

**ASCENSION SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES: 4/14/2008**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Father Larry McNally, Mary Jo Burns, Terry Thiese, Liz Skalitzky, Jason Allington, Mike Iannacone, Dan Rodde, Peg Mackie, Tom Carraher, Craig Shannon, Patti Farley, Jill Pollard

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

May 12 School Board Meeting

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mr. and Mrs. Skapek discussed concerns about the school enrollment policy. Board members explained that the 26 student limit is the school policy and they explained some of the reasons behind the decision to stick with that number. Exceptions to the policy are at the discretion of the Pastor and Principal. Father Larry said that he will get back with the Skapek's to follow up.

Teachers Mrs. Cantafio and Ms. Walters discussed their concerns that we are turning away pre-school students. They offered solutions to accepting more students at these grade levels and expressed their desire to accommodate the families currently on the waiting lists. They also requested earlier notification of class times for the Fall.

The Board discussed 2008/2009 PK4 enrollment levels.

**MINUTES:** Last month's minutes were approved.

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** Father Larry is working with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders on First Communion and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders for Confirmation.

- He is taking nominations for the Stewardship Committee.
- He discussed the possibility of an Appreciation Dinner.
  
- **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:** Ms. Burns revisited our enrollment figures.
- Regarding the Food Service – the service is cutting back because of low usage.
- Tuition: staff is starting to learn Quick Books to better manage collections. There is an increase in unpaid tuition and the Principal and Pastor are looking for ways to achieve more success in collecting outstanding charges.
- Tuition: Business Office Staff will have on-site training to update their knowledge of the Quick Books Program. The School is following School Board policy regarding collection of outstanding balances.
- The board reviewed math and science scores as they related to OPRF placement. We use data, assessments to evaluate curriculum and instruction.
- Identified Jr. High level math aid as an area for future growth.
- On Lice policy, the Department of Health wants the school to maintain an “educational” role in this issue. It is the school's job to educate parents and students about the problem, not inspect heads.

**DEVELOPMENT REPORT:**

Lynn was not present. She provided a report. The board discussed the allocation of Golf outing money for the Endowment Fund. The board requested that we discuss the issue further via the Development and Endowment Committees. In the opinion of the School Board, both of these committees need to meet before a final decision is made... Mike Iannaconne agreed to coordinate the meeting.

**SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR REPORT:**

Nothing to report.

**COMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS:**

**Academic Committee:** No meeting. Money is needed for text books.

**Finance:** Some review of the school finance spread sheets.

**Long Range Planning:** Met twice to review the 2003 Strategic Plan Discussed creating a new 10 year plan ideally by year's end. Board authorized moving forward to complete a strategic plan.

**Technology:** A decision was made that all students will have their own headphones and that the school will order a standard type and apply it as a fee on tuition statements. The estimated cost is \$5/pair. The sharing of headphones has been complicated by the recent Lice issues. The Technology Committee members are in the process of identifying candidates to lead the committee given Ed Yalla's resignation.

**Development Liaison:** No meeting. Will schedule meeting

**Athletics:** Committee did not meet.

**Commissions:** Patti Farlee deferred to Fr. Larry's Pastor's report

**Endowment:** No meeting yet. Will consult Archdiocese about best practices and meet regarding findings.

Extended Day: No meeting

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Additional Public Comment: None

Summary Bullets:

Public comment regarding class size

Finance overview

Development report

Submitted by Jason Allington  
Next meeting May 12, 2008