

**Report to Council
St. Matthew Parish
Submitted to the Vice Chairperson
Committee: Board of Education
Person Submitting: Eileen Rehn
Meeting Date: January 8, 2007**

Members Present: Sue Chilson, Diana Erlandson, Dave Sims, Eileen Rehn, Fr. Steve Stradinger, Shari Riemer, Christine Apple, Barb Shelton, Nancy Konkel, Barb Czerwinski.
Guest: Tim Dugan, Home and School Association President
Excused: Sue Margraff, Sandy Gavin.

- 1. Opening prayer** – Scripture reading and “Question of the week.”

Old Business

- 2. Previous meeting minutes reviewed:** Motion to accept by Barb S., second, Christine.
- 3. Review of open items from previous meeting** – Discussed throughout the meeting.

New Business

4. Enrollment – A family with 3 children in grades 1, 3 and 5 has enrolled and will start in February. The board will review the school contract at the February meeting. After reviewing a list of all families in the school, enrollment for the 2007-2008 school years has been projected to be 229 students, including K4. Barb C. suggested that the board consider collaborating with other area parishes to allow students to attend St. Matthew school and pay the parish member tuition rate. An agreement would first have to be made with these parishes to help cover the remaining cost. Currently one student from St. Louis Parish attends St. Matthews under this type of agreement. With St. Stevens planning to build in Oak Creek in the future, it would be beneficial to both parishes to have this in place.

5. Auction Update – No further bills for books have been received. Diana has inquired with the company and has not received a response. Invitations have been sent out for the 2007 auction. Christine suggested advertising the auction on the OC Now website. Sue will contact the committee about this.

6. Marketing – In relation to Catholic Schools Week, it was suggested that someone visit the parishes in our cluster and speak at masses, or send an insert for their bulletins promoting our school. This would include St. Louis, St. Mary’s and St. Steven’s parishes. Other ideas for Catholic Schools Week were to host hospitality after weekend masses, have students do the readings and possibly speak after masses to promote the school and thank parishioners for their support. Diana will contact Judy Wargin about these ideas. Diana decided not to advertise in the CNI papers this year due to cost. Barb S. will contact the Oak Creek Community Center about renting the marquee for several days in January or February to advertise open enrollment.

7. Budget – The budget subcommittee has been working on the budget which will be due early in February. We need to budget for a new K4 teacher who is certified and may need full family benefits. Tim Dugan reported that the income for Holiday Fair was 5691.00.

8. Graduate Surveys – The surveys were mailed out. The book of previous surveys mentioned last month is not in the office as stated. Diana will have staff look for it.

9. Principal Updates –

- The adjustment of lunch prices will be initiated at the start of the next school year.
- Planning for High Interest day is going well and 17 presenters have volunteered.
- Mr. Breen has volunteered to do a Magic Show for the entire school on Thursday during Catholic Schools week.

10. Floor Items –

- Fr. Steve brought up the endowment fund and the board agreed that he should proceed with requesting information from the archdiocese on how to get this started.
- Tim Dugan suggested evaluating how the Home and School Association and Board of Education are structured to see if there is duplication of efforts or a better way of doing things. Diana and Fr. Steve pointed out that both a parent organization and a governing body that supports planning for the school are required elements for accreditation in the archdiocese. The board agreed that adding to the roles of either group would exceed the limits of what they could manage effectively.
- Barb S. expressed concern that the middle school students are getting 2 to 3 hours of homework each night, which is too much when they are involved in other activities. She also asked if the 7th grade class could have a study hall in their schedule like the 6th and 8th grades do.
- Barb S. recommended reinstating the Presidential Fitness Award.