

**St. Gregory the Great Advisory Board Meeting**  
**February 20, 2008**

**Attendance:** Peter Wilson, Chris Lynch, Katie Rahill, Martin McGuan, Sherry O'Brien, Don Schuele  
**Absences:** Gary Novinc, Mark Geyman  
**Guests:** Molly Clifford, Jill Medovich

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**Call to Order:** 7:04 P.M. by Chris Lynch  
**Opening Prayer:** Don Schuele  
**Meeting Minutes:** Minutes from December 12, 2007 approved  
**Pastor's Report:** None  
**Principal's Report:** Presented by Mr. Peter Wilson

**School Report:**

A memorial Mass was held today for Mrs. Effie Littlejohn. Students shared kind remembrances about her. A reception was held afterwards for Mrs. Littlejohn's family members and staff.

There was discussion about the on-going dilemma of non-contributing members of the parish still paying the in-parish school tuition rate. The question of how to resolve this issue was tackled by the SAB. One member suggested using a contract whereby parents agree to be contributing members of the parish. This method is used by other parishes, notably St. Paschal. Don Schuele suggested we sidestep some potential legal/ethical issues by creating two tiers of parishioner involvement: contributing members and non-contributing members. Contributing members would receive the benefit of the lower tuition rate. Mr. Schuele emphatically noted now is the time to settle this matter, prior to the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year. The SAB unanimously agreed this issue has been "on the table" for too long. It is time for the parish to settle this matter.

Mr. Wilson mentioned two teachers, Nancy Ball and Lauren Meek, were invited to present the G.E.M.S. program at a national convention in Florida. He is researching avenues to defray the cost of the trip.

Frank Lupica will present the H.E.R.O.S. program to sixth and seventh grade boys. The H.E.R.O.S. program teaches boys how to have positive social interactions and it aims to stop the practice of bullying.

Students in grades 1-7 will take the Iowa Test of Basic Skills. Teachers are encouraged to review essential test-taking skills with the students prior to testing.

**Old Business:**

**Safety Forces Day:**

May 22, 2008 has been selected as the official date. Mr. Wilson will begin to ask participants to commit to this date.

**Washington, D.C. Trip:**

The trip is planned for mid-late October 2008. Katie Rahill said she will send home an informational letter to the parents of 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. She stated the importance of getting this information to parents as soon as possible.

**Accreditation Validation:**

The external validation team is in place. They will visit St. Gregory the Great School the week of March 10<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Wilson indicated the school's goals have been finalized and are solidly in place. He shared the goals packet with SAB members.

**Spanish:**

Mrs. Quimper is using her materials to teach the Spanish curriculum. Mr. Wilson stated her materials are looking "stronger and stronger."

**Grants:**

A grant is being pursued to help purchase a new digital video camera.

**Registration:**

This issue was discussed earlier in the principal's report. At present, a large number of families have not sent in their registration materials. An advertisement was placed in the *Sun Messenger* to promote Saint Gregory the Great School.

**Catholic Schools Week:**

Mr. Wilson stated the week ran as smoothly as a "well oiled machine."

**New Business:****Finances:**

Kevin Doles was unable to attend the SAB meeting, because he was on vacation until March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Preschool Program:**

Molly Clifford, preschool parent, provided a detailed update of the efforts she has initiated to better promote Saint Gregory the Great Preschool Program. Some outreach efforts include: working with Mark Geyman to post information on the school website, sending welcome letters and "goodies" to new families, operating a booth at the summer carnival, and organizing various social activities for the parents of preschool children.

**Drama Club:**

The drama club dance hosted 200 children and raised \$1,200.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, March 12, 2008

**Closing Prayer:** Don Schuele

**Adjournment:** 8:50 P.M.