

**ST. PATRICK PARISH SCHOOL COMMISSION**  
**UNAPPROVED MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 12, 2010**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** Ralph called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

*Present:* Ralph Willemin, Dave Zimmerman, Randy Hodge, George Rutherford, Father Larry, Dan Lawless

*Absent:* Diane Bissell, Ken Cook, Mark Davis, Deacon Don

**II. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** December minutes were approved.

**III. REPORTS:**

**A. Principal:** Report submitted. Mr. Hodge thanked the School Commission for their dedication and commitment. Mr. Hodge highlighted some of the following points: We have received scores from the ITBS. Our students did very well. Most are in the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher and the majority of our students are one grade level higher in reading than their current grade. Teachers have on line access to see how their students performed. A few people have been taking advantage of the opportunity to walk in the evening. Homeworks Tri-County Electric donated four multimedia video projectors. The PTO donated one as did Brian and Nancy Wohlscheid. Most classrooms on the second floor now have a projector. We also purchased a "goose neck" with donations that were made to the school before Christmas Break. This is similar to an overhead projector but has a camera on the end. It is helpful for science and art teachers to demonstrate for students how to do something and the students can see it on the overhead screen. We added a 2<sup>nd</sup> and a 4<sup>th</sup> grade student (under the "Try Us, You'll Like Us" program) and we have 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students from Korea who are visiting and are going to school temporarily at SPS. With the loss of a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade student, our current enrollment is at 310. We added three preschool students in December. The preschool is now full to capacity at 42 students (21 three-year-olds and 21 four-year-olds). One new preschooler uses the daycare as well as the sibling. We also lost a three-year-old preschool student in November. There were two inquiries about three-year-old preschool but we could not enroll them due to a full capacity. We will explore the option of an a.m. and p.m. preschool class for each age group for the next school year. Ms. Jennifer Clack and the students in preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade did an excellent job with the Christmas program. It was well attended by family. Randy updated the information on Privateschoolreview.com and discovered that there were over 480 visits to the St. Pats site in 2009.

**B. Pastor:** No Report

**C. Pastoral Associate:** Absent

**D. Chairperson:** Dr. Bernier will be speaking in the Parish Hall on January 19<sup>th</sup>. The program will start at 6:30 p.m. Surrounding school districts have been invited. The web satisfaction survey results were 88% positive. There are on-going discussions with Sts Peter & Paul about students attending St. Pats upon completion of 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Sts Peter & Paul in Ionia.

**IV. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**A. Public Relations:** Catholic Schools Week kick-off breakfast will be Sunday, January 31, 2010. The PR committee is moving forward with the baptismal welcome package which will include a St. Pats spirit wear shirt and a voucher for a future enrollment credit.

**B. Fundraising:** Bryan Scheurer will organize and run a Texas Hold 'Em. Funds raised will go to the boys varsity baseball and boys varsity basketball team accounts.

**V. OLD BUSINESS:**

25 Large: Ken reports that sales are good. We need to continue to generate ticket sales.

Tuition Incentives: Ralph reported that three students are willing to go out and promote the school to area parishes. The incentives have already yielded results and are generating a lot of interest.

Diocesan Meeting: Ralph will e-mail the marketing package soon in order to discuss this at the next meeting. PTO will be matching new parents with experienced parents in order to make them feel welcome. Mr. Hodge also matches new students with current students.

Student Sport Reporters: Dan reported that Scott Yoshonis from *The Review and Observer* has agreed to allow St. Patrick students write articles about the varsity sport games and submit them for publication. Mr. Hodge has had a couple of students write articles with great results.

School Brochures: Six hundred school brochures were delivered to the Lansing UAW union hall for distribution to GM workers transferring to Michigan from Spring Hill, Tennessee and from other locations. Brochures will also be available at the January presentation by Dr. Bernier.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS:**

Financial Report: Will be presented at the next meeting.

Senior Trip: Mr. Hodge presented the senior class trip proposal.

**VII. OTHER:**

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT:**

The next meeting will be held after Mass in Room 109 on the second Tuesday of the month, which is February 9, 2010.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm with closing prayer by Father.

# Principal's Report for December 2009

(presented at the January 2010 School Commission meeting)

1. Approximately \$1,500.00 was raised in our "Baby Bottle Copper Stopper" contest. Proceeds will get split between Pregnancy Services of Ionia County and Elle's Place. Pregnancy Services of Ionia County is a pro-life organization that encourages individuals to keep their baby and then provides the mothers with assistance. Elle's Place works to counsel children who are coping with the loss of a loved one.
2. The calendar of events for Catholic Schools Week has been finalized and a copy has been included at the bottom of this report.
3. We have received scores from the ITBS. Our students did very well. Most are in the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher and the majority of our students are one grade level higher in reading than their current grade.
4. The Advent Committee set up a weekly assembly for grades DK – 12 in the gym. We gathered each week and had a short prayer service and lit the appropriate candle(s) for that week on the Advent Wreath.
5. Students in odd number grades received the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent. Students in even numbered grades will receive the Sacrament during Lent.
6. Small amounts of individuals have been taking advantage of the opportunity to walk in the evening. It should pick up more now that Christmas Break is over.
7. The schedule has been set for 1<sup>st</sup> semester exams (see schedule below).
8. Homeworks Tri-County Electric donated four multimedia video projectors. The PTO donated one as did Brian and Nancy Wohlscheid. Most classrooms on the second floor now have a projector. We also purchased a "goose neck" with donations that were made to the school before Christmas Break. This is similar to an overhead projector but has a camera on the end. It is helpful for science and art teachers to demonstrate for students how to do something and the students can see it on the overhead screen.
9. We added a 2<sup>nd</sup> and a 4<sup>th</sup> grade student (under the "Try Us, You'll Like Us" program) and we have 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students from Korea who are visiting and are going to school temporarily at SPS. With the loss of a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade student, our current enrollment is at 310. We added 3 preschool students in December. The preschool is now full to capacity at 42 students (21 three year olds and 21 4 year olds). One preschooler that was added uses the daycare as well as one of their siblings. We also lost a 3 year old preschool student in November. We also had two inquiries about 3 year old preschool but could not enroll them due to being full to capacity. We will explore the option of an a.m. and p.m. preschool class for each age group for next school year.
10. Ms. Jennifer Clack and the students in preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade did an excellent job with the Christmas program. It was well attended by family.
11. The KidsFest committee donated two new computers and monitors for our administrative assistants.
12. Happy meal toys were collected and donated to the Appalachian Project and donations of food and clothing items were made to the Portland Community fund.
13. Mr. Hodge delivered candy canes to all the students in the school on behalf of St. Nick.
14. The middle school volleyball teams' seasons came to a successful end and the winter sports season is underway.