

April 12, 2010 School Board Minutes

Members in attendance: Steve Siy, Eileen Carter, Karen Coon, Peter Goodman, Jean Wright, Tim Flanner, Matt Fricker, Jim Swiderski, Christine Keyes, Mary Cunniff, Larry Francione, Jayme Hartman, Mike Cekanor & Cheryl Zima

Members not in attendance: John Gatto

Guests in attendance: School Board Nominees – David Crosby, Rob Durham, Margaret Samyn, Colleen Wallace, Toni Kroeplin, Kim Tallmadge and Susan Koehn

1. Opening Prayer – Meeting began at 6:30 p.m. with Common Leadership gathering in the church.
2. Reflection – Adjourned at 6:45 p.m. from Common Leadership Night to individual meeting rooms. School Board met in Church Hall for individual meeting.
3. Welcome to Nominees to School Board – brief description of process by Steve & Jayme
4. Open Forum – No one expressed a desire to speak, and no one appeared.
5. Liaison Reports
 - a. Home & School - Christine Keyes reported– They are working with Doug Miller on new Guidelines for Home & School similar to other Standing Committee guidelines; They have purchased the statue of Mary that was voted on out of last Bids for Kids, and a parishioner has built a mobile stand for her; Teacher Appreciation week begins May 3, and the Teacher Appreciation luncheon is set for May 5; Marian Devotion ceremony, Living Rosary and reception is scheduled for May 6; the next Home & School meeting will be on 4/14/10 at 7:00 p.m.
 - b. Faculty report – Sue Bremer reported – Barb Novy broke her ankle and is recuperating.
 - c. Parish Council – Larry Francione reported that there is no report as there has been no Parish Council meeting since the last School Board meeting.
6. President’s report – Steve Siy reported that School Board member John Gatto has notified him that he is resigning from the Board effective immediately.
7. Principal’s report – Jayme Hartman reported
 - a. March 17th, St. Patrick’s Day was celebrated by the appearance of the Irish Dance group who performed for the students in the gym. The performance was great and some of our own kids got to try dance steps! Michael Richardson, an SJV second grader, did a great job performing with his troupe.
 - b. March 18th the 3rd grade students visited their Pen Pals at Prince of Peace School. They met each other and participated in activities together.
 - c. The annual Human Growth and Development seminar for 5th graders occurred on March 18th. There were two sessions, one for boys and one for girls.

- d. Hearing Screening for 4K -1st graders was conducted free of charge by Cindy Cichon, an SJV parent. Thank you to Cindy and her helper for coming and performing such a worthwhile service for our children.
 - e. The First Grade Annual Teddy Bear Drive was a huge success during the week of March 22-26. Thank you to all of the families who donated stuffed animals for this drive.
 - f. The Middle School students, lead by Mrs. Fischer, did a fantastic job depicting the Stations of the Cross on Wednesday, March 31st. This special event helped everyone in attendance appreciate all that Jesus did for us!
 - g. Recent 6th grade transfers out of SJV – Jayme met with both families, and they each gave her their reasons for leaving. Seven students in total have left from the Middle School this year, all from the 6th grade. Most have not listed changes to Middle School as primary reason for leaving.
 - h. Extended school day 15 minutes – Jayme worked with the bus company and has received confirmation from them that we will be able to extend the school day by 15 minutes next year (2010/2011). The day will begin 5 minutes earlier. The first bell will ring at 7:45 and the second bell will ring at 7:55. The day will also be extended by 10 minutes at the end of the day, with dismissal moved to 2:50 p.m.
 - i. Spring Break for the 2010/2011 school year– In making the decision to schedule Spring break for after Easter, rather than before Easter, they looked at many factors. Because Easter is so late this year, MUHS, DSHA & Catholic Memorial have all decided to schedule the break before Easter so that students are not returning the week that AP exams begin. Elmbrook decided to leave Spring break for after Easter, and the bus company indicated that they would strongly encourage us to maintain our schedule in conjunction with Elmbrook. The SJV schedule calls for Thursday & Friday of the week before Easter to be off so that students whose families follow the Catholic High School break schedule will not miss a whole week of classes.
8. Committee reports –
- a. Advancement/Development – Eileen reported for Advancement - there has been no activity since last School Board meeting; Jean reported for Development – they also have not met since last School Board meeting
 - b. Finance – Peter reported that there has been no activity since last School board meeting
 - c. Long Range Planning – Tim reported they have been progressing on the Survey questions.
 - d. Policy – Karen reported that they have not had a meeting since the last School Board meeting
9. New Business
- a. Principal Search Committee – Jayme reported that committee received 22 applications. JoAnn Cekanor & Nora Hauser went through the resumes received and have narrowed the field down to 5 who will be given the psychological survey and will interview for the position with the Principal

search committee. Will definitely have a new principal by June 1, 2010, and hopefully sooner.

- b. Advancement/ Development Committee Thoughts for the future – Steve began a brainstorming discussion of how we can work to improve the attitude towards the School from other committees and some parishioners. Discussion as to how we need to affirm the positive impact that the School and its families have on the vitality of the Parish both in volunteers and finances. Ultimately, the goal is to develop a better relationship between the School and the Parish and to emphasize to all parishioners the positives to the Parish as a whole of having a strong school as part of the Parish ministries.
 - c. Review of School Board Roster – Three members leaving – Steve Siy, Peter Goodman, Karen Coon; Three members are in their 2nd year – Eileen Carter (Vice Chair) Tim Flanner, Jean Wright; Three members are in their 1st year – Jim Swiderski, Matt Fricker, Larry Francione. Currently, the Co-Presidents of Home & School, Christine Keyes and Mary Cunniff, serve as liaisons to the School Board from Home & School, and next year, that position will be filled by Karen Price, the current Vice President of Home & School.
 - d. Discernment (was f. on the Agenda moved ahead due to time constraints); each candidate answered 4 questions put to them by Jayme, who was the Parish moderator assigned to School Board for the discernment process; the four questions answered by each candidate were: 1) Why is now a good time for you to become involved with the School Board; 2) What qualifications and talents would you bring to your service on School Board; 3) What do you feel is the best thing about SJV school; 4) What do you see as the greatest challenge to the School and the Parish over the next three years. Each of the seven candidates responded in turn.
 - e. Review of School Board Guidelines – deferred to May meeting
 - f. Evaluation of School Board Performance – deferred to May meeting
10. Old Business – Jayme readdressed the Archdiocesan Standards that she explained at the last meeting. She has put together statement of what children are taught in each grade for Math under current curriculum in comparison to what the Archdiocese requires. She will be doing the other subjects as well.
 11. Announcements – None
 12. Return to Church Hall for Committee Reports and Secretary Report at 8:15 p.m. – will reconvene after for completion of discernment process
 13. Refreshments & Fellowship from 8:40 to 8:50.
 14. Adjourned to P209 at 8:50 p.m. for continuation of discernment – Susan Koehn, Kim Tallmadge & David Crosby were discerned as the new School Board members. Their three year term will begin with the 2010/2011 school year which begins on July 1, 2010.
 15. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.
 16. Next School Board Meeting 5/17/10 at 6:30 p.m. (not a Common Leadership Night) in the Library.

