

St Jude School Commission Minutes of the Meeting Held October 11, 2005

The St. Jude School Commission (the "Commission") met on October 11, 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; John Hovanec, Member; Mary Ann Chamberlin, Member; Julie Molloy, PTO President; and, Cheryl McAllen, Secretary.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:10pm. He recognized Sister James Michael who provided an opening prayer.

The Chairman then gave an update on revisions to the bylaws and standing rules. He is in process of updating them to send to review to the change committee. They will hopefully be ready for review by the Commission in November.

Mrs. Molloy then provided information regarding purchase price of UHF walkie-talkies. Mr. Sahn agreed to contact the vendor with specific questions. The Commission agreed to vote on purchase of these electronically, if needed, if it is determined that they suit the school needs.

Next, Mr. Hovanec shared that estimates for a new roof on the school are being pursued. This is the most immediate facility need at this time.

The Commission then reviewed goals for the 2006-2007 school year that were identified by a subset of teachers representing each grade level and special areas. Goals met for the current school year that the teachers would like to see continue were keeping full-time art and music teachers and the full-time aide for First Grade. New goals identified as highest priority for next year were: 1) Establish a foreign language program for the Junior High students to begin with that might possibly be able to expand in the future to other grades; 2) Increase the amount of time the Social Worker is at the school. Several years ago the Social Worker was present two days a week. A few years ago that was reduced to one day a week due to cost. One day a week is not sufficient to meet the needs of the children; 3) Establish a Learning Disabled/Special Education (LD) program. The teachers suggested this start with Learning Disabled children and then expand to other children, such as those with physical needs; 4) Establish a Gifted Program. There are children that would benefit from having a Gifted Program in place. The tutors may be able to do more work with Gifted Children if a full-time LD teacher was in place. However, to have a good Gifted Program it would likely require a full-time teacher to run it.

Next, the Chairman shared thoughts on coordinating the Stewardship information returned with the United Catholic Appeal (UCA) with the Family Stewardship Policy. The UCA cards will be sent out by the end of the month. The Family Stewardship Policy is completed in the spring with school registration. Mrs. Molloy shared that the PTO has volunteers that could assist with pre-completing some Family Stewardship forms, if needed. The Commission determined that the process of coordinating these efforts should be determined this year and implemented the following year for the 2007-2008 school year.

The Commission then tabled review of the updated tuition policy. Mrs. McAllen will email to the Commission members for vote at the November meeting.

Next, the Chairman shared that the Men's Club is funding a gate replacement for the gates entering the school parking lot from McFarland Road. Options for a solution are being determined and will be presented to the Commission when ready.

Mr. Sahn then shared that he is beginning work on the 2006-2007 school budget. The plan is to incorporate the Kindergarten Fees into the ACH (FACTS) program. K-Care and After School Care, however, will remain separate due to those programs being paid for as the service is used.

Mrs. Molloy then shared a fund-raising initiative being pursued for updating the school to accommodate people with special needs. This would involve sponsoring an evening at the theater presenting A Christmas

Carol. St. Jude would be able to generate funds by selling tickets, which would include inviting groups to rent out some of the bigger rooms for Christmas parties. This will be presented to the Finance Committee at their next meeting.

Sister provided the Administrative Report. Fall Break will be October 20 and 21. Report cards will be issued on October 14. Sister's goals for the 2005-2006 year have been submitted to the Chairman for his signature.

There being no further business before the Commission, there was a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded, and the Commission adjourned at 8:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl McAllen
Secretary