

SAINT CECILIA PARISH BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

April 1, 2008

Members Present: Todd Clancy, Larry Gross, Judy Rudman, Pat Stahr, Tim Simodynes, Kathy Wipf,
Fr. Ivan Nienhaus

Member excused: Rick Hoenig,

Administrators Present: John Hayes, Duane Siepker, Anna Steele

Ex-Officio Member Present: Nancy Lee Fink (Family School Association)

Others Present: Susan Campbell, John Feyerer, Ron Smith, Peg Stowell

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Larry Gross. Tim led the group in prayer. Judy moved to approve the minutes of the March meeting as presented. Kathy voiced a second to the motion which carried- For the Inservice, Tim summarized sections of the April edition of the *Education & Faith Formation* BoardGram. Members discussed the questions on the Local Board Survey received from the Archdiocesan Board of Education and Formation and prepared a composite response. Members agreed to alter the order of this meeting's published agenda.

Unfinished Business:

Status of Kindergarten 2008-2009: Duane said that 23 students registered during roundup and have been notified of acceptance- Two others registered at roundup but are also considering another school; an additional two registered later. Members discussed recruitment efforts, several options to accommodate all applicants without exceeding enrollment targets, and desires to grow the school. Comments were heard from Jody and Darrell Bennett of the School Improvement Advisory Committee. With continued recruitment attempts, to have sufficient students for a second section, the issue will be visited again at the May meeting.

Status of Preschool 2008-2009: Duane said that 31 children have registered for the 3-year-old program- To accommodate all applicants, there was discussion of where another classroom could be placed. Judy moved to expand the preschool program to two sections of 3-year-olds for next year, pending a solution for appropriate space needs. Pat gave a second to the motion which passed following additional discussion.

2008-2009 School Budget: There was discussion of items which have been changed in the budget for an additional teacher and changes in hours of teacher aides. Todd will address the parish Council regarding rationale for including preschool income and expenses in the School budget.

Tuition Assistance Committee Charter: Tim presented the draft copy for a Tuition Assistance Committee Charter, requested by the Parish Council. Todd moved to accept the Tuition Assistance Committee Charter. Pat gave a second to the motion. There was discussion of desires to permit Preschool students to apply for assistance and of editing changes which are needed. The motion failed to pass. Changes will be made to the draft and presented to the Board at a later date.

Status of Teacher Contracts: Duane announced that current staff have signed contracts with the exception of one teacher who has been granted an extension on the due date, two persons who haven't signed yet, and one teacher who submitted his resignation. Todd moved to accept the resignation of Christopher Middleman. Kathy gave a second to the motion which carried. Duane was directed to begin a search for a new Technology instructor.

Gala: John Feyerer and Darrell reviewed Gala publicity, ticket sales, and fund raising efforts.

Bookstore Update: John Feyerer spoke about relocation of the parish library, the location of the new store, and plans for opening the store and its sales hours.

New Business:

Religious Education and Youth Ministry Calendars for 2008-2009: John Hayes announced changes in some dates on the religious education calendar provided in Board packets. Arena presented the calendar for Youth Ministry. Tim moved to approve the Religious Education and Youth Ministry 2008-2009 calendars with the changes discussed. Judy voiced a second to the motion which passed.

Administrative Resorts:

Director of Religious Education: John Hayes added to his printed report that the parish, under the direction of Father Nienhaus, is reemphasizing the role of permanent deacons. John will now be responsible for baptism preparation, replacing Gary and Kay Aitchison.

Coordinator of Youth Ministry: Anna addressed the 3 questions posed on the April BoardGram. There was discussion of preparation requirements for Confirmation. Anna requested recommendations for persons to lead 8 small discussion groups for 2008-2009.

Principal: In addition to his printed report, Duane detailed budget line-item changes regarding use of funds in restricted accounts. A summary of Archdiocesan Board policies 1100 through 3410 was provided, for review at the next Board meeting.

Acceptance of Reports:

Teacher Tidbits: Susan Campbell said that the Mileage Club is a big success.

Finance Committee Tim reviewed items of the March 17 committee meeting.

Facilities: Rick Hoenig provided the minutes of the March 27 meeting. Several persons expressed concerns about the significant amount of time Rick is donating to the parish.

Parish Council: Todd highlighted portions of the minutes of the March 25 meeting.

Family School Association: Nancy announced that Mad Science of Central Iowa will conduct three summer camps, rather than just the two camps originally planned. A survey will *be* conducted regarding the current dress code. A recruitment program, such as BEAR-ly Recruiting, will be considered.

Pastoral Comments: Father expressed his opinion that the parish is doing okay and that school enrollment will work out, and encouraged placement on the property of a large sign advertising kindergarten openings.

After praying together, Pat moved to convene an Executive Session to discuss the principal search. Todd gave a second to the motion which carried. The session began at 9:43 PM and ended at 10:08 PM, at which time the meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Carolyn J. Thogerson