

St. Thomas Aquinas Grade School
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2008

In Attendance: Brian Fitzmaurice, Dr. McDermott, Cynthia Scheller, Celeste Furey, Anne Myer, Rob Barker, Robert Bill, David McCarville, Mary Haluska, Jennifer Copeland

Absent: Caren Bailey

The meeting was opened in prayer led by Celeste Furey.

The August 2008 minutes were approved as written.

Principals Report: All classes, pre-k through 8th grade, are at capacity and the school year is off to a good start. ITBS testing was last week and this week and should be completed by Friday. Accreditation is also progressing. The Diocesan fundraiser, “A Night of Hope”, is being held on November 1, 2008. Fr. Kieran has generously purchased tickets for a table and is asking for four couples to attend. Those interested please contact Dr. McDermott.

PTO Report: The lemonade and cookie sale will be September 25th in the morning. Student Council is looking into selling refreshments at our sporting events as a fundraiser. Math night is scheduled for Oct. 7th. Honey Baked Ham and Edible Arrangements may partner at holiday time and extend the length of the sales to 3 weeks. The Uniform Committee has donated the profit from its resale items toward the 8th grade graduation. This will be an annual event.

Old Business: Proposed changes to bylaws reviewed. A motion was made by Robert Bill to approve the changes as written. A second to the motion was made by Rob Barker, none were opposed. Strategic Plan review of goal number 3. Ideas presented included having older students write a small article for the local newspaper on our school, Board members were assigned one new family each to contact in order to welcome them again and check if there were questions or concerns. Financials will be shared more with families via a pie chart that Celeste Furey will develop. A small article will go into the bulletin, 1-2 times a month, or as space allows, sharing the good news about our school with the parish. Anne Myer will write this. Mary Haluska has been monitoring the accuracy of the website and most contain up to date information. The summary of the 2007-2008 survey was reviewed. Once changes and additions have been made, results will go out to parents electronically and on hard copy.

New Business:

Finance Council: Meeting was held and financials were reviewed.

Parish Ball is November 22, 2008.

CTO will hold its first meeting on September 11, 2008 to kick off the year.

Brian Fitzmaurice will be assisting Myra DeRoo with our Sunday School Masses.

Our new reading program is up and running.

The healthy snack policy is being enforced by teachers.

Closing prayer

Adjournment

Next meeting will be held on October 13, 2008 at 6:30 pm in the conference room.