

St Jude School Commission Minutes of the Meeting Held February 8, 2005

The St. Jude School Commission (the "Commission") met on February 8, 2005. The following members of the Commission were present, constituting a quorum: Greg Dant, Chairman; Paul Sahn, Vice-Chairman; Sr. James Michael, Ex-Officio Member and Administrative Officer; Michael Croddy, Member; John Swhear, Member; Bessie Davey, Member; Bill Hampton, Member; and, Cheryl McAllen, Secretary. Also present was Mrs. Andrea Haltom, Parent; and Mrs. Jane Pollard, Parent and Technology Committee member.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:05pm. He recognized Sister James Michael who provided an opening prayer.

The minutes from the previous meeting of the Commission, held on January 11, 2005, having been previously distributed to the members of the Commission, were approved by voice vote with correction.

The Chairman updated the Commission on communications regarding the air quality investigation. A letter will be sent home with the school newsletter. An article will also appear in the Parish Press. It was recommended that a letter be sent to school families directly communicating the investigation and findings by the Board of Health regarding no presence of mold in the classrooms. The Chairman will follow up with Father.

The Commission moved to the topic of the TAP Program. Sister shared that the meeting January 21 meeting did not provide any details regarding funds that might be available from the Archdiocese for funding this program next year. There is another meeting scheduled for February 24th, at which this topic should be addressed. The Church bulletins for the coming weekend will be stuffed with fliers requesting Parish members sign up for the Meijer guest card. Any funds received from this will be put towards funding TAP for next year.

Next, the Commission moved on to the norms for the Technology and Safety Committees. Mr. Swhear has provided norms for the Technology Committee. Mr. Croddy will provide norms for the Safety Committee, which will be meeting soon. The Commission decided to table further discussion of these norms until the May meeting due to the lengthy agenda and need to discuss school budget in the March and/or April meetings.

The Commission then moved on to the topic School Goals. Minutes from the goals committee meeting with teachers were shared and reviewed with the Commission. St. Jude School would like to apply for the Blue Ribbon award again next year or the year after. It will be necessary that Foreign Language be included in the curriculum if we are to receive the Blue Ribbon award again. Sister will follow up to clarify the specific requirements.

Next, the Chairman recognized Mrs. Haltom, parishioner and parent, who spoke to the Commission regarding communications and provided several ideas regarding how the School Commission might increase communication to parents and the Parish community. At this time, the Chairman also shared Father's request that an interview or orientation with new school families be established to assist them in understanding what it means to be a Parish and School family. Sister shared that this does occur during the new family registration time.

The Commission then discussed spending procedures for the Technology Committee. The Commission proposed and approved the following resolution regarding the Technology Committee budgeted money approval process:

RESOLVED, That the Chairman of the Technology Committee (the “Technology Chairman”) of the St. Jude School Commission (“SC”) is hereby authorized to spend budgeted amounts under \$500 with no School Commission approval;

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Technology Chairman is hereby authorized to spend budgeted amounts between \$500 and \$1,000 with the pre-approval of either the SC Finance Committee representative or the Chairman of the School Commission; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Technology Chairman is hereby authorized to spend budgeted amounts in excess of \$1,000 with the pre-approval of both the School Commission Finance Committee representative and the Chairman of the School Commission.

The assumption would be that all other expenditures would require pre-approval of the entire Commission. This would include times when there is no Chairman of the Technology Committee and when the amount is not budgeted (in times when our budget has run out).

The Chairman then recognized Mrs. Jane Pollard, member of the Technology Committee, Parishioner, Parent, and Technology Director for Perry Township Schools. Mrs. Pollard shared technology in curriculum information with the Commission. At this time, Mr. Swhear also provided the Technology Committee’s updated four-year plan. The request is \$45-\$50 per student technology fee. The Commission agreed to discuss this fee along with the registration fee at the March meeting.

The Commission then moved onto the topic of providing desserts for the RCIA group on February 16th. Mrs. Davey and Mrs. McAllen will be taking the desserts to the Parish Center. Mrs. Davey will let everyone know where and when desserts can be dropped off.

The Commission then moved into Committee Reports. Mr. Sahn provided an update for the Finance Committee. Fifteen percent of the school families received follow-up letters regarding their commitment to be an active school family so that they may receive the subsidized Parishioner tuition rate. The registration fee and tuition will be discussed at the March meeting. Mrs. McAllen provided an update from the Membership Committee. Names of four individual’s interested in serving on the School Commission have been provided from the Stewardship Commission. Columns will run in both the Parish Press and the Sunday Bulletin requesting those interested in serving on the Commission contact Mrs. McAllen.

Sister James Michael then gave the Principal’s report to the Commission. All teachers but one will be returning next year. In-school registration packets will go home on Friday, February 18th, and new school family registration will be on Tuesday, March 8th.

There being no further business before the Commission, there was a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded, and the Commission adjourned at 9:35p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl McAllen
Secretary