

St. Cecilia Parish Board of Education Meeting

January 3, 2006

Members Present:

Monte Streit, Pres., Todd Clancy, VP, Pat Halbur, Larry Gross, Rev. Terry Rasmussen, Judy Rudman, Gary Gorman, Mark Gannon

Member Excused:

Administrators Present:

John Hayes
Absent: Duane Siepker

Ex-Officio Member Present:

Others Present:

Therese Baker

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Chairperson Monte Streit. Gary led the group in prayer. In the minutes of the December 6 meeting, changes are needed in the paragraph regarding the Educational endowment fund, noted here with italics: The fund currently contains about \$110,000; *the interest, expected to be about* ten percent (10%), can be used for educational needs, with the principal left untouched to build an income stream. In the event of proposed changes to the Fund document, there was discussion of the desire to require *the approval of at least two-thirds (2/3) of Board members eligible to vote*, with the vote conducted following readings at two (2) meetings. Todd moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Pat voiced a second to the motion which carried. For the In-service, members reviewed an outline of Sections 9 and 10 and watched Section 11 of the Archdiocesan Board video.

Administrative Reports:

Director of Religious Education: John commented on portions of his report. There was some discussion about the success of the Middle School youth group activities, including an overnight lock-in held during the Christmas break.

Principal: Duane provided a printed report.

Special Reports:

Committee Reports:

Finance: Monte submitted minutes of the December 13 meeting, noting that many projects need to be financed. Jerry Greving has been hired as Business Manager for the parish.

Parish Council: Pat provided a summary of the December 20 meeting, indicating that the Finance Committee requested more information on the source for funding a full time technology position for the school. The money will come from the budget which realized a savings from the salary budgeted for a teacher who resigned and the amount scheduled for her replacement. There was discussion about improving the safety of persons in the Education Center through improved security measures.

FSA: There was no report.

Long Range Planning Committee for Religious Education: John said that members are using the Board's self-evaluation reviews, personal experience, and a national catechetical tool to gather data, evaluate the status

of the program, and plan for the future. Irmi Miller will be gone for 6 months; another committee member will be sought.

School Improvement Advisory Committee: In Duane's absence, a report from the Ad Hoc Committee regarding class size was postponed.

Parish Community Life Coordinator: Therese Baker spoke about her role and new position. She is working with a committee of nine parishioners to meet assorted needs within the parish.

Unfinished Business:

Catechist Dinner: Monte said work will begin to set the menu, issue invitations, and gather volunteers for the February 26 event. Ideas were discussed for a Mardi Gras theme.

New Business:

Iowa Tests of Basic Skills Results:

In the absence of Duane a report was postponed.

Guidelines for Class Trips:

With the absence of Duane, the topic was postponed.

Closing Thoughts: Mark asked for a clarification on Duane's status. Several persons said that, subsequent to Duane's statements in June and letter of October 21 declaring that he would neither request nor accept a contract for the next school year, it is their perception that he is considering a contract with St. Cecilia's for 2006-2007. It is hoped that a decision is reached soon.

Duane had indicated that an item in his report to the Board, regarding water management services to the boilers, might require Board action. It was decided that the matter is an administrative responsibility not requiring Board approval.

Pastoral Comments: Father Terry wished everyone a wonderful new year and offered congratulations for the accomplishments of 2005.

Pat moved to adjourn the meeting. Todd gave a second to the motion, which passed. Following a group prayer, the meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM.

Submitted by Carolyn J. Thogerson