

St. Gregory the Great School Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date: June 21, 2006

Time: 7:10 pm

Place: School Library

Board Members Present:

Chris Lynch
Gina McVey
Mary Jo Levand
Gary Novinc

Pete Wilson
Fr. Ireland

Faculty Members Present:

Nancy Ball
Rosetta Vercellino
Carrie Hanus
Kim Hubert

Kevin Doles

Guests Present:

Katie Rahill
Jill Medovich
Roger Mastroianni
Mary Alice Knudson
Terry Mohorcic
Gene Andres
Don Schuele

Opening Prayer Given By: Fr. Ireland

Review Meeting Protocol: SAB Agenda
Visitors-Questions and Comments under New Business
only

Previous Meeting Minutes: May minutes amended and accepted

Pastor's Report:

- 80th Dinner Dance
 - Thanks to all who helped
 - Very special night—many good feelings about it
- Eighth grade graduation
 - Very nice ceremony
 - Many success and high number of scholarships—very impressive

- Endowment Board Meeting
 - Meeting on June 20, 2006
 - Larger Committee--Goals
 - Build up fund
 - Communication, Alumni, parents, parishioners
 - Goal to reach/raise significant money
- Financial Issues
 - SAB ad hoc committee will not be allowed to form, but in its place two SAB members will be permitted to attend financial council meeting
 - Financial Council request that any questions/comments be emailed to Council the Friday before the meeting
 - Financial Council meets the third Monday of the month @ 7pm in the rectory
 - Financial Council will take questions and discuss concerns of SAB
 - Request that discussions are kept confidential
- Vibrant Parish Life II
 - Parish committee in place
 - Ireland in communication with Fr. Rocco (Holy Rosary), Fr. Klasinski (St. Clare), and Fr. Hudak (St. Margaret Mary)
 - Will propose this cluster to the diocese
 - All possibilities are open to provide: a positive growth experience, avoid crisis
 - Diocese of Cleveland is in the forefront of the Church with the VPL model
 - St. Gregory the Great is a little behind schedule but jumping in
 - Parish and school mergers are a possibility, but there are no plans of that sort at this point
 - Idea is to keep the Catholic identity strong!!

Financial Report: Kevin Doles

- Sale of the Anderson Rd. property transferred June 5, 2006
- Will present budget and finance report at church
- St. Gregory the Great monthly statement
 - Actual budget for 2006/07 has not yet been approved and therefore cannot be published
 - Extraordinary receipts
 - Pre-school and Latch-key program income
 - Payments from parish
 - School budget is brought to zero as parish covers the deficit
 - Parish payment is ~ 13% of school budget; 14 weeks of basket collections
 - Fundraising Income
 - Bingo, Festival and PTC fundraisers go 100% to school budget
 - Auction income is not included in this figure as the profits go to the parish as a whole and not specifically to the school

Principles Report: Peter Wilson

- Memorial Day Parade
 - Good opportunity for school public relations
- Caroline Devine retired—nice teacher celebration
- Graduation
 - Fine evening, great opportunity to honor these fine 8th grade students. Poised and self-confident young people
 - Eight grade teachers to be commended for their fine work and planning
- Field Day
 - Katie Rahill and many other volunteers planned a great day Guest
- Alumni Dinner
 - Positive event, Chaired by Michelle Roulan
 - 1100 invitations—165 attended
 - Built up database with much hard work from Michelle Farinacci, Anne Hallisy and many other volunteers
- New computers arrived today and will be installed and ready for students in August
- Working on building an “inclusive” community
 - Faculty read, Stop Laughing at Me
 - Planning committee to implement inclusion activities
 - Staff retreat with inclusion theme
- Test scores
 - Detailed report in October 2007 for SAB and PTC
 - Up 1-2 percentile overall
 - Science—up 2 percentile points
- School Brochure complete (sample distributed); available at the Alumni dinner
- Regina Algebra Program
 - 21 invitations to 06/07 eight graders—only 3 students accepted invitation. This is not enough students and another invitation will be sent 6/22/06.
- Registration 2006/07
 - K-8 466 students
 - Kindergarten 52 (largest group in 5 years)
 - Per the state report: The official enrollment is down 24 from last year—largely due to the exiting graduating class (66) and replacement of kindergarten (52 students)—14 student difference
- Family Handbook revisions on track for August delivery
- Grants
 - Wilson would like to apply for Lowe’s Toolbox -- \$5000—to improve school entrance
 - Need someone to propose the improvement plan—who can do this?
 - Grant is available twice yearly so there is time to put a strong application together

