

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 4, 2011

President Kurt Bruemmer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance were: Kurt Bruemmer, Dan Vanderfeltz, Chelle Shepard, Rebecca Maasen, Lisa Berendzen, Carissa Ash, Paula Zeitz, Josh Harden, Jennifer Gerling, Amy Wilson, Jill Struempf, and Heather Schrimpf.

Dan Vanderfeltz led the board in the prayer by praying The Memorare

The September 6th, 2011 minutes were reviewed and approved.

Principal's Report:

Standardized testing is taking place in the school this week.

SW Positive Behavior System

The teachers are working with the children to teach them the appropriate behavior in all areas and events throughout the school day. The I.C.'s **HALO** Behavior Matrix is being used to show the students the expected positive behavior as they interact with each other. The school expectations are **Have Responsibility; Act Safely; Live Christ-like; Offer respect**. The school's plan is to incorporate the purpose statement of the PBS to correlate with the school mission statement.

End of first quarter is October 19, and Teacher conferences will be held on October 27th & 28th.

Self Study

The kickoff meeting for the self study went very well. Jill and Heather are extremely pleased with the large parent and teacher involvement. There are over 100 people involved in the program. There was a discussion on the structuring and placing of members on each of the Standard committees. The school board agreed that the committee members need to be able to discuss openly within each committee all areas relating to the school standard they are reviewing. Jill feels that that each committee is structured with members that will allow objectivity as well as members who have present experience with the school in the particular standard.

As of last week, I.C. was in 15th place in the US Cellular \$1 million give away. The standings will no longer be posted on their web-site. The winners will be announced in November.

Jill requested in the school newsletter for October that parents be considerate and positive when communicating with teachers and faculty via e-mail. Direct communication, including a phone call to the teacher or face to face conversation is much better in some situations.

The faculty and teachers are encouraging more spontaneous prayer throughout the day, praying for the many members of our school and parish community who are faced with health issues and other challenges in their lives.

The Character Plus word for the month is "Responsible" with classrooms sharing ways in which their class is acting responsible.

In celebrating All Saints Day, each class is choosing a saint to honor and will process in with their patron saint for mass that day. Throughout the year, the classes will be sharing the story of their patron saint with the student body.

Old Business:

School Board Training

School Board training for all newly elected board members will be scheduled along with St Peters. Jill will e-mail the date as soon as it is set.

Committees:

Recruitment:

With the Self Study in process at I.C. this year, the Marketing Research Committee has decided to postpone all activities including the surveying of parents in the preschool, after school care, and summer programs until after the completion of the study. Many school programs and processes of the school will be reviewed and recommendations made for enhancement during the self study process. After reviewing the results and recommendations of the Self Study in March a decision whether to proceed with the survey will be considered.

Athletics:

Basketball tryouts for 7th and 8th graders are October 16th thru the 19th. The volleyball Catholic Bowl begins Sunday, October 23rd with the finals on Sunday, October 30th.

Technology:

The technology committee is looking at the areas where technology will aid in the professional development of the teachers. Josh Hardin is helping to structure a long range technology plan for I.C. The goal setting of the long range technology plan will be established by assessing the needs and desires of the teachers, the parents, as well as the students. The school's goal setting, recommendations and implementation should involve IT professionals who are familiar with school and educational related technology. Software applications that are simple and user friendly should be considered. Other things discussed relating to the long range technology plan is a disaster recovery plan and setting fire walls and filtering equipment.

There was also a discussion of getting parents and/or parishioners who are in the IT field involved with technology at I.C. Amy suggested that we include on the Time and Talent Sheet for the parish and on the parent/guardian volunteer sheet for Home & School an opportunity to offer your IT skills to help the school and parish.

Long Range Planning:

No report.

Wellness:

Vision screenings are currently being done in the school. The school lunch menu continues to prepare and serve healthy meal options. The school may be performing BMI testing on students on Kindergarten & first grade. This data will be used over the years to determine the effects of the switch to healthier, low fat, low sugar foods being served at lunch on the children's overall body makeup.

Pastor's Report:

No Report.

New Business:**Review By-Laws**

After reviewing the by-laws, Josh Hardin questioned whether a confidentiality statement should be included in the school board by-laws. There is currently a mention of confidentiality in the by-laws when the board goes into closed session. Josh agreed to draft a confidentiality statement to be read and signed by the board members each year making them accountable for keeping any personal and critical board discussions confidential.

Kurt feels that a change regarding the school budget process needs to be changed in the by-laws. It currently states that the advisory school board reviews and approves the school budget. When actually, the parish Finance Committee reviews the budget and makes recommendations to the school Principal. The advisory school board is presented the proposed budget that is prepared by the Principal and the Pastor and is asked to make any recommendations that they may have. It is then the Parish Council that approves the final budget. After the discussion of the school budget, Jill said that any support and recommendations that the School Board could offer would be appreciated.

Kurt asked that board members review the by-laws by next meeting and make any recommendations for changes.

Amy Wilson questioned the issue of current and future fund raising for the school. Should there be additional means of sustaining fund raising for the future? The board discussed briefly the need for increased fund raising for the school in order to maintain the low enrollment fee. Currently, the parish relies on school families Sunday tithing to make up the difference of the cost of educating their children, which is well above the required enrollment fee.

Announcements:

Jennifer Gerling reminded everyone of the upcoming Fall Fling on Saturday, October 29th at I.C. It will be a Vegas theme with casino games, a silent and live auction, dinner and refreshments, and live music.

Prayer and Adjournment:

After prayer, the meeting adjourned at 8:55.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, November 1st at 6:30 p.m.

Monsignor Cox, Pastor

Jill Struempf, Principal

Chelle Shepard, Secretary