

SEAS School Board Minutes—Approved
September 19, 2011
SEAS Music Room

I. Call to Order

- A. 6:30 PM by Kevin Pendergast
- B. Members present:, Kevin Pendergast, Kellie Thomson, Jim Bailey, Tom Allen, David Whittaker, Tom Coomer, Mike Rzeszut, Mark Menghini, Grant Shearer
- C. Members Absent: Marti Pausback, Shane Locke, Father Tom Lilly
- D. Guests: Beth Lottridge (SEAS Computer/Library staff)

II. Opening Prayer: Kevin Pendergast

III. Review and Approval

- A. August 2011 meeting minutes—approved
- B. September 19, 2011 meeting agenda—approved

IV. Public Comments: None

V. Principal Comments

Currently have 160 students enrolled two students less than last month. Ongoing push for more students continues however most classes are near capacity. The Annual Fund has taken in \$ 12,037.65. This is slightly behind the amount taken in at this time last year.

VI. Superintendent Comments--none

VII. Discussion Items

A. PVO (Parent Volunteer Organization) Update

- 1. Marti absent due to family illness
- 2. Kevin commented that the golf tournament was not well subscribed this year.
- 3. Kellie mentioned the Halloween carnival will be Oct. 28th.

B. Committees Update

- 1. Development-Marketing-Public Relations (DMPR)
 - a. Tom reported that the committee is working on an idea that envisions each class developing a design for a T-shirt. Key issue is funding for the project.
 - b. Tom commented that at this point the committee is not considering external; advertising that could result in oversubscription. The committee feels the current enrollment is good.
 - c. The committee is also discussing partnering with Lumen to go to other parishes and talk about the general benefits of Catholic education. This would be timed to coincide with the Annual Appeal which may result in more participation.
 - d. the DMPR committee meets the first Wednesday of each month at 10:30.
- 2. Curriculum
 - a. Committee is working with Jim Bailey on the Northwest Accreditation.
 - b. Evaluating Religion curriculum. Forms will be sent to teachers concerning "likes and dislikes". Will solicit written feedback from teachers before revising curriculum.

- c. Kellie reported that the committee is evaluating a 5th and 6th grade trip to Washington DC. They are looking for parental support for the idea. Significant logistical issues to address. Right now, it is just an idea. Committee will consult with Fr. Tom before proceeding with any detailed planning. Dave commented that if the trip planning moves forward, the committee do not consider going while the Congress is in session.

3. Facilities/Safety

- a. Kevin will join the Facilities Committee.
- b. Safety Subcommittee update is included in the meeting handouts.
- c. Discussion was held as to making the Safety Committee a standalone committee due to the high profile nature of safety and emergency preparedness for the school. Mark and Tom will evaluate the merits of setting up a separate committee and provide a recommendation to the board.

4. Strategic Planning

- a. Committee plans to update the prior plan for the 2011-2014 time period. A copy of last year's plan will be sent to all board members for review.

5. Finance

- a. Enrollment is off to a good start with 160 students currently enrolled. Committee is looking forward to another strong year budget-wise. Finance committee report is included in meeting handouts.
- b. Financial aid was discussed. A question was raised as to the need to increase the financial aid portion of the Annual Auction. Generally all financial aid funds derived from the auction are spent. The financial aid budget for last year was \$ 19,000 and expenditures were \$ 23,720. Discussed enhancing the profile of tuition at the auction. Kevin commented that a consideration could be that current tuition payers could give more if able. The Finance committee will explore the idea further. Also Grant suggested that the committee investigate the possibility of getting on the PFD non-profits list.

6. Bylaws

- a. Bylaws may be updated to include updated board member list and any new committee language.

- C. Beth Lottridge provided information on the "Choice for Education" legislation. She said she was asked by the archdiocese to be the school contact. The primary idea behind the bill is to allocate a portion of school taxes collected to private school if parents chose to send their children to private school. Beth commented that they are asking interested persons to contact their legislators in support of the bill. Beth asked if the Board would be interested in supporting the cause by indicating their support in a letter to parents. A comment was raised by Mike Rzeszut that there may be a concern since the board should not be involved in political activities. Kevin also asked about the archdiocese's position on the legislation. It was agreed the board should review the legislation prior to the next meeting and be prepared to discuss/vote on further support. The bill can be found at: www.ak.choice.org.

VIII. Task Assignments

- *Review "Choice for Education" bill prior to next meeting.
- * Update Bylaws with new board members.
- * Send copy of last year's Strategic Plan to all board members.

IX. **Closing Prayer:** Mike Rzeszut

X. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Next board meeting: Monday, October 17, 2011, 6:30 p.m.