

Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic School Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 4, 2010

Members present:

Kit Foster, Lisa Buchheit, Cathy Pfeil, Ken Gibbs, Mary Mueller, Jennifer Garner, Tara Busch, Julia Pluff, Fr. Osang Idagbo, Suzan Knese, Sarah Krebel and Charlie Lock

Opening:

The regular meeting of the SPPCS School Board was called to order at 7:10 p.m. on October 4th in the computer lab. The opening prayer was led by Julia Pluff, Vice President, who led the meeting.

A. Approval of Agenda

Education First was added as a topic to the agenda. 7th grade retreat was omitted. Lisa Buchheit motioned to approve the agenda and Kit Foster seconded the motion. Agenda was approved.

B. Approval of Minutes

After minor corrections, Lisa Buchheit motioned to approve the minutes and Tara Busch seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

C. President's Items

A. New Members: Recommended individuals to fill two School Board vacancies were recently contacted by Lisa Buchheit. Sarah Krebel accepted to fill the remaining one year of Tony Morrow's term and Suzan Knese accepted to fill the remaining one year of Courtney Brauer's term. Kim Huels will be returning to employment at SPPCS as a teacher in the Early Learning Center in January and is therefore ineligible.

B. Strategic Plan – Mary: Board members reviewed the draft and suggested minor editing. A cover page design was chosen. Mary will incorporate the edits, add outstanding information, and submit the plan to Fr. Osang for final review and comments. The final plan will be provided to the Architecture of Faith Committee when completed.

C. Fund Raising Committee – Mary: Mary Mueller proposed responsibilities for a fund raising committee. It will coordinate and report on SPPCS fundraising activity. The Board agreed to move forward with the establishment of the committee. A School Board member or members will coordinate and participate on it. Volunteers for the

committee will be identified after the next meeting. Ken Gibbs will provide to members the calendar approved by the Service Committee that includes fundraising activities.

D. Education First – Sarah: Sarah Krebel, who chairs the Education First Campaign, presented suggestions and costs for items that Education First proceeds can be used for during the current school year’s campaign. There was agreement to specify Education First funds be used for technology, with priority on NComputing computer stations for classrooms.

D. Principal’s Items

A. Upcoming Testing Dates: Iowa Basic Skills standardized testing will take place during the week of October 12-15. Grades 2 – 8 will participate. The 8th grade will take the ACRE test in November.

B. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Education Initiative: Laura Frierdich and parent Jennifer Urish are reviewing this program for enrichment education and will make a recommendation regarding the program at a later time.

C. Summary from Diocesan Institute: The value of Catholic education and the success of students when they become adults were reaffirmed by the information provided at the Diocesan Institute.

D. School Lunch Program: Healthy food choices have increased in the school lunch program. Fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, and/or whole grain items are available daily.

E. Miscellaneous: As a follow-up to previous discussions about transportation options for students outside the Waterloo school district, the cost of transportation from Waterloo public school is \$417/student/year and from Gibault is \$600/year.

F. Non-teaching Staff Wages: No raises have been given, all hourly employee wages will be reviewed at the end of the year. Evaluation of current hourly wage is being considered to determine market comparison and competitiveness.

D. Standing Reports

Friends of SPPS – Mary: Updates on upcoming activities/fundraisers. Consideration is being given to purchase new stage curtains for the stage in the gym and to update the stage by painting and other maintenance. Cost estimate is approximately \$6,000.

Parish Council – Tara Busch: Stewardship fair will take place on the weekend of October 16-17. Drainage options are being reviewed for the cemetery. Youth Ministry will have a pancake and sausage breakfast on October 17. 163 families with 250 students are registered in the Parish School of Religion (PSR) program. December 12 is the House Tour. For the St. Vincent DePaul Society, PSR is

assisting in stocking the food pantry. Fr. Urban has become the organization's spiritual director.

Finance/Investment Committees – Kit Foster: The endowment will be managed by the Investment Committee and an investment mix of 50% bonds/50% equities has been approved. Church contributions reflected in the weekly church bulletin will be presented in a different manner in the future. SPPCS has been cited by the Illinois Department of Public Health for some minor asbestos-related issues. Most of the citations are due to inadequate paperwork.

E. Closing Comments

The next regular school board meeting will be held Monday, November 8th, at 7:30 p.m. in the computer lab.

Fr. Osang led the closing prayer.

Adjournment: By Julia Pluff at 9:50 p.m.