Old Business:

- 2006/07 Meeting Dates: August 16, September 20, October 18, November 15, December 13, January 17, February 14, March 21, April 18, May 16
- SAB election results
 - 2 year terms beginning July 1, 2006-June 30, 2008
 - Katie Rahill
 - Don Schuele
 - Chris Lynch
 - Gene Andres
 - Mary Jo Levand will accept the remaining term (1 year) of Joe Furst
 - Election of SAB officers to take place at August meeting
- Technology Fee
 - Does not comfortable with an additional fee in September
 - Registration Fee has not been broken down to include “tech fee”
 - Tables and electrical services are needed
 - What are actual costs?
 - Can we solicit donations with a specific letter addressing the need
 - Per Herbert: Technology dept will require approximately \$15K annually for hardware and \$10K annually for software/subscriptions
 - Should these costs be rolled into tuition?
 - Should there be a per pupil fee?
- Classroom supplies
 - Teachers make purchases and then receive reimbursement from dept. budget
 - Hanus: How much can teachers spend?
 - Should there be a per pupil fee?
 - This was addressed with the high registration fee-perhaps needs to be reassessed
- Hospitality Committee—“Welcome Wagon”
 - Headed by Sandy Bauman, Sally Martin, Gina McVey
 - Letter to go out to new families, and parish this summer
- Grants
 - Science lab grant has not yet been renewed—we should know soon
 - Protocol designed by Hawkins: Is it going to be implemented?
 - Subcommittee of Faculty Curriculum Committee will be formed to streamline the grant process
 - Teacher plan needed and then Carol Sisson will research the grant possibilities that match the need
- Marketing Service Rep
 - Met with Financial Council
 - Theme: Outreach & Service
 - Must reach out to families already in the parish—start at Baptism
- Curriculum Budget
 - Science textbook purchase—CD Rom accompaniment
 - Vocabulary textbook eliminated in grades 4-6

- Ball: Research indicates that student retention is much better when vocabulary is given in context (reading assignments)
 - Intermediate grade teachers are fully committed to working on vocabulary with students without a text book
 - 6th grade will require a “pocket dictionary” for each student to teach and reinforce new vocabulary habits
 - All present in agreement that CD ROM and Internet learning can be a positive learning experience for our students
 - Andres: Weight of backpacks is often over the recommended limits—CD Rom is a good alternative. Are there grants to subsidize this idea?
 - How many students have a computer at home? This would be good information to have.
- No new teachers have yet been hired for next school year
 - Will begin reviewing resumes this week
- Youth Group
 - Fr. Ireland would consider taking group to next World Youth Day in Australia, but much consideration and planning will be required
- Eight Grade filed trip to Washington DC
 - Diocese is opposed
 - Look to other area schools
 - Virtus & supervision are concerns
- Regina Algebra Program
 - St. Greg’s math program is now quite strong, largely due to Simple Solutions Program
 - Smaller classes here are a plus, especially when other students are attending math class elsewhere
 - It appears that the Regina program does not serve the same need as the SGS program in now comparable
 - Much discussion over the pros and cons of a high school offering to SGS students—who might really benefit?
 - What can be done for those few who are truly gifted?
 - Gary Novinc, Mary Jo Levand , Jamie Lawler expressed considerable concern over enrichment opportunities available for SGS students

New Business/ Agenda Items:

- Drama Club/Play pros & cons
- Enrichment opportunities
 - Algebra program-Regina

Closing Prayer: Fr. Ireland

Meeting Adjourned at: 9:15 pm

Next Meeting Date and Time: August 16, 2006

7:00 pm, School Library