

Shepherd of the Hills School Commission Minutes
Sept. 01, 2011

Commission Members in Attendance: Nikki Berres, Pat Seghers – Principal, Craig Woyak, Tom Loehr, Tim Guiden, Fr. Joe

Others in attendance: Dave Gitter, Brenda Christensen

Decisions made or endorsed by School Commission:

School Commission positions – endorsed Nicki Berres continuing as Chair, Craig Woyak Secretary continuing with Tim Guiden back-up, Derek Dorn continue with commission reports.

Principal's Report:

Data Action Planning

Arch Diocese of Milw. requirement, and new effort for our school. Pat reviewed the draft plan document for this academic year. Overall focus is to improve overall student progress in reading, math with assist or focus to lowest performing kids in the interest of their success and improvement. Includes 3 main goals: 1) Lowest performing students assist. 2) Improve scores for overall reading comprehension and vocabulary; a) 5% overall improvement in 3 years (2013/2014 school year), b) Raise Iowa test scores 4 NCE points for students between Grade 3 and Grade 5. 3) Ensure a uniform and consistent approach to teaching.

Celebrate Reading Initiative for school year:

Pat S. handed out an outline of the program for informational use.

Budget was reviewed including handout for review of 2011-2012 (budget). Child care has made its first profit noted. Endowment interest has improved from recent past years. School utilized the increased interest to purchase history books (from 2011-2012 budget).

Pat presented/reviewed a draft letter discussion the exploration of a school addition. Dave Gitter provided a proposed timeline for proposed school addition with milestone dates. First step is permission from Archbishop to perform feasibility study.

New Business:

Commission roles were discussed due to new members and open positions. Endorsement of roles noted above. Open position still remains for school commission, and there is a list of non-school parent nominees who will be contacted to determine their interest.

Parent meeting is scheduled for Sept. 21, 6 p.m.

Discussed briefly whether scholarship would be offered for new school choir, or whether payment options would be considered in interest of access by all students who would like to be in choir. It was noted that choir is a voluntary activity. Decision was tabled.

Parishioner comment/question: Can the rule regarding boys not allowed to wear shorts between October and May 1 be revisited? Concern is that girls can wear alternative pants but when weather gets very warm boys must wear pants. Pat S. indicated we can look at this to see if we can adjust.

Old Business:

Father Joe asked whether there is any interest in taking over the St. John the Baptist food booth as a fundraising opportunity at Road America? Commission determined Home and School (fundraising) should consider whether we would do this.

Dave Gitter requested School Commission to pass on actual enrollment numbers for 2011-2012, for the school addition process. Pat S. will provide the information.

K4 volunteer assistant is now in place.

Other Commission reports:

Home and School Wed. Aug. 24th meeting

Fundraising:

Decision to pursue School Store online web shopping based fundraising.

More information to promote this fundraiser is forthcoming.

Electronics recycling collection fundraiser is also in process of being implemented.

Checking into artworks fundraiser

Grant writing:

One grant applied for this past year for Phys. Ed. Have not heard back yet.

Continuing to look for grant opportunities

Checking other local school to see how much success they are having with grants

Safeguarding training:

Emphasized anyone volunteering at school or school function must have this training.

Next training session will be at SOTH on 9/21.

Spirit wear/school shirts:

Looking into NSP graphics hours and combining gym shirt order with school shirt order due to limited hours.

Goal to get ordered to have on hand before holidays for gifts availability.

End of Summer at Westward Ho

Casual gathering went very well with good turnout throughout the day.

Sneak Peak Day

Planning in process to ensure all of the many details for future success is being discussed. Also signup sheets for other event help needs being posted.

Next H&S meeting is Wed. Sept. 14, 7 p.m.

Other commission updates:

Recruitment: Last meeting was end of June. Presence in the Eden Parade won second place float and \$50 which is deposited in recruitment budget.

Mentor letter sent home to school families as a package.