

**SCHOOL BOARD NOTES**  
**December 2008**

**Present** – Fred Whitaker (chair), Daryl Cole, Randy Einem (Principal), Jason Neben, Andrea Jensen (Auxiliary President), Andrea Dabrow, (6 of 8 voting members present - quorum established); John Steinmeyer (Elder-non voting), Steve Redding (Elder - non voting) **Not Present** – Mary Ann McCuiston, Lis Hohman

- Randy Einem led the opening devotion.
- The agenda was moved and approved.
- Jacqueline Devereaux gave the following Student Leadership report:
  - Earthquake Drill assisted by Student Leadership
  - Box Top collection for Library and Mrs. Hoyt assisted by Student Leadership
  - 3 Students used Peer Tutoring since the last meeting.
  - Christmas Middle School Dance a success - funds raised will be used for a Valentine's or Easter Party for Mercy House.
  - Valentine's Dance will promote the St. John's Food Pantry
  - 2 Students went through Peer Counseling for disciplinary reasons since last meeting.

▪ Announcements / Dates

December

17	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Advent Candlelight Service 7:00PM
19	Christmas Break <b>NOON DISMISSAL</b>
20-Jan.4	Christmas Break <b>NO SCHOOL</b>

January

5	Classes Resume
8	Kdg. Open House 5:30-7:00 PM
9	Geo. Bee 1:30 PM
12	½ day WASC meeting
15	Middle School Open House 6:30 – 8:00 PM
19	MLK Day – <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
	Auxiliary Golf Outing
23	End of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter
	Records Day <b>NO SCHOOL</b>

- The November 2008 Minutes were approved as presented.
- Randy Einem gave the following Principal's Report:
  - 2009-10 Budget w/ Tuition Rates were discussed. Both Elders present, expressed, that despite the financial strain, the Leadership of the Church is committed to the continued support of the school as a subsidized ministry of the Church. Jason Neben moved, Daryl Cole seconded and the Council approved the final Tuition/Fee schedule for 2009-2010 for K-8. The increases range from 0-1% for Non-Member one child or multiple children. The increases range from 4.4% to 6.6% for Member one child or multiple children. The average increase is \$23 per month. The Council forwarded this to the Trustees for approval to send out (subject to later Congregational Approval) in the first week of January for re-enrollment.
  - Lunch Area Renovation: Renovations begin on Monday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>. This will result in classes eating lunch inside classrooms when we return from the holidays and until completion.

- THINK Relocation: THINK headquarters will move to what is the current Teacher's Lounge. The Lounge will move to the THINK House. We will be evaluating this as possibility a permanent arrangement.
- Visiting Classrooms: Randy continues as time permits.
- WASC: Written drafts have been completed for final review by the leadership team. Following the holidays Marsha Hafer and Randy will be developing a strategic plan. They are entitling the plan "Visioning the Future.
- Parent Survey Launched: Out of 740 email addresses we received 239 responses. This represents approx. a 33% response. The statistical information of the survey will be present at the January meeting. In summary, concerns about increasing the quality of curriculum were the highest. Continuity in expectations across grade levels also registered high. Math and Writing were mentioned frequently. The raw data was presented in the pre-meeting materials to the Council.
- Focus Group Work: A summary of the common themes presented in the various groups was provided to the board and is attached.
- Website Work: Corey Witt and associates are working on this project. \$14,500 has been raised so far. Launch date remains early January.
- Technology Review: As reported at last meeting, we have found a very favorable product that we have spent time reviewing and meeting with a rep. via a webinar. We believe it has great potential. The name of the product is RenWeb. <http://www.renweb.com> It has demos for viewing. Funding this purchase has become the issue. The cost is \$20,000 to install and \$6000 annually. Funds need to be raised, as it is not in the budget. The Tech Task force will review in January.
- The Old Fashion Way: We will be forced to conduct "re-enrollment" the old fashion way. The mailing will go out in early January and will involved paper rather than electronic on-line procedures.
- Service Spectrum of Students: How do we define the students we "service" here at St. John's? What is the range of needs we are able to provide for and what is outside our ability to service? Faculty has discussed this at our last faculty meeting. We have responsibility to ALL parties involved to clearly know this. It affects admissions, staffing, staff development, instruction and funding. Some children are beyond the ability of our Resource Program to help them. Randy was asked to bring a preliminary definition and policy for discussion in January.
- Achievement Test Scores: We received the results from the ITBS and CoGAT standardized tests. This information will be sent home along with 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter report cards. Teachers are using this information to identify learning abilities as well as achievement. Randy has begun a spreadsheet analysis that will provide us "growth information" annually based on grade equivalent scores. The Council also asked Randy to provide the results to the teachers as soon as received, so they can start working with the students even before they are sent to the parents with the second quarter report cards.
- Enrollment Data: In an effort to begin a "base line" of information regarding enrollment trends, we have begun to track enrollment by grade level at various times; start of school year, start of 2<sup>nd</sup> semester and then finally end of school year. We will also be tracking "re-enrollment" trends

starting in March and going monthly through the 1<sup>st</sup> day of school. As time progresses, this historical data will help us with predicting and planning for future school years.

- Current Enrollment: We began the school year at 686 and then moved up 688. At the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, two 6<sup>th</sup> graders transferred. At Christmas break we are having a family with 2 children (Gr.1 & 4) move to New Orleans because of job transfer. However, when we get back we will receive 2 new students (Gr. 1 & 4). Another family informed us that because of dad's job reduction, one of their two children attending will be pulled out and put in public school – happens to be Gr. 2. We are also working with a Kdg. family regarding the learning needs of the child. It is probable this student will not return after Christmas holidays. This puts enrollment when we return from the holidays at 684.
- Kindergarten Mailing: Approximately 120 letters were mailed out to Church members and Lambs Lot families, inviting them to apply for Kindergarten for next year.
- Marketing/Enrollment Update - discussed in the Principal's Report.
- Marriage/Gender Policy Statement - The policy draft based on the form given to us by the PSWD and currently in use at other schools was approved with minor changes responding to the SB777 exception for religious institutions on "gender based curriculum/teachings" and to have an action path for disagreements. Jason Neben moved, Daryl Cole seconded, Approved for submission to the Trustees and inclusion in the re-enrollment packet. The final version is attached.
- Visioning the Future - discussed in the Principal's Report.
- Preschool Enrollment - tabled until January
- THINK- Parent Concerns - The Council asked Randy to meet with THINK to discuss the concerns of parents that the After School Programs were dropped registration was paid, leaving only After School Care. Timeline needed for restoration of programs, alternatives to bringing the programs back.
- School Auxiliary gave the following Report:
  - Golf Tournament: The Ninth Annual St. John's Golf Tournament will be held at Western Hills Country Club on January 19, 2009. Trish Ponder is Chair this year and is working hard to recruit golfers, please spread the word!!
  - Christmas Store: We just finished up a great week at the Christmas Store. A huge thank you to Emmy Anasis for all her hard work in the set up, clean up and organization of the store. There were over 45 volunteers working to create a wonderful shopping experience for the students.
- Endowment Committee – No Report. Next Meeting of Endowment Board 1/12/09 at 4:30 pm in the Conference Room.
- Technology Task Force – No Report. Next Meeting of Technology Task Force 1/12/09 at 7:00 am in the Conference Room
- Adjournment With Closing Prayer
- Next Meeting ~ January 13, 2009