

ST. PATRICK PARISH SCHOOL COMMISSION
UNAPPROVED MEETING MINUTES
October 6, 2009

I. CALL TO ORDER: Father Larry called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm Mass.

Present: Diane Bissell, Ken Cook, Mark Davis, Dan Lawless, George Rutherford, Dave Zimmerman, Randy Hodge, Father Larry, Deacon Don

Absent:

II. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

September minutes were reviewed.

III. REPORTS:

A. Principal: Report submitted. Regarding #6 on the report, the laptops arrived yesterday. Teachers will receive them October 12th. Brian Yuvon resigned to go to work for Hemlock, effective October 16th. Interviews will begin the week of October 26th. There will be a full-time sub for a week or two for the science classes. He will be missed. Shamrock happenings will be in the bulletin this weekend. Jenny Clack, our new music teacher, started before the State of Michigan school count. We lost a DK student because the student was only 3 years old. We gained a 5th grade student yesterday. Fire Prevention Week kicked off today with an assembly. The kids are very informed and on the ball with answers. The fire drill went very well. The handbook is 99% complete. We will have one, school-wide handbook. Rubrics are almost complete. Athletic code of conduct will be separate this year.

B. Pastor: Our meetings begin with Mass if you can attend.

C. Pastoral Associate:

D. Chairperson: No Report. There will be a Diocesan gathering of school boards to discuss strategic planning on November 4th. If anyone can make it to the Nov. 4th meeting in GR, they are welcome to attend. The topic is large scale marketing. Ralph will send copies of the document to everyone. The document should be done by the end of October.

IV. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Fundraising:

The application for the *Win 25 Large* has been approved by the State of Michigan. Sue Van Lente will print the tickets and make a poster. First prize is \$25,000; second prize is \$2,500; there will be 5 prizes of 250. Must sell 3,500 tickets for these prizes. If we do not sell 3,500 tickets, the raffle will be 50/50. It will begin on October 25th and tickets will be sold after Mass. Father suggested a write-up for the October 18th bulletin. The draw date will be May 16. Need 30 sellers of which some will be businesses like West Side, Portland Party Store, maybe Oakwood Lounge and Wagon Wheel. Discussion followed regarding money handling.

The Athletic Association wants approval for two fundraisers; the first is a chicken dinner in January and the second is a fish fry during Lent. Father and Deacon Don said the "soup Fridays" are every Friday during Lent and the money goes to the poor. The chicken dinner was approved.

B. Public Relations:

St. Pats has the front page of the *Ionia Sentinel* during the first week of November.

Shamrock Promise: It was agreed to go forward with this offer. This offer of locking in tuition for each student is only for incoming freshmen. It does not matter if a student is an existing student or transfer student. Details for unique situations such as twins or multiple high school students from the same family will come out very soon.

Try Us You'll Like Us will be offered to grades 1-8. It was agreed to try this promotion for one year.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

Randy suggested that PPS and the SP school commissions meet next month for dinner only.

Randy received guidelines from Catholic Central regarding overnight trips and chaperones. George and others reviewed and made suggestions for clarification and improvement.

Ralph introduced the seminar for Frank Bernier College Planning Consultants. Cost is \$5/person. We may go further in working to arrange a seminar.

Principal's Report

1. Jenny Clack of Ionia was hired by Portland Public Schools and will serve as a shared time employee at St. Patrick School. She will teach DK – 5th grade music. The special schedules for elementary are now complete and in effect as of September 24.
2. Attendance update for 2009 – 10: We lost one DK student and gained a 5th grade student. We are also gaining another student who will either be placed in our DK program or the 4 year old preschool program per parent request.
3. Dr. Marcia McEvoy was here on September 24th and 25th to help begin implementing her program the “Four Pronged Approach to Violence Prevention in Schools.” Students in grades K – 10 were pretty receptive to the program. The parent evening session only had 15 parents show up.
4. We had a really good spirit week. Students were well behaved and did a good job preparing halls, golf carts (except the seniors), and had a large amount of participation among the student body. The outdoor movie was well received and we had our first victory in a great game. Thank you to student council advisor Kaye Sandborn for all you did in guiding our student council in preparing and leading homecoming festivities.
5. The 5th/6th and 7th/8th grade football teams and cheerleading squads are half way through their seasons. Things are going well for both squads. Due to an injury, the 7th/8th team is down to 11 players but are hanging in there.
6. The teacher lap top computers have been ordered and are on the way with an ETA of October 5.
7. October 12th is morning parent/teacher conference and staff development day. Our IT specialist Ross Schneider will distribute staff lap tops and help staff become familiar with them. We will do some follow up with the Dr. McEvoy program and work on St. Patrick School Committee items. These committees are: Community Service/Pay it Forward Day, Veterans Day, Advent, and Catholic Schools Week.
8. Heartlands - To the best of my knowledge, everything has been going well for the two St. Patrick School students attending the Heartlands Institute of Technology Program.
9. Fire Prevention Week is the week of October 6 – 10. We will try to conduct a fire drill with the assistance of the Portland Fire Dept. The PFD will have an assembly for DK – 2nd and 3rd – 5th grades.
10. The revision of an all school handbook is almost complete and will be sent home to all families in the very near future.