

Immaculate Conception School Advisory Board

August 18, 2011

7-8:45pm

In Attendance: Msgr. Moloney, Principal Thayer, Katie Grayem, Jennifer Janoski, Maureen Gill, Carolyn Smith, Peter McCann, Todd Jenkins, Tom Rogers, Susan Schnell, Donna Leigh-Osborne, Matt Morrison

Opening Prayer by Msgr. Moloney

Welcome new board members and Mrs. Thayer

Everyone introduced themselves. Participants were asked to refer to Page 26 of the 2011-12 handbook for role and purpose of the advisory board and reminded that future meetings will be held the 3rd Thursday of each month.

Financial Report

Carolyn Smith led the group through the results of last year's annual budget which was very close to expectations. There is still some uncollectible tuition from the 2010-2011 school year. She will continue collection efforts. The final 2011-2012 budget will get submitted to the Diocese in the coming weeks.

A letter informing parents of their current parishioner status was sent out in June. This was to serve as a reminder that parents must meet all criteria established for an active parishioner in order to receive the parish subsidy for school tuition. To be active the parishioner needs to participate in the parish in 3 ways according to Msgr. Moloney. This includes worship, offerings, and volunteerism. Carolyn Smith would encourage anyone who received the letter indicating the family is not currently considered active should contact the parish office to discuss their situation. She and Msgr. Moloney are committed to working with all families that indicate a willingness to increase their offerings.

Principal's Report

Mrs. Thayer will be focusing on three main topics for this coming year; Teacher Evaluations, Catholicity & Science Curriculum. This year begins the first year of a new school accreditation period and as part of this process a parent survey will be distributed at the curriculum nights. Parents should be aware that this will take 20 minutes to complete. Mrs. Thayer would like it to be completed prior to leaving the curriculum night. She will be working with the teachers to integrate more science into the student's day. She will be performing teacher evaluations and have a visible presence during the school day with classroom visits on a regular basis.

All teacher mass and breakfast is planned for Monday morning, 8/22, to welcome the teachers to the school year. Additional an all teacher meeting and professional development sessions will be held on Monday and Tuesday before school starts. The teachers will have some time to work on there rooms but there will be an emphasis on teacher development and looking at ways to integrate science into the school day.

Mrs. Thayer is working on organizing guest speakers and coordinating these with the goals of the accreditation process.

Instead of the individual teacher spotlight in the Friday News, teachers will be asked to provide a short write up on a regular basis the teachers will be given the chase to showcase their classroom highlighting anything new and exciting that they are working on.

New Business

The SAB and principle Thayer will be looking at a rotating schedule for teachers to participate in the SAB meetings. They will be encouraged to bring the information from these meetings back to the other teachers in an effort to improve communication.

Curriculum Nights will be held Sept 1 and Sept 8. Please plan to attend and make sure to allow extra time for the parent survey.

Kitty Quinn will be at the October 20 meeting to help define the role of SAB and look at ways it can be helpful.

Suggested areas of focus for the SAB in 2011-12 were as follows: communication, transparency, fostering a positive culture, working with Mrs. Thayer, providing the students and parents with superior customer service. These will be defined and refined during the October SAB retreat with Kitty Quinn.

There was a lot of discussion about trying to offer hot lunch more frequently, including the kindergarten in the hot lunch program and making the lunches as nutritious as possible. Many of the impediments to the above revolve around the sub optimal kitchen and to a degree students not choosing the healthy alternatives and estimating in advance how many children would eat hot lunch everyday if offered. These issues have the potential to creating more waste and add

to the overall expense of the program. Msgr. Moloney indicated his willingness to discuss raising school cafeteria funds as part of a larger parish capital campaign but, would like to focus first on trying to get the Sunday collection back to previous levels and demonstrate the ability to sustain those levels. Over the last three years as a result of many factors that collection is down and is creating financial concerns for the parish.

Old Business

Wellness committee: Jennifer Janoski will meet with Mrs. Thayer and Ruth Farthing to discuss possible projects throughout the year to highlight healthy choices. These may include poster contests, trying to change the birthday celebration policies to discourage excessive treats... more specifics to come. Additional volunteers to this effort are welcome.

Safety Patrol: Mrs. Thayer will be adding a teacher supervisor to assist in the pick up and drop off times. Parents will be reminded that no students should be left unattended on the school grounds prior to 7:45am. Parking lot supervision will be from 7:45am-8:10am and from 2:45pm-3pm. The SAB will re evaluate to drop off and pick up policies in the coming months. Until further noticed parents will be reminded to follow the current routine and not to rush- for the safety of the children.

Committee Reports

ICAA: -Fall sports: the Diocese will be starting a new policy to limit students from playing on "Select" and Diocesan teams at the same time. This policy will likely be formally adopted in the winter. All coaches are encouraged to attend the "Play like a Champion" program held at I.C. August 27 from 9:00-12:00 (registration begins at 8:30). This will be a requirement for all head coaches. Todd Jenkins reported that competitive volleyball coaches (call Sheri Rinderle 267 9471), and 1-3rd grade soccer coaches are still needed (Mary Ann Rivera 261-7468). The deadline for football and volleyball registration was August 7 and the deadline for soccer and cheerleading is August 31.

-ICAA Golf outing: scheduled for September 4 at Champions golf course. Anyone interested should call Glenn Hagler 268 9712

-Immaculate Conception Rams Spirit day: Jackie Murphy and Mrs. Thayer will be looking at ways to encourage supporting the teams. Msgr. and Mrs. Thayer agreed that I.C. spirit wear could be made available through the IC website.

Home and School: Presidents Sarah Moore and Susie Fabro have met with Mrs. Thayer and are looking forward to a great year.

Watterson: Rich Viola will be the Watterson liaison to I.C. He reported enrollment is up this year

St. Charles: Pete McCann will be the St. Charles liaison to I.C. He reported that there are a lot of great things happening there and enrollment is also up.

Closing

Mrs. Thayer changed the way your student finds out teacher assignments to protect the privacy of the students. There were security concerns about listing the children's names and classrooms on the doors to the school which could be viewed by anyone. There was a request to include parent e-mails in the Student directory this year and Mrs. Thayer indicated that this is not done in order to protect the families' privacy and to prevent e-mail blasts that appear to be from the school or have approval of the school to be issued. All parent e-mails that are desired to go out on school related business should be sent to Mrs. Cavello for distribution through school channels. The Diocese is not currently interested in being on Facebook and the school would discourage I.C. affiliation with any Facebook pages.

Closing Prayer by Msgr. Moloney