

ASCENSION SCHOOL BOARD  
NOVEMBER 14, 2011

DATES TO REMEMBER:

11/18/11	Report Cards
11/19/11	Blue Tie Auction
January	Open House
March	School Board Elections

PRESENT: Pastor Father Larry McNally, Principal Mary Jo Burns, Chair Nikole Drever (10), Paul Seavey (09), Jason Huggins (09), Erin Fitzgerald (10), Michael Kelty (10), Julie Garcia (11), Steven Hinton (11), Peter O'Leary (11)

LAST MONTH'S MINUTES: Approved

PASTOR'S REPORT: The Parish Thanksgiving Mass will be celebrated at 9:30 AM on November 24. All Christmas Angels were gone by the end of 9 AM. The new Rites of Mass will begin the last weekend of November. Father Larry has worked with grades 2 through 8 to prepare our Parish children for the changes.

New Ascension hymnals are now in our church pews. The generosity of each individual or family who contributed to purchase the hymnal is noted in the inside front cover of each hymnal.

The Archdiocese is planning a capital campaign, with 60% of proceeds being used to fund Ascension education.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Enrollment is currently at 474. Our school is implementing the Olweus Program to address bullying to improve our school climate. The school is making an effort to become greener, including review of cleaning supplies and paper use. Teachers will be printing report cards using an on-line grading program.

An evacuation drill held on October 24, went smoothly and two more drills are planned. Our written plan is being edited.

Policy on student cell phone use will be drafted.

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT REPORT: 339 are registered for the Blue Tie Auction. Volunteers are needed and should contact Lynn Frederick. The school endowment will be addressed at the December Board meeting.

**FINANCE:** The budget continues to be analyzed in view of higher than expected salary and health care benefits. The school continues to make progress in tuition collection. Through the work of Mary Fitch and Board member Paul Seavey, the Board now receives regular monthly financial reports. The preparation and review of these financial reports allows the Board to fulfill its oversight obligation.

**LONG RANGE PLANNING:** Plans are underway to recruit parents to assist with science labs. The use of parents will allow the school to upgrade the labs in order to better prepare the students for high school science.

**MAINTENANCE:** Planning for reconfiguration of the faculty room and adding an office continues.

**ACADEMICS:** Junior high grades will be available on line.

**TECHNOLOGY:** The Archdiocese held an IT conference last week. Plans are being prepared to move towards having a laptop and projector in each classroom. The computer lab printer glitches are being addressed.

**ATHLETICS:** Five school parents have agreed to serve on the Athletic Committee.

**HOME & SCHOOL:** School Directories have been published.

**EXTENDED DAY:** Extended Day is anticipating its annual Thanksgiving week crunch. The registration fee and hourly fees are under review.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Discipline provision in the School and Athletic Handbooks.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Cell phone policy.

Submitted by Board Secretary Mark Szaflarski  
Next meeting at December 12, 2011 at 7 PM in the Parish Center