

St. Joseph School
School Board Minutes
May 13, 2009

Members Present: Tony Kirsch, Joan Boddicker, Ken Palattao, Lisa Nielson, Susan Wright, Todd Rogers.

Ex-Officio Members: Maggie Smith, Donna Woodard

Others: Diane Evander, Peg Philp

Call to Order 6:30

Approved minutes from April

1. Visitor Guidelines

- Visitors can speak to an issue if they notify the Board a week in advance.
- The agenda should be posted the Thursday before the Board meeting.

➤ The Board accepts the policy. It will be sent to parents. The minutes, agenda and this policy will be put on Edline.

2. Action Register

- The Bullying Policy will be done by summer.
- Testing options were chosen for 2008-2009.
- The typing proficiency review will be done in May and the Tech Committee will look for options to support this area.

3. Technology Committee update

- Lisa Whitaker applied for 3 grants from the Yetzer Trust:
 - * One for new keyboarding software called Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing
 - Currently students are using a free software for typing because the Type to Learn software does not work well with the new Mac computers.
 - * A document camera to be used for projecting desk work onto the wall.
 - * Another computer for the tech lab, half of which has been paid for by the Catholic Aid Association.
- We are waiting for the Blog Policy to come back from teacher review before presenting it to the board.

4. Fundraising

- Boogie Blast raised enough money for some interactive whiteboards, laptops for teachers and operating budget support.

- Eighth Grade fundraising should move to a community/class fund model, rather than individual accounts.
 - * Raising funds for individual accounts could jeopardize our non-profit status.
 - * Families will be tracked on participation, but not by money raised. Families who do not participate may be charged for a portion of their trip.
- In general, Boogie Blast would cover some budgeting needs, and there would also be a specific need that would be funded at the Boogie Blast.
- The Marathon may be pulled away from fair share some time in the future.
- Donna is looking at scrip for Fair Share fundraising.
- Fair Share overages should be just for the general fund so that fundraising does not violate IRS laws.

5. Standardized Testing

- Iowa Test of Basic Skills was completed by 1st-8th grades.
- COGAT was taken by 3rd and 5th grades.
- Learnia was taken by 3rd – 8th grades and is being finished up.
- All tests, including parent books, will be communicated to the parents by the end of the year.

6. Lunch Program

- We are losing about \$5,000 per year on the lunch program. We are paying money to the public school for the lunches, paying for cleaning items, and paying a person to enter lunch numbers. Maybe we need to raise prices to cover our costs.
- Susan will look at some of the different options to save money in the lunch program.

7. Home and School

- It was recommended that the Home and School Chair should be an active member of the Board.
- The transition could begin slowly with the Chair on the Board next year, and then increasing the services provided by the committee next year.

8. Recruitment

- Press releases for church bulletins are being sent nearly weekly.
- Banners and yard signs have been purchased and will be set up.
- Report folders with school info will be placed in pews a few times a year.
- Father is calling parents with Kindergarteners who haven't enrolled yet.
- We will begin contacting 5th and 6th grade students of other Catholic Schools in the area who only go to 6th grade.

9. Summer Offerings

- We have 3 teachers interested in offering something this summer.
- This is definitely an idea to get ready for next summer.
- We could advertise in the Community Ed brochure.

(9:00 Executive Session)

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00.

The next meeting will be June 10, 2009 in the teacher lunch room.