

Saint Patrick School

Consultative Board Minutes

October 25, 2010

Present: Father Bill Schmidt, Arthur Swanson, Maureen Soley, Giselle Leary, Pam Daye, Traci Mello, Donna Secondini, Kiara Keohane, Rose Tramontozzi, Renee Keegan, Stephen DeCrescenzo, Susan Hetu, Karl Liwo and Bob Hueston.

Opening Prayer by Father Bill.

By Maureen Soley: The Non-Member Participation Section of the By-laws was read. The minutes of the September Consultative Board meeting were accepted. (Motion to Approve: Renee Keegan, 2nd Bob Hueston). Adjusted Agenda to have Donna Secondini speak first about the Centennial Events.

Donna Secondini:

- The Parish Quarterly Newsletter was devoted to the 100th Anniversary of the School. The full-color newsletter was mailed to over 4800 registered families.
- Denise Kelly did an outstanding job on the graphic design of the invitation, press release, flyers as well as the layout/design of the advertisement on Clear Channel. Kiara Keohane was directly responsible for securing the Clear Channel advertisement at no cost to the School.
- The Boston Globe, Stoneham Independent and Stoneham Sun have all expressed interest in covering the November 7, 2010 Mass. During the Mass, Cardinal O'Malley will confer High School diplomas to individuals who withdrew from the High School and joined the military during World War II from 1941 - 1945. The newspapers will be conducting interviews with the families of those receiving diplomas posthumously at the Mass. One former student will be present at the Mass to receive his High School diploma.
- Tickets for the Gala Celebration are on sale; approximately 200 have sold to date. Centennial Office will be staffed daily in order to accommodate everyone looking to purchase tickets. Tickets are still available!
- ***FATHER BILL** commented that the Cardinal will be celebrating the Mass. There will also be a 24 piece bell choir working with the choir. Posthumous diplomas will be awarded out during the ceremony. The Papal Blessing commemorating the school's 100years has been received and the Cardinal will bestow it during the Mass. There will be a 12:00 Mass in the lower church to accommodate everyone. There will also be refreshments served and a school open house after the Mass.*
- ***FATHER BILL** also received a letter from the Sisters of Providence who are currently raising funds to renovate their retirement home. The Parish and School would like to make a \$2,500 donation. Any personal donations would be greatly*

appreciated and checks can be sent to Sisters of Providence, Office of Congregational Advancement, 1 Sisters of Providence, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, IN 47876.

- ***KIARA KEOHANE** commented that the students could have a walkathon to raise funds for this cause.*

Principal's Review (by Mr. Swanson):

- Would like to thank Donna Secondini, Denise Kelley, the Mothers' Club and the PTO for doing such a great job organizing the 100 year event.
- There will be a letter going home tomorrow about the Mass. We are trying to line up the youngsters for altar servers, gift bearers, distributing the programs, etc. We are asking for parents to attend and the children to wear their uniforms. Visitors can see how many youngsters there are. It is a family affair. There will be refreshments after Mass, the open house and student projects are ongoing to prepare for the 100th celebration. These will be displayed in Our Lady of Providence Hall after the 100th anniversary Mass on Nov. 7th as well as during Catholic Schools Week (January/February).
- St. Patrick School is most appreciative of all the help the parish provides the school. There is a strong connection between the parish and the school.
- The flu mist was administered by the Board of Health, Traci Mello and Peg Drummey. Four nurses helped administer the mist to 80-90 children.
- Smartboards are now in all the classrooms. We are appreciative of all the help we have received. All our teachers have had professional development and are having other teachers from other schools come in for training. Mrs. Holland and Mrs. Hoff graciously provided a Smartboard workshop to several teachers from Saint Rose School in Chelsea.
- The teddy bears will be leaving Thursday. The Post Office is sending a truck and the bears will be traveling throughout the United States until April. It is a wonderful project for the fourth graders. The students learn a great deal about the United States during this year-long initiative.
- Would like to say thank you to the basketball coaches for organizing schedules and gym space. It's a great opportunity to let the students have fun while developing character, skills and team work. There are recent graduates who are also assisting with the basketball program.
- There is a new anti-bullying law. A new school policy will be put into place. When completed, it will go before the Executive Board. By mid-December, we will have the policy up and running. Currently, bullying is not acceptable at all times. We expect people to treat each other with respect and dignity.
- A new student counsel has been voted in: President: Rachel Sansone, Vice President: Lily Mello, Secretary Juliana Dolan, Treasurer: Nina LoVuolo, Class 8 Representative: Emily Rizzuto, Class 7 Representative: Robert Columbus, Class 6 Representative Isabel Keohane and Carly Silva. Ms. Andries is the

Advisor. It is a great experience for the students.

