

St. Gregory the Great Advisory Board Meeting
August 20, 2008

Attendance: Peter Wilson, Gary Novinc, Mark Geyman, Carmen Matz, Martin McGuan, Sherry O'Brien, Ruthie Foust

Absences: Jim Augusta

Guests: None

Call to Order: 7:04 P.M. by Mark Geyman

Opening Prayer: Chris Lynch

Meeting Minutes: Minutes from May 2008 meeting scheduled for approval at September 2008 meeting

Pastor's Report: None

Principal's Report: Presented by Mr. Peter Wilson

School Report:

Enrollment is 398 students with 48 students enrolled in preschool.

Each grade level has 2 sections, except 7th grade with 3 classroom sections. Kathleen Forhan is the new 7th grade teacher. Mr. Wilson described her previous teaching experiences.

Carla Martinez was hired from the "Amigos and More" staffing agency to teach Spanish. She is a native of Barcelona, Spain. Grades 6-8 will receive foreign language instruction.

The GEMS program is back for another year for girls in grades 6-8. A similar program for boys will begin this year.

Kim Herbert will instruct the children's computer classes. She will also have additional responsibilities involving alumni and the endowment.

The school handbook has been revised. Parents will receive them at curriculum night. The revised handbook reflects changes in the school dress code.

The school endowment has surpassed the \$300,000 mark. It is now big enough to disburse funds. A golf outing is scheduled for September to help raise money for the endowment. The endowment committee continues to investigate more ways to increase the size of the endowment.

Mr. Wilson will meet with Kevin Doles to discuss the status of non-contributing members of the school.

SE-L Schools have reduced busing of students to state minimum requirements (2 miles from school). As a result, the number of cars bringing students to school is expected to increase.

Mr. Wilson commended the custodial staff for making the building shine for opening day.

Old Business:

Election of SAB Officers:

Gary Novinc was elected Chairman, Mark Geyman was elected Vice-Chairman and Marty McGuan was elected Secretary for the 2008-2009 school year.

Washington, D.C. Trip:

The 8th grade students will travel to Washington, D.C. this October. A plan to hold fund-raising activities over the summer was not successful. Gary Novinc suggested this year's 7th grade class should begin fund-raising for their trip as soon as possible.

Grants:

The SAB discussed this issue at length. It was decided St. Gregory the Great School should pick two areas to concentrate grant-seeking efforts: technology and the library. The SAB will continue this discussion at the next meeting. The goal of the SAB is for St. Gregory the Great School to receive a grant in one of these areas.

New Business:

Marketing:

Ruthie Foust discussed the importance of improving the marketing efforts of Saint Gregory the Great School to help increase the school's enrollment figures. It was decided the school should seek the assistance of volunteers who work in the marketing, public relations and fund-raising fields. The SAB will continue to investigate this issue at the next meeting. Related to the marketing theme, Mr. Wilson showed the SAB an advertisement the school placed in "Cleveland Family" magazine.

Goals:

Gary Novinc suggested the SAB choose 2-3 areas as the focus of the SAB's efforts this school year. The acquisition of grants, improvement of school marketing and regular meetings with Kevin Doles, parish director of finances, were selected as the three areas of focus for the 2008-2009 school year.

Next Meeting: September 17, 2008

Closing Prayer: Marty McGuan

Adjournment: 8:23 P.M.