

St. Pius X School Commission

March 10, 2011

Attendance:

Fr. Jim Farrell, Pastor

Bill Herman, Principal

Theresa Desautels, Assistant Principal

Jenny Myers, Chairperson

Eileen Countryman, Secretary

Eric Kellison-At-Large Member

Kassy McPherson, At-Large Member

Tony Rondinella, At-Large Member

Scott Nickerson, Finance Committee Representative

Opening Prayer

Scott Nickerson opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:08 p.m.

Approval of January Minutes

The minutes were approved as written.

Open House Update

Eileen Countryman reported on the SPX School Open House that was held on Tuesday, January 18, 2011. It was a success. 96 volunteers, in addition to the entire school staff and many students, worked at the event. 24 new families joined us that night. The families commented on the feeling of community and volunteerism that is present at St. Pius X School. The 2011-12 kindergarten class is full with a waiting list started and there are currently 34 children registered for the 2012-13 kindergarten class. There are many siblings of current SPX students in both of these classes. This may explain why we had fewer families present at Open House this year.

Staff Recognition Dinner

Jenny Myers discussed the Staff Recognition Dinner that will take place on Tuesday, May 3rd which is also National Teacher Appreciation Day. This event will be chaired by School Commission. We are hoping to have the event catered by Maggianos, but are awaiting approval of funds through PTO. The Commission will serve the food and will host the event. Bill will present the awards. More to come on this event since it is still in the planning stages.

New Member Discernment

Jenny Myers reminded the commission of the date for New Member Discernment. This will take place on May 17, 2011. We will have four spots that need to be filled on the commission. Jenny asked the commission to think of people who would be good additions to the commission and to extend an invitation for them to discern on May 17th.

Finance Report

Scott Nickerson reported that the school budget is ahead in all areas and looking good. He discussed the approved tuition increase which is between a 1%-1 ½% increase. All resource costs have now been rolled into the budget and there will no longer be separate billing to parents for these services.

Principal's Report

Bill Herman presented his report. He focused on ISTEP and shared a document organized by Theresa Desautels comparing SPX scores by grade levels to that of the State of Indiana and the Archdiocese. The testing went well overall aside from lots of absenteeism for sickness and a couple of kids who were so stressed that they could not complete part of the test. Enrollment looks good for the 2011-2012 school year. Best estimates as of March have enrollment around 434 students. Bill also discussed the Archdiocese's comments on vouchers. In addition to completely evaluating how much it truly costs to educate a child at St. Pius X, it is suggested for each school to review their admissions policy. This does fall under School Commission and will be discussed at our May meeting. Bill will be accompanying the 8th Grade on their trip to Washington D.C. next week.

New Business

Jenny Myers shared that the parish is no longer having packets where you sign up to become a parishioner. Now, those interested in joining St. Pius X parish will attend a New Parishioner Information Night where they can have a chance to hear more about SPX community.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment

Eric Kellison closed our meeting at 7:55 p.m. with a prayer.