

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 2, 2008

Vice-President Melissa Lorts called the meeting to order. Lori Kempker opened with a scripture reading from Sunday's gospel and Father Pat led a discussion on the School Board being watchful over the school and students as related to the gospel. Those in attendance were: Jill Kliethermes, Melissa Lorts, Lori Kempker, Debbie Kolb, Janie Wyrick, Sheila Hirsch, Mike Winter, Shari LePage, Father Pat, Jill Struempf, and Heather Schrimpf. Jim Macy and Jocelyn Strand were absent.

Approval of Minutes

Everyone was given a chance to read the minutes and Melissa Lorts asked if there were any corrections. Debbie Kolb motioned to accept the minutes and Jill Kliethermes seconded. The motion passed.

Principal's Report

The administration met with the Junior High students on December 1 regarding the anti-bullying program being put into effect. The students were surveyed and also heard from a 7th grade student who talked about his experience as a bully. There is a parent meeting for Junior High parents on December 4 at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria.

Mrs. Struempf met with the department chairs on December 1 and discussed the continuing issue with finances and the criteria she will be using if staff reductions are necessary. The department chairs asked what other positions might be cut and what other efforts are being made to save money. Mrs. Struempf informed them that two part-time maintenance positions had already been cut. The teachers also asked if families leaving were given exit interviews and Mrs. Struempf has started that process this year.

Mrs. Struempf said that the Christmas break will begin on December 19 at 3:10 p.m. There will be a Christmas party for the faculty at the December faculty meeting given by the principals. Melissa Lorts suggested that the School Board provide a lunch for Christmas for the faculty. It was decided that on December 18 lunch will be provided by the School Board and Home and School officers at Pizza Haus from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. Room parents will be asked to watch the classes.

Mrs. Moore, the music teacher, will be out for an indefinite amount of time due to illness. Two subs with music experience have been found to fill in for her until the middle of January.

Father Pat's Report

The financial picture is still not looking good but it is hard to predict at this point as some families only give once a year in December. Home and School members are making an effort to call families that have not turned in their time and talent forms. As of early December there are 721 families that have turned in their commitment forms of which 165 are school families. This is only a little over 50% of the school families. It was suggested to switch the time and talent forms to coincide with registration with school to try to get a better return. It was also asked if

other parish expenses will be looked at for cutting the budget instead of just looking at the school. Father Pat gave these statistics: there are 1,700 parish families; 1/5 of those are school families and those families make up 1/3 of the budget. The school budget is 2.1 million dollars. School families are donating \$250,000 in sustaining fees and \$500,000 in Sunday contributions. The finance committee will look at the pledges from the time and talent forms along with the actual income from the first 6 months of school to predict the budget.

New Business

Melissa Lorts passed out an IC School Board policy change proposal. This proposal added that families be active school families and active parish families as defined in the school bulletin. The new proposal also increases the acceptable class sizes.

Jill Kliethermes motioned and Mike Winter seconded to accept the 1st page of the School Board policy change regarding what an active School Board member is. The proposal passed with the change going into effect on June 1, 2009.

The proposal for recommend class size changes is for Grades 4-6 to be 24 students and Grades 7-8 to be 25 students. Class size recommendations for grades K-3 would stay the same. Lori Kempker motioned and Mike Winter seconded and the motion passed. See the attached policy pages.

Old Business

Jill Kliethermes reported on the Pre-School Ad Hoc Committee's work. There are 20 families committed to the pre-K program. Jill went over the survey results and there was a discussion if they should continue with the process. Everyone agreed that the committee should continue. Jill will report back in January regarding costs for the program.

Heather Schrimpf read the closing prayer and the meeting adjourned at 10 p.m.

Father Dolan, Pastor

Jill Struempf, Principal

Lori Kempker, Secretary