

School Advisory Board Meeting

September 1, 2010

St. Peter Catholic School, Fulton, Missouri

Attendees: Father Karl, Cindy Newman, Teri Arms, Donna Haarmann, Cathy Reid, Debby March, Peggy Brady, and Michael Burch

Non-member attendee: Elizabeth Atterberry, parent of two students

Absent: Teacher liaison Kristie Wilson

After Father Karl led the group in an opening prayer, the minutes from the planning session held in June were amended by removing the sentence, "May minutes taken by Donna Haarmann were approved." Those minutes were then approved after a motion by Debby March and a second by Peggy Brady, and the planning session minutes were approved after a motion by Mike Haarmann and a second by Debby March.

Financial Statements: Mike Burch questioned whether we should simplify the financial sheets used at these meetings by only looking at the school side of things as opposed to the numbers for the entire parish. The group decided unanimously that this would be helpful.

Scrip Report: As of right now, scrip can only be purchased and picked up on weekends, although an email address has been set up for scrip ordering at stpeterscrip@yahoo.com. It was noted that families were pleased with their earned scrip credits for use towards book fees. The school received a check for \$690.90 from the scrip account to pay for these credits. Families who did not take advantage of their credits at the open house will have their accounts credited and another check will come from scrip to cover that as well. Mrs. Newman suggested the possibility of having a volunteer make scrip physically available once a week at school on a regular day and at a regular time. Currently, three people are selling scrip at the weekend masses and have access to the money box, and those people are Teri Arms, Jennifer Brady, and Debby March. Debby noted that many families are still not using the program.

Principal's Report: Mrs. Newman prepared a document for distribution at this meeting detailing her report, and that document is attached to these minutes. At the bottom of her handout, three questions were posed and subsequently answered at this meeting: 1) Can 4th grade girls play up so that we may have a 5th and 6th grade volleyball team? No, the deadline has passed with PAL and interest was not high enough. 2) Can we do a play at Christmas instead of a concert? Yes, the teachers like the idea, and Jody Paschal and Cathy Reid will take charge of the project. 3) How will band students get to band? Parent volunteers or the principal have taken students in the past, but Mrs. Newman is concerned about the amount of regular (St. Peter) instructional time being missed by band students on a regular basis and for a large chunk of time.

Pastor's Report: Father Karl reported that things are running smoothly with Mrs. Newman and the teaching staff. The Stewardship Committee met last week, and the members would like for us to brainstorm ideas regarding how to get the school children more involved with stewardship in the form of time, talent, and donation.

Parish Council: No report was given.

Home & School: The first meeting of the school year will be taking place on September 13th at 6:30 p.m. Magazine sales packets will be going home with students this Friday, September 3rd.

Athletic Boosters: Schedules have been set for JV (7th-8th grade) girls' volleyball, which will be the only volleyball team this year. These schedules were sent home today in the September newsletter to families. There will be two home games and the others will be away.

Technology Report: Mr. Dustin Knight is at St. Peter's ten hours per week. Servers have been moved to what was formerly known as the "tunnel room" and what will now be known and the "technology room." He is currently working on better Internet filtering.

Marketing Report: Debby March brought in a Chamber of Commerce mailer and showed the ads for Kingdom Christian Academy, The Mel Hux Academy, and the new First Presbyterian Church Preschool. We could also be featured in the monthly mailer by taking 750 copies of our ad to the Chamber and they would stuff them in the fliers. There is no cost. Debby also mentioned that she thought we should continue offering "come-see" afternoons for public school students interested in St. Peter and having these on designated Wednesday afternoons when the public schools have their early-outs.

Old Business: Debby March expressed excitement to see work on the baseball field coming along, thanks to Shawn Edgar and Darren Horstmeier.

New Business: In order to review the constitution and by-laws, each member will be needing an updated folder containing both the student and faculty handbooks. These will be emailed to members for review. A diocesan school advisory board training session will be offered on Monday, October 18th from 7-9 p.m. at the Chancery, and persons interested in attending should notify Teri Arms by September 15.

Questions Asked of or by Members:

Debby March asked for an executive session to be held directly following this meeting.

Elizabeth Atterberry then commented that by only selling scrip after the weekend masses, we are missing out on the opportunity to sell to the non-Catholic families or Catholics not in attendance at those services; she also praised Mrs. Newman's idea of the school children having a fundraiser to support a "reverse tithe" (see Principal's Report attachment) as well as Mrs. Newman's striving to keep instructional time on target.

Mrs. Newman reported that Peggy Wyman will be staying on as cook.

Donna questioned whether Bac-Pac would be offered on the days of early dismissal and whether there would be a cost; Mrs. Newman would like for there to be a cost, and she will send out a questionnaire to the families to get a feel for the need for this service.

Donna also mentioned that several parents have asked her what the activity fee is for and she was unsure how to respond; Mrs. Newman will investigate. The issue of parents being upset about students being “forced” to use the school planners was brought up, but it was decided that this, as well as the use of dress-down days, were actually questions more geared towards the faculty meetings and would be brought up there instead.

Mike Burch expressed concern that many parents didn’t like the new dismissal process, but Mrs. Newman stated that 99% of the families were complying and that the teachers really appreciated the new approach. The new dismissal procedure was also noted by Mrs. Newman as being safer, and she added that safety guards would be trained in this dismissal method to assist the teachers. Mike asked if parents would be able to park in the front parking lot and come in that way if we were to start having Friday afternoon scrip sales, and Mrs. Newman said it would be fine.

Mike Burch questioned whether the open house had felt too rushed.

Members were reminded that the next meeting would be Wednesday, October 6 the at 5:45.

Mike Burch made a motion to adjourn, and Peggy Brady seconded the motion.