

SAINT CECILIA PARISH BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

March 4, 2008

Members Present: Todd Clancy, Larry Gross, Rick Hoenig, Judy Rudman, Pat Stahr, Tun Simodynes,
Kathy Wipf, Fr. Ivan Nienhaus
Administrators Present: John Hayes, Duane Siepker, Anna Steele
Ex-Officio Member Present: Nancy Lee Fink (Family School Association)
Others Present: John Feyerer, Katie Gerbracht, Karen Kerns, Peg Stowell

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Chairman Larry Gross. Kathy led the group in prayer. Todd moved to approve the minutes of the February meeting with the correction of a typographical error. Kathy gave a second to the motion which carried. For the in-service Kathy summarized each section of the March edition of the *Education & Faith Formation Board Gram*.

Administrative Reports:

Director of Religious Education: John reviewed items on his report. He added that changes have been made to help the Generations of Faith gathering be a more satisfying experience for participants. Meetings are planned to aid speakers for the Adult Education initiative for the next academic year.

Coordinator of Youth Ministry: Anna provided a report, an outline of the February 19 meeting of the Youth Ministry Advisory Team, information about the eight components of Youth Ministry, and copies of the 2008-2009 Small Group Proposal. She promoted discussion of the questions listed in the Pastoral Care of Adolescents section of the January, February, and March issues of the *Education & Faith Formation Board Gram*.

Principal: Duane highlighted portions of his printed report, reviewed the budget status, provided copies of a letter received from B. J. Terrones regarding kindergarten round-up, and presented proficiency ratings for Grades 2 through 5 for the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills taken in October, 2007.

Acceptance of Reports:

Finance and Administration Commission: Rick supplied minutes of the February 22 meeting.

Parish Council: Todd asked people to start thinking about recruitment for election to the Board. There was discussion of the nomination process. Judy moved to create a discernment meeting for all potential Board of Education candidates. Pat gave a second to the motion which passed.

Family School Association: Nancy spoke briefly about Kindergarten Round-up and a bowling party for families. Mad Science of Central Iowa will conduct two week-long camps for interested students during June and August.

Teacher Tidbits: Peg and Katie offered no comments.

Unfinished Business:

Status of 2008-2009 Budget: Larry said that he worked with the Finance Commission to balance the school budget. The revised budget was approved at a special meeting of the Board. Tim will take the new document to the Finance and Administration Commission.

2008-2009 Religious Education Tuition: Tuition was approved at the February BOE meeting with acceptance of the proposed budget.

2008-2009 School Calendar: Todd moved to approve the 2008-2009 school calendar as presented by Mr. Siepker at the February BOE meeting. Judy voiced a second to the motion which passed.

New Business:

Leadership Retreat: Karen informed the group of a program proposal developed with Father Nienhaus. Todd moved to accept the proposal for "Church Leadership iii Action: Creating Inspiring and Dynamic Environments that Promote and Develop Leadership" with an expectation that Board members attend the May 4 session. Pat gave a second to the motion which passed. Karen presented a proposal for "Deferred and Planned Giving Gift Designation Plan" to run as a pilot through July 2010. The Board will need to establish criteria for deciding how to use gift monies. Todd and Rick will draft a proposal.

On-site Book Store: Karen presented a proposal to establish a bookstore on St. Cecilia property with a 2-year pilot. Judy moved to support the proposal for a Saint Cecilia Catholic Bookstore. Kathy gave a second to the motion which passed.

Contract Recommendations for 2008-2009: Duane recommended that all current contracted personnel be offered contracts for the 2008-2009 academic year and that all support staff receive renewed job descriptions with alterations as discussed due to budget constraints. Todd moved to offer contracts to all current personnel for the 2008-2009 academic year and to renew job descriptions for all support staff with alterations as discussed. Judy voiced a second to the motion which passed.

Kindergarten Recruitment Plan: There was discussion of a variety of options to consider to increase enrollment for the 2008-2009 kindergarten class.

FAO Sheet: Karen and Duane provided a list of frequently asked questions regarding the school. Parents will be informed of the search for a new principal as facts become available.

Board Directives to Principal: No directives were put forth.

BOE Election Committee: (see *Parish Council* section)

Closing Thoughts: Rick said that he will be absent for the April and May meetings. Pat suggested that with a new law school curriculums for science and sexuality may need to be reviewed. There was discussion of the need to honor Duane for his years of service. Karen said she'd appreciate feedback about the Development Commission.

Pastoral Comments: Father said that the school will do okay though the Board is not accustomed to recruiting students and that the parish should continue to strive for two sections of each grade.

Pat moved that an executive session be held to discuss the search for a principal. Todd gave a second to the motion which passed. The executive session began at 9:27 PM.

Submitted by Carolyn J. Thogerson