

School Advisory Board Meeting Minutes  
March 12, 2014, 6:30 p.m.  
Room 207

1. Call to Order and Prayer

Members in attendance: Lisa Lesjak, Lauren Beckmann, Laura Maly, Marcia Velde, Kristen Reynolds, Marion Gottschalk, Tom Dean, Matt Hietpas, Kelly Schmidt, John Dulmes, Kathy Wyatt, and Fr. Dennis Dirx

Guests: Bill Brousseau, John Scheid (Parish Finance Council Chairman), Rosemary Murphy (Parish Director of Stewardship, Jim Pittelkow (Parish Director of Finance & Administration)

2. Guest Comments

No guest comments were provided at this time.

3. Parish/Pastor Report – Fr. Dennis

It was reported that the Parish will get an associate pastor.

4. Presentation on our proposed Security Upgrade Project – given by Bill Brousseau

Bill presented a PowerPoint presentation to highlight the objectives and costs of the security upgrades needed at the school. Cost estimates were based on bids from multiple providers

- a. Video Surveillance – cameras to cover the entrances and hallways
  - i. Goal is to provide a forensic tool, not to be “big brother”
  - ii. Not regarded as a major deterrent
  - iii. Cameras are all web enabled – teachers could have a view into the hallways on their computers
  - iv. Police and fire departments can tap into the images
  - v. Estimated cost of this portion of the project, on the high side, would be \$7,600.
- b. Phone system – Voice over IP
  - i. Better two-way communication between the office and rooms.
  - ii. Our system is currently maxed out – this system is very expandable.
  - iii. Can easily add speakers in key areas for PA system
  - iv. System only requires one Ethernet cable
  - v. Estimated cost (including PA equipment) \$6,000
- c. Card Access system for outside entry
  - i. Card system allows us to zone off the school (e.g. gym would be a separate zone from the class room areas)
  - ii. Cards can be issued to anyone who needs access to the school.

- iii. Cards can be specifically programed to only open certain doors and/or only allow entrance at certain times
- iv. Cards should be given out with a deposit to encourage their return.
- v. Estimated cost of the system \$31,000

5. Finance/Budget – Tom Dean, John Scheid

Tom provided an update on the school budget and the parish financial situation:

- a. Attention was paid to the steady decline in contributions to the parish over the last several years.
- b. In 2012, the parish lost \$300,000
- c. Parish supports 19-20% of the school's budget
- d. Parish is low on members who make contributions

John Scheid provided some insight from the parish finance perspective:

- e. All in the parish were informed (in the fall) about the parish ministries and their costs.
- f. Of the 156 parish families in the school, only 70 returned pledge forms. The pledges that were made totaled \$128,000.
- g. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the need for the two entities to work together to generate renewed interest in the parish and school. People in the pews and kids in the school can go a long way to alleviating financial woes.
- h. At the current rate of financial decline, the financial support of the parish for the school is not sustainable.
- i. Due to our endowment and current reserves, we have a couple of years to develop a new, sustainable model.
- j. Consider 3 strategies: increase enrollment, combine with Holy Family School (needs a lot of analysis), consider School Choice.

Father Dennis talked about the need to continually market to families with young children who could benefit from our school.

6. Tuition Proposal - Tom led a quick discussion on a proposed tuition increase of 5% for next year. Matter will be considered and decided at the next SAB meeting.

7. Due to lengthy finance discussion, all other agenda topics were tabled.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Matthew Hietpas, School Advisory Board Chairman.