

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 4, 2008**

- President Chris Yarnell called the meeting to order. Those in attendance were: Jennifer Cassmeyer, Jill Struempf, Father Dolan, Christie Linsenbardt, Chris Yarnell, Rena Kuster, Jill Kliethermes, Melissa Lorts, Jocelyn Strand, Vic Rackers, Kevin Yanskey, Lori Kempker, and Jim Macy.

COMMITTEE & OTHER REPORTS:

President's Report:

Mr. Yarnell opened the meeting with a gospel reading (Matthew 7:7-11).

February's meeting minutes were read and approved (motion to approve by Mrs. Strand, 2nd by Mrs. Lorts).

Pastor's Report:

Father reported that the money pledged for the Gerbes property has been met, but the goal for the Diocesan fundraiser has not been met. On a different note, Father questioned us whether we, as Catholics, believe we are different from the rest of the society. Society seems to be consumer-oriented, complaining, and critical. Faith speaks to us to live a simpler, more enjoyable life and to have a greater sense of spiritual and prayer life. Father reminded us of the upcoming CHRP women's weekend on 4/13-14/08.

Principal's Report:

Mrs. Cassmeyer reported that:

- We have exceeded the built-in snow days; one day has to be made-up which will be ½ day on Holy Thursday with a 1 p.m. dismissal. The criteria to determine snow days are set by diocese guidelines and then finalized by the principal and pastor. She noted that adding days at the end of the year is only "fill time" – the entire curriculum has already been met. Additional snow days will be determined on an as-needed basis.
- Mrs. Cassmeyer provided two handouts that she will be presenting to the Finance Committee for teacher/faculty salary. She will report back to us after the Finance Committee meets. The diocese will host a meeting for teachers and faculty re: retirement and 401k information.
- Math textbooks are being reviewed for 2008-2009 purchase. Math teachers and administration will assess K-5 texts. New 6-8 are already purchased and in-use this year; this includes the Algebra book and Pre-Algebra book that is also used at Helias.
- Pre-registration will be 4/7-25/08 for grades 1-8. Kindergarten registration is going well.
- Mrs. Struempf will attend the NCEA conference in Indianapolis.

Finance Committee:

No report. Next meeting 3/6/08.

Home & School Association:

Mr. Yanskey is currently seeking officers for next year. Mr. Yanskey received a request from a parent to hold fundraisers for Field Day. Discussion was held that IC wouldn't sponsor this type of fundraiser, but that individual classrooms are welcome to raise money on their own. It was

noted that an additional \$1 per student would raise the Field Day coffers more than any fundraiser. The Student Council's \$300 budget for 2008-2009 has been approved by the Finance Committee; this needs parents' support on voting for the budget.

Technology Committee:

Mrs. Struempf reported the committee is looking into new filters for the computers (SPAM filters also). An information sheet is being made up for teachers for understanding of protocol in relation to e-mails and downloading information on school computers. Additional LCD projectors and Airliners will be purchased. It's possible that within the next couple of years that IBM's contributions to IC may come to a halt because we have no more parishioners employed by IBM.

Publicity & Public Relations Committee:

No report.

Parish Council:

An Ad Hoc Committee is still reading documents in relation to IC's mission. The focus is stewardship: how Pope John Paul II spoke re: evangelization to change lifestyles, and catechesis: how we're being asked by the church to prepare for sacraments.

Long-Range Planning:

Mrs. Struempf is planning meetings based on cultural diversity. Father Ben and Father Pat have been asked to present on their individual trips to Africa and Peru/Ireland. Fr. Dandy of St. Peter's may also be asked to speak of the Phillipines.

A new mission statement/philosophy has been prepared. Mission: "The mission of Immaculate Conception School is to provide instruction in a safe and welcoming environment where children learn Catholic-based education and are encouraged to grow with their families in their responsibility as members of the Church and the community." Philosophy: "Immaculate Conception School recognizes the parents as the primary educators of their children and assists them in their role. Our goal is to create a strong foundation of faith, to ask challenging societal questions, and to present student-centered authentic experiences allowing each student to grow into a productive citizen in the church and the world. Opportunities will be provided for students to learn, play, and pray daily.

Accountability Committee:

No report.

Other Business:

Mrs. Struempf reported that parent feedback was received in relation to the new dress code imposing financial constraints on families. It was decided to phase-in the solid shirt for 2009-2010 by continuing to allow patterned shirts for 2008-2009.

There being no further business, Mr. Yarnell adjourned the meeting with a prayer. The next meeting of the IC School Board is set for April 1, 2008.

Father Dolan, Pastor

Jennifer Cassmeyer, Principal

Rena Kuster, Secretary

