

September 4, 2007
St Edmund Parish School Board Meeting
Minutes

Board members present: Randy Allori, Kerry Lynch, Fr. John McGivern, Terry Ozima, Mary Prudence, Bill Streit, Susan Viselli

Board members excused: Beth Purvis, Tracy Maney, Enrique Lopez
Board members absent: Sheila Isley

Community members present: Marie Albrecht, Maria Allori, Kakie Conroy-Lovaas, Jim DeCorrevont, Nancy DeCorrevont, Dan Kane

Opening

The meeting was called to order at 7:13pm in Murphy Hall. The opening prayer was given by Randy Allori. A motion was made to approve the minutes from the August 14, 2007, meeting. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Public Comments

None

FSC Update- Marie Albrecht

FSC coordinated 3 events in August—new parent orientation, Tears and Cheers Breakfast and student refreshments. September events include Spirit Lunch, Lego Club, Market Day and Family Game night.

Old Business

A. New Members of Advisory Board

Terry Ozima has agreed to serve as a board member. New board member Sheila Isley's position is once again open due to 3 consecutive absences. A replacement will be sought for this nonparishioner/parent board position. Dan Kane, parishioner and alumnus, was asked to be chair of the Alumni Outreach Committee charged with fundraising for the school. He will report to the board on a regular basis.

B. Traffic Safety Plan and Dismissal Issues

Parents are not complying with pick-up and drop-off rules. Children from many grades are lingering outside the school. The board discussed enforcement options and the need for volunteers to assist in this effort. Parents will be reminded about the regulations and the policies will be reviewed at the upcoming mandatory parent meeting on 9/11.

C. Meeting with District 97

Due to an \$88,000 block grant obtained by State Senator Don Harmon, students on our waiting list for special education services can receive these services in this school year. Representatives from our school are asked to send thank-you letters to Senator Harmon. District 97 does not use residence as a determining factor in providing special education services to students in private schools within Oak Park. The amount of the proportionate share from District 97 has not been released to date. In school year 2006-2007, about \$38,000 was available to pay for special education services for all the private school children in Oak Park, resulting in a waiting list since these funds were

insufficient to provide services to all students deemed eligible. Kerry Lynch will follow up on this situation with District 97 and also notify parents of children eligible for services.

D. PreK3 and Adventure Club

Currently there are 11 3-year-olds and 18 4-year-olds. A plan to coordinate staffing and logistics will be mapped out this week. Individual cots for napping will be purchased. After-school Adventure Club faces staffing issues related to separating the PreK/K students from the older students in combination with answering the door. Currently 50 students are registered for Adventure Club. The discussion also included the possibility of installation of a security camera and remote door opening device.

E. New Invoices for 2007-08

Tracy Maney will be consulted to assist in coordinating the September 20th invoice mailing.

F. Mad Science and Other After School Programs

Kerry Lynch met with a representative from Mad Science who will present a program at 8:15am on September 28 for grades 1-8. Two teachers are interested in the teacher and coordinator positions available for our after-school Mad Science program that will begin in October. This program will be for students in grades 4-6. If this program is successful perhaps additional funds can be obtained in the future to continue Mad Science at St. Edmund's. Maria Allori reported that Lego Club will continue, possibly with the addition of a Lego robotics component for older children. Chess Club is being investigated. A school parent has agreed to underwrite a school newspaper and an arts and crafts program is being investigated.

New Business

A. 90th Anniversary- The family mass on 10/14 will commemorate the school anniversary and also hold the Educate A Child collection. School families will be involved in the mass.

B. Tuition Rebate for Manna and Innisbrook

Susan Viselli recommended reducing the amount of profit rebated to parents for their Manna sales in order to better cover the actual costs. It was agreed that the Manna tuition rebate will be 75% of the profit amounts. Last year we rebated 95% which did not cover our costs. She also recommended keeping the Innisbrook sales rebate to parents at 40% for sales of \$100 or more.

Reports

Chairperson- Susan Viselli.

A faculty hospitality event was proposed so that the board can meet new faculty members. The date and time remain to be determined.

Pastor- Father John McGivern.

October 13 is the Canterbury Ball and all board members are encouraged to attend. Harvest Saturday will be held October 27. All parishioners are being asked to bring food donations and assist in food deliveries to local food pantries. There will be an outdoor mass and a lunch following. This is the same date and time that the school is holding its annual bake sale at the Oak Park Farmer's Market. A Centennial art project will be held at the school to create a design for use the church bulletin.

Principal- Kerry Lynch

Enrollment is currently at 131. There are several families in tuition arrears for August and some still have not paid their fees. The last of the air conditioners is being installed. A parent meeting will be held at 7pm on September 11. Teachers will give presentations in their classrooms and then parents will all gather in the gym for presentations by the principal, the school board chairperson and several others. Progress reports will go home to all students in K-8 this year indicating grade percentages to date. We are still looking for a lunch aide.

Committee Chairs

1. Building, Operations and Safety- Bill Streit. The Village is ordering a new sign to replace the alley sign that was stolen last year. The stage walls were painted Bulldog blue. A crew will return later this semester to remove the remaining stage area shades and lighting.
2. Finance- Enrique Lopez. No report.
3. Fundraising- Susan Viselli. We are still looking for a new chair of this committee.
4. Marketing and Recruitment- Mary Prudence. A school promotional ad is being placed in the upcoming Oak Park River Forest Community Guide.
5. School Improvement Process (SIP)- Mary Prudence. No report.
6. Technology- Randy Allori. Work is completed in the computer lab; 2 classroom computers still require work.
7. Alumni outreach- No report.
8. Ad hoc committee reports- No report.

Other comments- none

Closing prayer- Randy Allori

Adjournment- 9:05 pm

Respectfully submitted by Mary Prudence on September 28, 2007