

St. Jude Parish Education Commission
September 4, 2007
Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Bob Huber, Jerry Weber, Jen Buse, Micki Deutenberg, Mike Loth, Mary Hatch, Kathy Reid, Fr. Eric, Angie Schroeder, Missy Meinhardt, Mike Neiman, Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Pelzel, Mrs. Kathman

Absence: Isaak A. Isaak, Jerry Weber, Chris Hoferer (PTO)

Approval of Minutes: Mike Loth and Jen Buse.

Opening Prayer: Fr. Eric

Previous Business/Announcements:

Teacher Surveys were discussed and question arose regarding the ability of eighth grade parents to complete a survey due to the timing of the distribution. Mr. Huber discussed the possibility of sending the end of the year surveys home with registration packets.

Report Items:

Teachers' Report: Introductions to Mr. Pezel and Mrs. Kathman.

Mrs. Anderson stated that she would like to see the Rost School Program continue for our 5th graders but feels that we will have to work on scheduling.

Principal's Report:

High School Recruitment: Mr. Huber distributed a High School recruitment Guideline letter to review. The letter outlines how we will handle the distribution and announcement of information sent to St. Jude students by area high schools. The letter states that information will be posted in the "Hey Jude" on specific dates. The posting of information is open to all schools but should be limited to those schools that felt that they have a legitimate chance of St. Jude students attending their campus.

Science Lab: Mr. Huber would like to move quickly on the science lab. He has had the facility looked at and gathered teacher input. The science lab will likely be ready for use next school year. Mr. Huber stated that we will need to plan financing if the PTO donation does not cover the entire lab costs.

Algebra Program: Mr. Huber would like to start investigating a new algebra program for our 7th and 8th grade students for the 2008-2009 school-year. The program may require ability grouping, placing the top achievers in Algebra class and the lower end of the curve in remediation. There are no guidelines or specific details at this time regarding the program. The Committee agrees that a higher level course of math is needed for middle school students at St. Jude. It was noted that many of our graduates are struggling in high school math. Mike Loth volunteered to do some initial leg work on the Algebra Program.

Staffing: Mrs. Nadar will not be back at St. Jude due to Hamilton County staffing issues.

OCSAA Accreditation Model: A committee has been formed to work on St. Jude's 2007-2013 cycle plans. The committee consists of Mr. Huber, Mrs. Corbett, Ms. Scanlon, and Mrs. Ray. The plan is created to move St. Jude through a cycle of self improvement. The cycle focuses on two main goals 1) student learning and 2) catholic identity. The goals were discussed and the ideas of multiculturalism, writing, cross-curricular alignment, and technology were mentioned as areas on which to focus.

PTO Report: It was discussed that Sally Foster should remain the only larger PTO fund raiser. There is no real need at this time to include other fund raisers as the Kroger rewards cards are doing very well.

Pastor's Report: Father Eric reported that he is considering hiring an ecological engineer to investigate ways we can make the buildings cooler during the hot months (air conditioning is not an option at this time).

Discussion Items:

Jen Buse: Presented language to change the definition of a "year" in regards to the Teacher's Continuing Education Fund. The year will now be defined as a teaching contract year (i.e. beginning approximately 8/15 and running for the following 12 months.). All on the committee agreed to the change and Jen will take it to the PTO for further approval as they have oversight role regarding the fund... All teachers must report to work on the first day of the school year to get funds from the account.

Micki Deutenberg: presented data from her research into area schools offering foreign language and the scheduling and financing of the programs. Mr. Huber, Father Eric and the committee agreed that the inclusion of a foreign language program would be for our students. More research is necessary and Micki agreed to do some additional work on the topic.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Eric

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Next Education Commission meeting is October 2, 2007 at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Micki Deutenberg