

SAINT CECILIA PARISH BOARD OF EDUCATION MEE4TING

January 8, 2008

Members Present: Larry Gross, Rick Hoenig, Fr. Ivan Nienhaus, Judy Rudman, Tim Simodynes, Pat Stahr,
Kathy Wipf (after 7:06)
Member Excused: Todd Clancy
Administrators Present: John Hayes, Duane Siepker Administrator Excused: Anna Steele
Ex-Officio Member Present: Nancy Lee-Fink (Family School Association)
Guests Present: John Feyerer, Mary Feyerer, Michelle Hand, Karen Kerns, Joel Thilges, Lori Van Fleet

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Larry Gross. Judy led the group in prayer. Judy moved to approve the minutes of the December meeting as presented. Rick voiced a second to the motion which carried. Judy reviewed sections of the January edition of the *Education and Faith Formation Board Gram*. Each person in the room was introduced.

Administrative Reports:

Director of Religious Education: In addition to his printed report, John said that a grant request to the Burns-Donovan Foundation had been approved. The money will be used for catechist development.

Coordinator of Youth Ministry: Anna provided a report.

Principal: Duane added to his report that because 2007 contributions to the Archdiocesan Student Tuition Organization (STO) exceeded the \$2.66 million goal, about \$26,000 was returned to St. Cecilia donors. The goal has been raised to more than \$3.8 million for 2008. More information about the program will be provided in the coming months.

Acceptance of Reports:

Finance Committee: Rick provided minutes of the December 11 meeting and said that particular attention was given to organization of the Finance and Administration Commission.

Parish Council: No report was received.

Fancily School Association: Nancy outlined plans for celebration of Catholic Schools Week, held January 27 through February 2 across the Archdiocese. Father Ivan and Judy volunteered to address those attending Kindergarten Round-up Visitation Day February 22; Karen will also try to attend.

Unfinished Business:

Class Size: Larry said that he and Karen composed a letter in response to an e-mail received in December from a number of parents. Karen also personally contacted as many of the writers as she was able to reach. Judy moved to accept the parent letter regarding communications and class sizes. Tim gave a second to the motion. There was no discussion. The motion received unanimous approval. Karen, Judy, Todd, and Rick will continue to work on enrollment and space concerns. Karen noted that communication with parishioners about use of STO funds needs to improve.

New Business:

Budget Development: Developed in conjunction with Duane, Tim, Larry, Todd, Rick, and John Feyerer, Karen gave a 90-minute Power Point presentation of guidelines for establishing the Board of Education budget. The initial focus was on the school portion of the budget, with Religious Education and Youth Ministry portions to be addressed within a few weeks. Discussion followed the presentation. Judy moved to continue and to incorporate the preschool. Pat gave a second to the motion. Following discussion, the motion received unanimous approval. Judy moved to propose to the Parish Council to seek the Music Room and the A/Y (Adult/Youth) room for classroom space during regular school hours beginning with the next academic year. There was no second. There was consensus to develop three (3) budget proposals, based on how many grades to expand for 2008-2009. Pat volunteered to write the tuition "value of education" philosophy statement suggested in Karen's presentation.

Closing Thoughts: Larry and Father Nlenhaus each expressed opinions that it is vital to become better than what we are, not just maintain status quo.

At 9:40 PM Rick moved that the meeting adjourn. Pat voiced a second to the motion which carried. After praying together, the meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Carolyn J. Thogerson