

**St. Patrick School Board Meeting Notes
September 23, 2014**

I. Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved.

II. Approval of Minutes

Minutes approved as written.

III. Discussion of Principal/Director of Student Life Report

The physical education position has been filled several times; however, the newly hired teachers have taken different jobs with other school districts. The PE position was set up as two half-year positions but is now set up as a full year position. An interview is scheduled for Thursday, September 25th. Student enrollment for preschool is up significantly since August. A new DK student enrolled. All DK students are now in the morning session. Mrs. Weems will spend afternoons working with second grade reading and elementary computers. Mr. Hodge will evaluate all day DK for next year. Data will be gathered from last year and this year regarding preschool, DK and kindergarten fluctuations.

Mr. Hodge and Mrs. Townsend have been working on strategic goals.

- The teaching staff will be going through the curriculum one subject area at a time to ensure teachers are covering and meeting all the objectives for each subject area.
- Mrs. Townsend has rough drafts of the curriculum brochures for each grade and she hopes to have them available for parents at the parent/teacher conferences. The brochures relate to strategic goal 13-1-0000008. Mrs. Townsend will also work on brochures for the specials.
- The middle school students will have their own yearbook this year. Mr. Holman is leading the middle school year book staff. The yearbook is a non-athletic extracurricular activity which aligns with strategic goal 13-1-00000015.
- The STARS reading program assessment is estimated to begin by the end of the first marking period and this aligns with strategic goal 13-1-0000017.
- Regarding technology, "Type to Learn" will be incorporated into grades 2-5.
- Mr. Hodge stated MAPS testing will be three times per year to elementary and middles school students. High school students will not take MAPS tests.

IV. Follow Up Action Items

A. Marketing Presentation with Chris Ostrowski (Mr. Hodge)

At the November 4th meeting Chris Ostrowski will talk to school board members about marketing a Catholic school. Mr. Ostrowski will talk to the teaching staff on October 20th.

B. School Trip/Chaperones (Mr. Hodge)

Tabled

V. Subcommittee Focus

Discussion of how all parish ministries are supposed to align with the parish vision including the top priorities of the school board. Sue and Mike talked about the parish vision from the Pastoral Council viewpoint. The Pastoral Council is reviewing the diocese's 32 goals and will take the areas with the lowest scores and work on them. Hopefully the parish vision will be more defined.

The strategic planning committee highlighted some topics from the parent survey. Keelie stated that the committee chose topics that were either listed multiple times or ones they thought were good ideas.

Mission Effectiveness: The survey comments suggested Deacon Don and Father Larry participate more in religion classroom exercises. This has been somewhat addressed with Deacon Don teaching in the school this year. Regarding goals for mission effectiveness, Jen D. commented the middle school students enjoyed listening to seminarian, Dan Schumaker. The mission effectiveness committee hopes to have a seminarian from our parish talk to the students again this school year. Mr. Hodge suggested Mike Steffes and thought he may be able to talk to the students when he is on a break. Jen D. also said the sisters were well received and the committee hopes the elementary students will be able to listen this year.

Administration: Survey topics for administration are listed below.

1) **Special Classes:** A typing class will be taught in the lower grades with the new Type to Learn program. A strategic plan goal is to have a teacher for elementary computers. Mr. Hodge stated the school has purchased a new music curriculum that will be initiated soon. A survey response suggested adding drama and choir. Mr. Hodge said we have to ask for volunteers to lead choir, drama, rockbots, etc. Mr. Hodge said a music leader in the parish would be helpful for choir, band, etc. Discussion began regarding an elementary and/or middle school daily news broadcast. Smartboards could be used for the broadcast. Mrs. Townsend will follow up with Westwood teachers regarding their

daily news broadcast.

2) Counselor/Student Life/Tests: There is a need to communicate the availability of tutors and what the proper format is for finding a tutor for a student. Bullying has been addressed with the workshop refresher and will continue to be monitored. Jen D. asked if the counselor has prayers and scripture available when students visit her office. Mr. Hodge will follow up with her. Students have opportunities to job shadow. Career days and job shadowing will be added to the strategic plan. The PTO helps volunteer with DK-5 recess. Mrs. Townsend helps with lunch recess when possible. Mr. Hodge stated the lunches are now split in the elementary with K-2 and 3-5 having separate lunches which reduces the number of students the volunteers have to watch at each lunch.

3) Teaching Concerns: Monitoring AP scores. Mr. Hodge said many of the AP students do not take the AP exams. Discussion followed regarding the effectiveness of AP classes in order to pass the exams. Lisa stated that she believes AP classes are a huge draw to St. Pat's, however the classes need to be taught so students can pass. Parents should encourage their children to take the AP exams. It was suggested that the students be required to take a sample exam. A goal will be added to the strategic plan regarding AP classes. Students can take a total of ten college-level classes during high school.

Tabled: Planning, Policy and Public Relations.

Jen asked subcommittees to review their goals by Oct. 7th and get back with her outlining their goals and activities for the year.

VI. New Business

VII. Review of Tasks and Assignments:

- 1) Subcommittee goals (Oct 7)
- 2) Data gathering for preschool, DK, K
- 3) Chaperones (Mr. Hodge will talk to Dave Faber)
- 4) Mrs. Townsend to follow up on daily broadcast
- 5) Data gathering on AP classes
- 6) Prayer and counseling

Next Meeting: November 4th following 6 pm Mass

Closing prayer was conducted by Mrs. Townsend

Adjourned at 7:45 pm

--Notes submitted by Nancy Wohlscheid