

**St. Stephen the Martyr
Board of Education Minutes
March 16, 2010**

Attendance: Sandra Jameson, Jeanne Meyer, Nicole Neesen, Joyce Snowden, Greg Youell, Al Zach Mary Maguire, Dr. Dave Peters, Fr. Jim Tiegs

I. Opening Prayer: The meeting was called to order with a meeting offered by Fr. Jim Tiegs.

II. Approval of Feb. 16, 2010 Minutes: The minutes were presented for approval.

Motions by Joyce Snowden, Nicole Neesen

The minutes were corrected and approved.

III. Pastor's Report: Fr. Jim Tiegs

- A. Budget preparations for next fiscal year are not yet complete. Tuition rates have been set and registration process for school and R.E. are underway.
- B. Parish staff will receive a 2.5% raise. Teachers' raise is effective September 1, and other staff is effective July 1. Father said he was thankful for the parish's generosity which allowed for the raises.
- C. Report on need to replace portables. Replacement cost of current portables would be \$175,000.
- D. SSM received a bid for a facilities assessment for the entire SSM campus from BCDM for approximately \$5,000.
- E. Prayers are needed for Tom Jorgensen's family, especially oldest son Phil, who had emergency surgery.
- F. The Chili Challenge netted approximately \$26,000.
- G. Report on Children's Scholarship Fund (CSF) Luncheon.
- H. Discussions expected to finish soon with choice for assistant principal of five day school, who would be someone on the present staff. Announcement anticipated around Easter.
- I. Thanks to new candidates for Board of Education and for outgoing Board members.

The Board discussed whether there were incentives for professional development and opportunities for merit increases for staff.

Fr. Tiegs also said that the insurance company said that the portables are safe for next year, but that replacement needs to be soon.

IV. Religious Education Report: Mary Maguire

- A. R.E. 2009-2010
 1. Calendar items were shared.
 2. Sacramental preparation is finishing up for First Holy Communion; Masses will be on April 18th.
 3. Sacramental preparation for confirmation continues.
 4. RCIC-T continues to have good numbers. Several will receive sacraments this April and there is a waiting list of interested students for the summer. Records are being reviewed for all students that have not received sacraments.
 5. Vacation Bible School preparation continues. VBS will be June 7th-11th and June 14th-18th. Registrations for the first session have already been filled.

- B. 2010 – 2011 Registration and Planning
 - 1. 203 students registered so far.
 - 2. Concern about catechist numbers for next year. 250 are needed.
 - 3. Planning continues and next year will be busy.

From the registrations received thus far, an additional \$600 has already been donated to assist with R.E. costs.
- C. Youth Ministry
 - 1. Youth will be doing Good Friday Passion Play.
 - 2. Teen FISH Group on Prodigal Son theme.
 - 3. Edge group is having a St. Patrick's Day party tonight.
 - 4. MAD Mission Trip applied for an O.A.E.F. grant to help with start up costs.
 - 5. Ron Meier donated leftover popcorn from chili challenge to youth.

V. School Report: Dr. Dave Peters

- A. Calendar items were shared.
- B. Kindergarten Parent Information Night was recently held. 86 of 96 spots have been signed up since the night.
- C. The Archdiocese is changing NRT from ITBS to Terra Nova. There was discussion over the implications of this change for testing at St. Stephen's.
- D. A report on recent middle school field trips. They will all be the same week to coincide with a Friday off for teachers and staff.
- E. A handout was shared with statistics and facts about Nebraska schools.
- F. Information was given out to parents about school uniforms. St. Stephen's will continue to utilize Dennis exclusively for the plaid jumper, but other uniform will also be available through _____.
- G. Ms. Bosco will serve on the Archdiocesan Curriculum Committee for computers. St. Stephen's tries to have someone on these committees.
- H. Kid Zone currently has a waiting list for students. The license needs to be changed because St. Stephen's is more limited than other comparable schools for capacity. Discussion on the topic ensued. It was suggested that the GPC be utilized by middle school students for homework..
- I. Tom Marble is investigating the potential for leasing technology for 3-5 years.

VI. Old Business

- A. **Parent/Staff Evaluation Surveys: Sandra Jameson**
 209 surveys completed for school parents, 25 for school staff, 18 for KidZone parents, 11 for KidZone staff, 127 for R.E. parents, and 19 for R.E. staff.
 The response to the surveys was discussed. A meeting was planned for Tuesday, March 30 to review and summarize survey responses.
- B. **2nd Approval of Revised Sections BOE Policy Manual**
 The following BOE policies were given 2nd round approval:
 4005 – Refunds
 4010 – Religious Education Tuition and Fees
 4015 – Tuition Remission
- C. **Volunteers for Ballot Counting**
 April 9th will be the deadline for nominations to the parish office. Board members selected times to count ballots for the next Board of Education election on April 24 and 25.

VII. New Business

A. Election of Board President for the Coming Year

Sandra Jameson was elected unanimously by the Board to serve as President for the coming year.

B. Catechist, Volunteer, Teacher & Support Staff of the Year Nominations

The nominations for these awards were discussed. Survey monkey will be used. Deadlines and awards were discussed. The committee unanimously agreed to recommend that a new award be given for “Youth Ministry Volunteer of the Year.”

VIII. Adjournment and Prayer