

ASCENSION SCHOOL BOARD  
February 8, 2010

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

3/6&7/10	School Board Elections
4/4/10	Easter
4/17/10	Parish Variety Show
4/23/10	Runathon
4/30/10	Grandparents Day
5/15/10	Bags Tournament
6/25/10	Golf Outing
6/27/10	Gold Brunch
11/20/10	Auction

**PRESENT:** Father Larry McNally, Mary Joe Burns, Neil Heskin, Michele Joubert (2007), Kurt Mackey, Pat Hess (08), Chair Wendy Schmiedeler (08), Jill Pollard (08), Jason Huggins (09), Mike Lynch (09), Paul Seavey (09)

**LAST MONTH'S MINUTES:** Approved

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public comment.

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** Father Larry continues his work in the school, including the First Reconciliation of the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students. Planning is underway for Ash Wednesday as Lent. Two Parish fish fries are coming up. The response to the Haiti Relief efforts has been beyond expectation is much appreciated. The Men's Handicapped bathroom in the church will be completed by Easter Sunday. The Stewardship Committee continues its' work with parish leader to met and discuss stewardship with Ascension leadership.

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:** Planning continues for All Day Kindergarten at Ascension in 2010-2011, including space and school day schedules. Next year projected enrollment is 475 students. Efforts will be made to assist Ascension students with their transition into Oak Park River Forest High School. The State of Illinois currently has not plans to assist with subsidies for replacing our student's Math Books.

**DEVELOPMENT REPORT:** Work on the parish website is ongoing, including allowing for online registration for events. Ascension will be accepting Runathon donations, Gold Alumni Brunch and golf outing registrations online. Congratulations to Chip and Jill Pollard, who have been invited to the Archdiocesan Development Council lunch in May along with other school winners of the Impact Award.

The Ambassadors have begun the process of email interviews with alumni. They will host a coffee following the school Mass on March 17 for local alumni who have expressed interest in being interviewed in person.

A business solicitation for support for spring and summer events will be sent early in March.

We sent letters to the parents of all children in school with the names and addresses that we currently have for grandparents; we have asked for updates and for email addresses. We are getting responses at a fairly good rate and hope to send the email version of the invitation at the end of February.

Looking ahead, we have the five class reunions scheduled between April and November; parish variety show scheduled for April 17; the Bags Tournament for May 15; the golf outing for June 25; the Gold Brunch for June 27.

**FINANCE:** Neil Heskin reported that we are ahead of the budget projections for tuition and fundraising for the January fiscal year-to-date period. Based on guidance provided by the Archdiocese, planning for the 2010-11 school year needs to include a 2% increase in salaries and a 15% increase in benefits. After review of the budget projections, the Board recommended a 5% increase in tuition for 2010-2011.

Work is underway to establish a Board task force to develop a comprehensive financial plan consistent with the overall philosophy of the parish to address tuition, tuition assistance, collection and consistent financial reporting in order to plan for future financial stability

**ACADEMIC COMMITTEE:** Review of the graduate surveys continues.

**Technology:** 6 computers have been placed in the Second grade classroom.

**Long Rang Planning:** The results of the Long Range Plan will be presented in April.

**Maintenance:** The men's bathroom in the church should be completed by Easter.

**Enrollment:** 2010-2011 enrollment is projected to be 475.

**Home and School:** Buddy bowling proceeded. Additional volunteers are needed for future activities.

Submitted by Mark Szaflarski

Next meeting is March 9, 2010 at 7 PM in the Parish Center