

St Gregory the Great School Advisory Board  
9/11/03 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM

Board members present: Lucy Iemmolo, Barb Mastroianni, Chuck Brown, Mark Geyman, Tom Dowd

Faculty members present: Lena Liebenauer, Mary Carney, Patty Mascia, Michelle Webb, Nancy Ball

Guests: Jill Medovich, Sue Bedinghaus

Barb Mastroianni chaired the meeting in John Amantea's absence. Minutes from the prior meeting were approved.

The principal's report detailed the current status of the school and discussion regarding its future. Current enrollment is 660 students, of which 60 are in the preschool programs. Grades K & 1 each have 2 sections; Grades 2 through 8 each have 3. The curriculum is being reviewed and upgraded in science, math and in the use of current technology. The emphasis in teacher accreditation this year is religion; the goal is to have all faculty certified in the 2003/2004 school year.

The future direction and viability of the school was discussed at length. All agreed on the importance of preserving and strengthening the Catholic identity of the school and its place in the community. The school's future hinges on its ability to become financially independent. All possible solutions will be considered including such ideas as partnering with surrounding parishes; sharing services and/or campuses with surrounding schools; implementing a "magnet school" concept; absorbing the full cost of the school budget with tuitions, fundraisers, endowments, grants, etc.

Barb Mastroianni updated the status of the science lab. Foundation grants to date are approximately \$70,000; funding for ongoing staffing of the lab has been provided. A school-wide science theme day is being planned.

The endowment fund committee was not represented at the meeting. The scheduled golf outing was discussed as well as other fundraising initiatives that have begun. The need for more and better communication to all parishioners was noted.

Mark Geyman reported on the improving wireless technology in the school. Wireless access is expected in all classrooms and in Tabor House by December of this year. Each room will have a desk top computer and each faculty member a laptop –each with wireless internet access. Funding has been provided primarily by the magazine drive.

Miss Iemmollo discussed the math curriculum. The transition to Simple Solutions will require 2 years. A review of the curriculum is scheduled for early October with the help of John Carroll University. A possible onsite in-service offered by John Carroll is being considered as well. The possibility of a dedicated resource room or person was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>.