



School Advisory Board

March 21, 2017 Meeting

In attendance: Melissa Sloan, Carla Haywood, Don Hall, Phil Droege, Mickey Manuel, Peggy Durney, Cathy Tramontana, Nigel Smith, Maureen Raines, Father Cusick, Drew Ortner, Chris Desrocher, Fr. Calis.

Absent: Peg Daly, Sean Rankin

7:35pm Fr. Cusick opened the meeting with a beautiful prayer.

Welcome:

Principal/Faculty Report: The 6th Graders are heading to Hard Bargain Farm tomorrow evening with Mrs. Rossi, Ms. Gutierrez and Charlie Hathway. The 2nd Graders are having their First Communion retreat on Friday, which makes it not possible for the school to have Stations of the Cross. Living Stations are taking place on Friday, March 31st. Enrollment is 207 (180 which are signed up already for next year), which is good this time of year, and we have six new families signed up for next year. Mrs. Durney will be attending a two-day ADW long-term budgeting seminar for principals. She said these ADW sponsored principal seminars are incredibly helpful and supportive. We had our surprise inspection for After-Care, and the inspector looked at Pre-K while she was here and the inspector was pleased. Mrs. Durney shared that both of our rooms are sized for 17 children; we are permitted to have up to 10 per teacher, so we have flexibility to offer some half day and some full day, but we won't enroll more than 30 at any one time, because of the student:teacher ratio. We are up to all current school and childcare codes and regulations in all of our classrooms. Eighth graders high school acceptances have been great. They are preparing for Confirmation on April 7th. We are currently

anticipating no faculty turnover this summer, but Mrs. Durney would like to have money in the budget to hire a math resource teacher. Mrs. Durney always applies to the KoC and CBN grants, and the CCSE grant when eligible. She is always on the look out for others. ADW is pushing the schools to have effective School Advisory Boards. Mrs. Durney invited Kelly Braniman to an upcoming SAB meeting – perhaps June? She can help us evaluate and improve our efficacy.

PAC Report: We need to ensure that we schedule the meetings better next year, because all year the PAC has met in the days/week following SAB, so we haven't been able to include current reports. There will be a school/parish picnic midday on June 10th, ending with an outside Mass. Mary Beth Newkumet is coordinating it on behalf of the Parish Council.

Finance Report: School finances are very good. Our budget is balanced and we are in good shape. Next years' tuition figures will be released next week. Any increase, if necessary, will be minimal. ADW released financial aid figures last Friday. Nearly every family filed; particularly if they have more than one child, to remain eligible for sibling discount. Regarding fundraising, it apparently costs the school \$3K to participate in the CFC, but we typically don't earn more than that each year. It was suggested that we advertise heavily this year to encourage people to participate in the program, or we won't continue it past this coming two-year period that we just re-enrolled in.

Facilities Report: We are no longer looking to do construction on the Pre-K rooms, but are still looking for bids on roof work. One bid came in at \$169K. We had the panic bar replaced on the exit door at the end of the primary wing. All of the lighted exit signs have been installed and are now hard-wired into our fire system. We still have work to progress further on getting AC, because the roof is a more pressing priority, however, the money raised at the auction has been placed into an ADW approved long-term restricted fund to await our ability to fully fund it while we work on matters of increased urgency. It is designated for AC and will not be used for any other purpose. Hopefully the roof will be done within the year; two at the outside. We have \$50K from the endowment last year set aside for the roof last year; we may be able to seek

more this year. While the Endowment's main purpose is for education, we have the flexibility to use the funds for larger facilities projects.

HSA & Communications Report Family Bingo was resurrected very successfully and raised \$500. We raised about \$150 on old spirit wear alone. The new spirit wear sale was very good. We had over 30 orders, and still have some flannel pants available – no shipping!! Mulch orders look good, and we may have some more available, because you order it by the truck, so we may have a couple of extra pallets. We will mention their availability in this week's e-bulletin.

Restaurant Fundraisers: Mama Lucia's is coming up on March 30th – we will earn 20% of the evening's receipts. We are looking at doing something around Cinco de Mayo. Mi Rancho does not do any fundraising, but El Golfo will, and will offer 20%.

Baseball Fundraiser: The DC Padres game at the Bowie Baysox Stadium is coming up as a double header. We may do another fundraiser on April 30th. A discussion ensued about the merits of different sections/costs.

SAB/HSA Combined Breakfast Meeting: Policy suggestions on the table currently include clarification of the school's discipline policy. We need to include something in the policy book addressing alcohol consumption. The only time alcohol is permitted on school grounds is for an event with no children present, and for which a special license has been obtained from the county. So, no alcohol is permitted at CYO Banquets, for example. That includes alcohol that people bring themselves back in the kitchen during events. This is something we need to publicize. The children are the priority and when the children are present, their needs come first. Next year, Mrs. Durney would like to have a class-specific or wing-specific Coffee with the Principal every month. We anticipate questions on the IXL software and enrichment. The HSA is looking at changing their By-Laws to allow for better continuity of leadership. This might involve STAGGERED two-year terms for Secretary & Treasurer, or having the President follow her/his term with a

term as a Second Vice President. We have traditionally relied on informally contacting ex-officio members, but this would formalize things.

IHM Updates: Can we get some way to update people on our Sisters who have gone to Scranton? We will look at having an IHM corner in the E-bulletin. This may be something the Associates can help with. Sr. Roberta's 50th Jubilee is at the 10:15am Mass with a reception following in the auditorium.

Pastor's remarks: Fr. Martin is coming for tomorrow's Healing Mass, and Fr. Calis is hosting him, his Deacon and wife tomorrow evening.

The meeting was closed with a prayer at 9:07pm.