

St. Gregory the Great School Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date: March 15, 2006

Time: 7:15 pm

Place: School Library

Board Members Present:

Chris Lynch
Ann M. Hawkins
Joe Furst
Gary Novinc
Jim Johnson
Gina McVey
Tom Wenzel

Faculty Members Present:

Donna Olp
Lee Liebenhauer
Rosetta Vercellino
Marilyn Freas
Pete Wilson

Fr. Ireland

Guests Present:

Mark Geyman
Michelle Farinacci
Jill Medovich
Barb Mastroianni

Carol Sisson
Mary Alice Knudson

Opening Prayer Given By: Fr. Ireland

Previous Meeting Minutes: February minutes approved

Pastor's Report:

- Children preparing for 1st Communion and Confirmation
- Received scholarship donation--\$5000, Vera Scholarship
 - To be disbursed @ \$500/ annually
 - Incoming 8th grader recipient
 - Must write an essay and have recommendations

Principles Report: Peter Wilson

- Lenten Activities
 - Planned by Spirituality Committee include: themed weeks, class activities, Day of Reflection (Holy Thursday)
- Guest Speaker hosted by PTC, Ray Guarendi was well-received—enthusiastic message

- Registration
 - Not all registration money is in
 - Kindergarten now at 48—full sections
 - 2006/7 4th & 6th grade will have 2 sections each
 - Seems to be a lot of outside interest and inquiries but not the same in Registration

- Curriculum Mapping is moving in accordance with Diocesan guidelines—each teacher should have one subject completed by end of present school year

- 2 new shelves of books purchased for the library

- IBTS
 - Begins on Monday, March 20
 - 1-7 grade will be tested
 - Emphasis on Science
 - Students are being taught test taking strategies
 - Scheduling test times carefully to maximize potential

- Alumni event
 - June 17—dinner @ Borally's
 - Database growing, managed by Michelle Farinacci
 - Second mailing going out this week (Michelle Roulan)

- My Space
 - Meeting with parents indicated that supervision of children on the site was questionable
 - Discussion of filtering techniques
 - Meeting with students tomorrow to voice their opinions & thoughts

- Bye Bye Birdie —Drama Club working with teachers to keep students focused
 - Students are enthusiastic

- Mardi Gras Spring Concert
 - Mrs. Fries did a great job
 - Raised \$450 for Katrina victims in Ohio

- April 28—Arbor Day, Proclamation
 - Mrs. Fries to coordinate activities
 - Event at Green Rd. w/ Mayor and children

New Business/ Agenda Items:

- Increasing enrollment
 - Ms. Olp and Mrs. Benedict meeting to discuss increasing preschool enrollment
 - Mr. Wilson, Tom Wenzel, Carol Sisson meet to increase main school enrollment—Action items, Catholic Marketing Services
- Hospitality Committee?
 - Questionnaire for incoming parents
 - Discuss at May PTC meeting
- School Brochure
 - H & R Graphics awarded the job (50% less than previous quote by other company)
 - Allows for full color photos
 - Should have design proof by early April, on target for May delivery
 - Parish to fund expenses
- Code of Conduct
 - Teacher suggestions and revised Diocesan policy elicited minor changes
 - Reorganized
 - Rules not in lists—violations not classified as serious giving administration more latitude for interpretation
 - Discussion from teachers indicate they want no electronics (ipods, phones, cameras, etc)
 - Ms. Vercellino suggests that it is mainly for safety reasons
 - Mrs. Liebenhauer suggests they will look at the “spirit of the law”
 - SAB asked teachers to revisit the issue based on today’s lifestyles and technology
 - Decided that Code of Conduct will be part of Handbook and not a separate piece
 - Handbook will be ready for 2006/07 school year
- Jr. High Dance
 - Lynch obtained templates from Regina, will create a document for SGS by next SAB meeting
 - Behavior expectations
 - Faculty members present
 - Pull-off for parent signature
- Grants
 - Letter of inquiry
 - Weinberger Foundation declined support of computer/smartboards
 - Still looking for other foundations to support technology projects

NEW BUSINESS:

- SAB Terms
 - Lynch, Hawkins, McVey, Wenzel terms are up June 30
 - Lynch to check by-laws for procedures
 - Lynch, Johnson, Geyman—Nominating Committee

- Sixth Grade Field Trip
 - Extreme displeasure from many 6th grade parents because only half the class was invited to attend field trip while half remained behind with “busy work”
 - Criteria for student selection was arbitrary –show of hands as to who is interested in global warming and then a decision by Mrs. Ball as to which students should attend
 - Parents not informed of opportunity if their child was not selected
 - What is the process???

- Kevin Doles
 - Fr. Ireland
 - School financials
 - Sunday, March 19—Bulletin will include Financial Summary Statement
 - Sunday, March 26—Kevin Doles to speak to congregation at 10 & 11:30 Mass
 - In the future will do Quarterly Reports
 - Next meeting—review of Current School year against the Budget

- Regionalization of Catholic Schools
 - Meeting with Diocese
 - Strategic Planning
 - Bishop wants to ensure Catholic education remains, but Catholic Parish Schools may go by wayside because of rising tuition costs
 - Discussion of consolidation (with other schools)
 - Fr. Ireland not ready to seriously consider merging with another school, but may be open to the idea in the future
 - Concerned about what is best for St. Gregory the Great
 - Time to consider options is from a position of strength
 - St. Gregory is NOT going to close or merge now—we are STRONG

Closing Prayer: Fr. Ireland

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:40 pm

Next Meeting Date and Time: April 19, 2006
7:00 pm, School Library