

Saint Patrick School

Consultative Board Minutes

February 28, 2011

Members Present: Father Bill Schmidt, Arthur Swanson, Maureen Soley, Rose Tramontozzi, Renee Keegan, Traci Mello, Karl Liwo, Bob Hueston, Giselle Leary, Michelle Ross-Nuzzo, and Steven DeCrescenzo. **Non-members:** Pam Daye, Maryellen Iannibelli, Angela Leo and Mary Connell (for Sue Hetu).

Opening Prayer by Mr. Swanson.

By Maureen Soley: Copies of the Agenda were passed around. Participation guidelines were reviewed. Motion to accept the minutes of the January 24th Consultative Board meeting (Presented: Renee Keegan, 2nd Karl Liwo). Minutes were accepted.

Change in the Agenda, there will be an Executive Session Meeting immediately after the Consultative Board open meeting.

Principal's Review (Mr. Swanson):

- The Melrose Alliance Against Violence presented an Anti-Bullying workshop for parents. Alice Wadley was the presenter. This is a topic that is always in the news. The next step will be to bring in someone to speak with the students. The Melrose Alliance Against Violence has a group to speak with the youngsters. There will be different presentations based on the age/grade of the students. Thank you to Pamela Daye for coordinating the presentation.
- Nature's Classroom. There will be a meeting for the fifth and sixth grade parents on March 7th. We will see if there is an interest in this program. Nature's classroom is in Groton, MA. *There was discussion about bringing the training to the school instead of the children going.* The cost is approximately \$310, plus the expense of the bus.
- Report cards will be going out March 14 for grades K-8.
- Parent conferences will take place March 22 and 23, parents and guests are encouraged to participate as the profits are used to help defray tuition.
- The Auction is scheduled for March 19th.
- Standardized testing will be held during the week of March 28th.
- June 13th is the original school closing date, but due to the snow days the last day of school is tentatively scheduled for June 17.
- The 8th grade graduation will be the Sunday before.
- There will not be school on Easter Monday, April 28th.

Maryellen Iannibelli (Grant Writer)

- Presented a check for \$750 from the Verizon Foundation which was a “matching grant”.
- Discussion about the Yellow School Bus Grant thru Bank of America. This grant provided funding for the bus transportation for the 2nd and 3rd grade field trip to Plymouth Plantation. The classes wrote thank you notes to Bank of America and the school received a Certificate back.
- We received a grant from the Stoneham Business Foundation which supported the Bach 2 Rock enrichment program.
- There is also a Mutual of America Community Partnership Award. There is an April 1 deadline to apply for that grant.
- Looking into other grants as well, such as the BU Mobil Lab.
- Looking into grants to fund the playground facility for the preschool and kindergarten students. Most grants request information such as blueprints, who will use it, and how it will be constructed. There was a discussion about what would be the best type of surface cover for the area.

Mr. Swanson: The school also received a bequest from the estate of Philip Wall. We will keep the Board informed. There was a discussion about the tuition assistance account. Sometimes known as the “Adopt – A- Student” fund. This is a restricted fund to help provide tuition assistance. Anyone can send a donation into the school to be used specifically for this purpose. There are cards in the Rectory. Donations to this fund can be made in memory of someone.

PTO Report & Mothers’ Club (Renee Keegan):

- During Catholic School Week, there was an ice cream social and a scavenger hunt. Scavenger hunt winners were Michaela Bialock and Terence Moynihan. Thank you to the Rotondo family for donating the ice cream.
- Auction is scheduled for March 19. Tickets are on sale now.
- There are great prizes for the raffle, including an Ipad, a Flip video camera and a docking station.
- Mother’s club has raised a total of \$57,000 to date.
- The script program is quiet. You can still place orders.
- *Father Bill mentioned possibly selling Entertainment books; although we are trying to limit the amount of fundraisers.*

Angela Leo: Expense sheet was distributed. Nothing major has changed.

- Going to start BJ Wholesale membership fundraiser. The application will be on line.
- Trivia Night raised funds for the Smart Boards.
- The magazine drive did very well.

Father Bill:

- Paul Cummings offered to purchase a Smart Board for the new 7th grade.
- The Walk-a-thon in the spring will fulfill the commitment to the Sisters of Province.

1000 Club (Mary Connell):

- The February drawing had three school families win.
- There are 70 open numbers available.

Open session was adjourned at 8:05 pm (motion to adjourn: Bob Hueston, 2nd Giselle Leary).
The Consultative Board met in Executive session until it adjourned at 8:55 pm.

The March Consultative Board meeting has been rescheduled to March 21, 2011 to avoid conflict with the Lenten Mission. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend.