A list of the fundraisers and calendar of when they occur was prepared by Susan.

7. Technology Meeting

- What does Computer EZ do? The annual cost pays to maintain the network. They are Apple certified, they order new parts, they make software and hardware recommendations. They teach Lisa how to troubleshoot certain problems.
- The committee created a blog policy. It contains one page of regulations based on national standards.
 - * It should become part of the Internet Policy, which will be part of the School Handbook.

8. Fundraising Goals

- Teachers see adequate staffing as a more important goal than technology
 - * The cost of a few smart boards will not pay a salary
 - * New technology may attract more students.

(Executive Session began at 9:20)

(Executive Session ended at 10:15)

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15

The next meeting will be April 15, 2009 at 6:30.