

SCHOOL BOARD NOTES

November 2008

Present – Fred Whitaker (chair), Daryl Cole, John Steinmeyer (Elder), Randy Einem (Principal), Danny Clinton, Jason Neben, Andrea Jensen, Andrea Dabrow, Lis Hohman. Not Present – Mary Ann McCuistion

- Daryl Cole led the opening devotion.
- The Agenda was moved and approved.
- Cameron Wegener gave the following Student Leadership Report:
 - Next Denim for dollars is November 21st. All the money to will be donated to the St. John's food pantry for Thanksgiving boxes.
 - Peer Tutoring on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at 7:30. They are recruiting tutors school wide instead of just leadership.
 - Students would like to have a Valentine's or Easter party for the Mercy House. They are working on dates.
 - The Middle School Dance is on December 12, 2008. The theme is "Dancing in a Winter Wonderland".
 - WASC – leadership students are looking at surveys, writing reports, and compiling evidence for the WASC teams.
- Announcements/Dates:
- November
 - Lutheran Educators Conf. – NO SCHOOL
 - Thanksgiving Break – NO SCHOOL
- December
- Christmas Break – Noon Dismissal
- 20 – Jan 4 Christmas Break – NO SCHOOL
- The October 2008 Minutes were approved as presented.
- Randy Einem gave the following Principal's Report:
 - Priority admissions from Lamb's Lot into Kindergarten – consensus of the Council was to leave the priority admissions as is. Staffing was discussed.
 - Senne Field Dedication on Wed., December 3 @ 2:30 to recognize Roger for all he has done here for St. John's.
 - Lunch area renovation is beginning on December 15th. Randy is working with THINK for temporary details.
 - Randy has begun visiting classrooms unannounced and then provides teachers with observations, comments and suggestions at a follow up meeting.
 - WASC – committees are reviewing survey info and formalizing responses with drafts being reviewed by our WASC consultant. Final written drafts are to be completed by Christmas Break and submitted in January.
 - The Parent survey was launched on the web with a follow up email to each parent. 92 have been completed so far. We are closing it on December 2.
 - Focus groups were completed and we had over 75 participants. Randy is developing a document that pulls together all of the info. This will be reviewed along with the parent surveys.

- Website work – discussing options of having an internal and external categories (internal for parents/teachers etc, external for prospective families/visitors) Funding for this project is important – total cost looks to be around \$20,000. We have around \$9,000 already donated – need to find the balance.
 - Technology review – Randy, John Ledbetter, Dennis Grice, Dave Stuewe, and Nancy Morris are pursuing products to better our communication and applications school wide.
 - 2009/2010 Budget planning is in the works. Randy will provide extensive suggestions for the following year in December. Randy asked for input from the board in order to set up budget numbers for December.
 - Matching Gifts Campaign – as of Tuesday we’ve received over \$6,000!
 - The council is thinking about inviting community guest to our meetings occasionally to gain information and to get our name into the community.
 - Service Spectrum of Students – we need to start thinking about and discussing how we define the -“student” that we service at our school. What is the range of needs we are able to provide and what is outside our ability to service? We have a responsibility to ALL parties involved to clearly know this.
- Marriage/Gender Policy Statement - Randy will compile a “Covenant of Understanding” to be mailed out with the registration materials. This will state the school’s covenant commitments as it relates to our biblical beliefs and family values. Families will need to sign and return this form at the same time that they return their registration materials.
 - Marketing/Enrollment Update – 688 students currently enrolled. Technology to enhance enrollment was discussed under principal’s report
 - Visioning the Future – Focus groups have occurred, parent survey has been posted and emailed and will be closed on December 2, 2008.
 - Preschool Enrollment – 2 new students. They are beginning the five, full time, three year old program to begin in January as a trial and have some spots already filled.
 - Andrea Jensen gave the following School Auxiliary Report:
 - Used uniform sale \$725 went to the 8th graders
 - Red Ribbon Week was a huge success! Thanks to Kim Minter – we received a lot of positive comments from parents and faculty.
 - School Directory was delivered. Thanks to Jolie Harnack, Jen Mallendar and Kelly Early.
 - Tanaka Farms – 37 families signed up this time around compared to 19 the last session. Next session begins in January.
 - The 9th Annual St. John’s Golf Tournament will be held on January 19, 2009 at Western Hills Country Club.
 - Christmas Store is beginning to prepare. It will be held the week of December 8th. This is not a fundraiser, but an opportunity for the students to shop for loved ones.

Meeting was adjourned with closing prayer.

Next meeting – December 16, 2008