

**Attendance:** Gary Novinc, Gene Andres, Katie Rahill, Mary Jo Levand, Peter Wilson, Father Ireland, Kevin Doles

**Absent from SAB:** Chris Lynch, Jim Johnson, Don Schuele

**Guests:** Jill Medovich, Jamie Lawler, Mary Guzan, Carol Sisson

**Call to Order (Gary Novinc) at 7:05pm Opening Prayer (Fr. Ireland)**

### **Review & Approval of February Minutes**

February minutes were reviewed and corrections noted. G. Andres to forward corrected minutes to Mark Geyman for publication to the web site.

### **Pastor's Report (Fr. Ireland):**

- 84 being confirmed on 4/22 by Bishops Gries and Pilla
- First Communion on 5/6
- Jesus Day is a week from Friday
- As a result of last meeting's discussion on Ski Club issues, a committee has been formed to review policies to ensure a safe environment and adequate supervision. A staff member of the parish or school will be responsible for the Ski Club in the future. Parents will still be needed. All must be Virtus-trained.

### **Business Manager's Report (Doles):**

- Status report requested on 54 school families who had given nothing to the offertory as of September Curriculum Night Meeting. No report given.
- Compliance of school parent volunteerism in Bingo and Silent Auction is improving. No quantitative data provided.
- Would the non-parishioner tuition rate be charged to these "non-active parishioner" parents next year? No answer given.
- Wilson will be involved in the formation of the school budget and will be invited to attend Finance Committee meetings that affect the school, beginning now.

### **Principal's Report**

- Mr. Polevacik will not be returning next year. He was a pleasure to have on board.
- Regina holy week field was sad without Jim Beers a part of Stations of the Cross.
- Accreditation Committee is defining "themes" that are recurrent in the teacher, parent and student surveys. Deanna Hurley, Chris Rybka responsible. Registration mostly complete, with 399 families registered and 425 expected. Deadline expressed in school newsletter was Holy Thursday. (Secretary's Note: However, the cover letter sent with the survey did not contain a due date of Holy Thursday. Since the survey results are not due until October, it would probably be advisable to extend the deadline and publicize it better this time. Should be discussed at May meeting under Old Business).
- React Program on bullying and good choices was presented to 4 graders only, by PSI
- Another vendor will be used for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades
- Kindergarten screening was completed.

- Audit of auxiliary services is underway, with an inspection this Friday
- Curriculum mapping based on diocesan standards is continuing (logging content and skills developed month by month in comparison with the standardized curriculum of the diocese). Math mapping complete. Language arts may be next. Board member or guest suggested a presentation on K-8 mapping.
- Textbooks: new English book for fall with a focus on writing through religion (series). Social studies: flash cards, supplemental material for students, availability on CD/DVD. Board member expressed concern with the weight of children's' backpacks (should be no more than 15% of body weight). Books on CD/DVD could address this problem.
- 413 students are registered for fall. Expecting 12 more.
- Not many St. Louis students have enrolled (St. Ann's is in their cluster.) Arrangement like Holy Rosary is needed.
- Board member suggested a more active follow through on marketing next year (with SAB involvement). Marketing to day care center parents to get Pre-K enrollment was suggested.
- Sandy Benedict taking the lead on pre-school registration.
- Why did preschoolers not enroll in Pre-K?
- Exit interview was recommended when a family leaves the school, to uncover possible weaknesses.
- Communication with other parishes not having a school should begin now to build enrollment in fall 2008.
- 22 students will be invited to Regina math program (1/3 of 7<sup>th</sup> grade class). Letter to parent's forthcoming, by May 1st. Guest brought up supervisory issues when Regina program students return to school.
- Hiring two teachers (for 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades). Mr. Polevacik has not been invited to fill the upper-level vacant position.
- Eighth grade trip may be to Washington DC or Columbus. Linkage to 8<sup>th</sup> grade social studies (government) essential. Williamsburg not being considered.
- Miss Lancaster leaving. What about science? Answer given: teachers are working it out.
- Board member or guest strongly recommended that before summer break, announcements of who is teaching which grade and student homeroom assignments be made. Parents have committed by paying tuition? Why are these decisions being made at the last minute before start of school in August/September? Suggestion was made to benchmark this policy with other parochial and public schools. As an example, the last day of school in the spring is the first day of orientation for the fall in the Mayfield School District. Mr. Wilson and Fr. Ireland agreed to study this and report back to a future SAB meeting.
- Guest expressed sadness at the trend of the school not carrying on its traditions, such as the 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Washington DC, which did not occur this year, the play produced by the St. Gregory Parish Drama Club, which will not continue past this year, etc.
- Reason given for no 8th grade trip was the departure of Mr. Taube in February. Comment was made that parents will volunteer to go and will guide the process, if necessary. More parental input needed in this and other areas.
- Diocese is cautioning against overnight trips. Board member or guest pointed out that the Right-to-Life trip had the same liability considerations, but it took place.
- Changing out of gym clothes: Mr. Wilson decided that the best way to solve the privacy and sanitation issues was to build new changing facilities by converting a 6<sup>th</sup> grade classroom to a locker room for the girls and boys.
- Board member also expressed frustration that it takes too much time for the administration to make a decision. Gym clothes have been on the agenda since September. Principal responded that he would rather make a wise decision over time, than make a quick one.
- The next meeting agenda will contain an item on the process of educating children.

### **Old Business**

- SAB Nominations (Novinc)  
3 positions open, one candidate received to date (Novinc)
- SAB Representatives to Finance Council (Lynch & LeVand)  
Nothing to report

## New Business

- **Status of Parents' Handbook Distribution to Parents (Andres)**
  - Was to have been distributed at Fall Conferences November 16<sup>th</sup>, but was not.
  - Administration stated that three or four sections were still being worked on.
  - Handbook contains a section on discipline.
  
- **Bullying in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grades (Andres)**
  - Discipline Subcommittee of SAB was formed with Andres as chair, to include Mr. Wilson and faculty and parent representation, to address the problems related to bullying through policy changes. Subcommittee will report back to SAB on a monthly basis until the problem is under control. Handout provided by Andres on Cardinal Daugherty High School. Discipline system for consideration at SGS. (Demerit system with suspension & expulsion thresholds)
  - Suggestion was made to benchmark the policies, practices, and responsible personnel at St. Paschal and Gesu schools.
  - Suggestion was made to analyze the causes for the bullying as part of the subcommittee's work.
  - Collaboration needed between parents, teachers, administration
  - Must be addressed fairly and consistently
  - Perception exists that discipline is not being addressed adequately now.
  - Administration promised that Family Handbook would be distributed not later than Curriculum Night in the fall
  - Suggestion was made to keep Mr. Polevacik and appoint him school disciplinarian, beginning now.

Adjournment of Public SAB Meeting, at approximately 8:50pm

Executive Session adjourned at approximately 9:25pm