- All grades will participate in a Stranger Danger program presented by the Stoneham Police Department. The Stranger Danger and Drug Education programs will be presented by Sgt. Kranefuss and Det. Norton of the Stoneham Police Department.
- Grades 5-8 will participate in a Drug Education Program. Sgt. Kranefuss and Det. Norton will provide information about the dangers of all types of drugs, including alcohol and cigarettes. Children are exposed to these issues and they should be educated. Parents will be invited to attend. The Drug Education program will be held in OLPH on Nov. 9th; Grade 5 at 9:00am, Grade 6 at 9:30 am, Grade 7 at 10:00am and Grade 8 at 10:30am.
- The Chastity Program will be presented to the Seventh Graders. A letter will be going out. Mr. And Mrs. Dello Russo will be the program instructors. The program is mandated by the Archdiocese for the school and the religious education classes.
- We have started getting calls about registration. We are taking names at this point. We are going to send out registration letters in November to see if parents are planning on returning to Saint Patrick School next year. After that, we will put a notice in the Parish Bulletin and then advertise it in the local newspapers.
- Consistent with the Archdiocesan Policy, the Keeping Children Safe Program is presented to all students during the school year. Parents wishing to review the curriculum materials may do so.

Finance Committee (Susanne Bromander and Steve Ahern):

- Presented an Actual vs. Budgeted Account. (*Copies of financial records are available in the school office and rectory*).
- A schedule for the Executive Session was discussed. The Finance committee will report to the Consultative board in September, January and May.
- It was discussed that the budget has to be made as close to the line budget as possible. The tuition has to be set to cover the general expenses to run the school.
- With last year's budget, it was possible to renovate the parking lot; sidewalks and the tot play area. Any surplus stays in the school, either in a reserve fund or capital improvement fund. It always goes to the kids. If the school has a deficit the parish helps out, but if the school has additional revenue it stays within the school. Potential surplus accrued this year will be put towards new roofs and windows.
- **FATHER BILL** commented that both schools are on one heating system which is located in the old school. It would make more sense to update and renovate to a more energy efficient system. The Church and Rectory are on gas and it would make sense to do the same at the schools. There are incentives now to renovate. The goal for the Capital Campaign is \$250,000 which would handle all three projects (two roofs and new windows). Paul Stocks is doing a wonderful job

maintaining the facilities.

- There was also a discussion about getting packages through Verizon or Comcast to provide telephone and internet service.
- This year was budgeted for 304 students, there are currently 345.
- Discussion about keeping the class size not to exceed 23.

PTO Report (Kiara Keohane):

- PTO and Mothers' Club met and discussed Centennial/Thanksgiving Mass. Instead of just desserts, there will be finger food, salads and pizza. We are going to use Mrs. Anderson's math projects as the centerpieces.
- November 10 - candy bingo - it is a Wednesday night but the students are off Thursday for Veterans Day.

Mothers' Club (Renee Keegan):

- Financial Statement presented. (*Copies of financial records are available in the school office and rectory.*)
- Halloween Party is scheduled for October 29 (3-5 pm PK-3 and 6:30-9 pm Gr. 4-8).
- Christmas Fair will be in held November.
- We made \$300 with the Clothing Drive (discussion about opening it to the parish next year). May do it again in the spring.
- Papa Gino's Fundraiser set for November. The Mothers' Club will purchase gift cards on the Script Program (\$10 gift cards) and families can purchase those through the Mothers' Club.
- *ANGELA LEO: Shopping Night netted \$3,285.45. The night was a success despite the rainy weather. Thanks to Angelo's who donated the food. There was a discussion about possibly changing the hours of the Shopping Night next year.*
- The Script Program is under way. Flyers went out in school. They are getting orders already.
- The magazine drive had a profit of \$3,100.
- We received double what we got last year from Target. We purchased equipment for the gym teacher and helped pay for the installation of the AED's.
- There was also a discussion about limiting the amount of fundraisers.

1000 Club (Sue Hetu):

- There are 70 current openings. Two families won this month.
- Discussion about cost increase due to changes in the postal regulations.

Maureen Soley:

- The November meeting has been changed to November 29th.
- The January Executive session is scheduled for the 10th, the regular board meeting remains the 24th of January.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m. (Motion to adjourn: Bob Hueston, 2nd Giselle Leary and Kiara Keohane). The next meeting will be held on November 29, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend.