

**Good Shepherd School Board Meeting  
Thursday, September 17, 2009  
Good Shepherd School Library**

Sean McCormack called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and Father Helwig offered the prayer.

*In attendance: Father Helwig, Sean McCormack; Jill Aversa, Janine DiCaprio, MaKathy Donley, Catherine Gibson, Mark Glessner, Donna Hergenroeder, Melinda Joyce, Joe O'Neil, Kathy Pillion, Derrick Rosenstein, Frank Sajer, Michael Whiteman. Absent: Marla DeFrank, John Ford*

The board approved the August 4 minutes.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Father Helwig confirmed Catholic Schools Week as January 31 to February 4, and the open house Sunday, January 31, 2010.

*Parish Manager* (Derrick Rosenstein, diocese handout):

Derrick informed the board of the new diocese youth protection ID badges. This (green) badge is mandatory for all adults involved with minors in our diocese and does not replace the GS white volunteer badge, at this time. For those with clearances, badges are available to pick up in the school office. (Parish activity leaders will sign for badges at the parish office.)

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

(Mrs. Gibson handout with Health Report from Mrs. Asken, on website)

*Schedules and Updates:*

- Enrollment is 285 students.
- The PE schedule will be once a week for grades 1-8. Gym students in grades 7/8 are required to change their clothes, until further notice.
- There will be a leadership blessing for eighth graders at the September 25 School Mass.
- The publishers of soft-cover books will release them to the diocese upon state approval. Frank Sajer will inquire with the PA Catholic Conference and the diocese about contingencies. (Refer to: principal letter on website)
- The 2009/10 Parent-Student Directory will be available approximately October 1.

*Programs and Kudos:*

- Mr. Fischer arranged for Carla Maddox from the Domestic Abuse Agency to present

grade- specific bullying information to all classes.

- The Parent Heart Watch organization will present an AED to the school September 18. Mr. Archfield will install it on the second floor, making this the second one in our building. Second grader, Olivia Deja, through a reading program sponsored by the Harrisburg Senators, donated the AED. ABCTV 27 will tape a Hometown Heroes segment (press release). *Thank you; Parent Heart Watch, Sister MaryAnn, the Senators and Olivia.*
- *Thank you, PTO, for the Welcome Back Teacher breakfast.*
- Mrs. Gibson met with the room parents to exchange ideas and discuss volunteer needs in grades 4 through 8.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **I. Development and Finance**

A. Development/ Kathy Pillion for Marla DeFrank

*Events:*

1. September 27 Pancake Breakfast: Through the work of this committee and the generous donations from suppliers, costs are nearly zero. *Thank you donors* for helping generate a potentially profitable fundraiser:
  - Kessler Meats
  - General Mills
  - Swiss Premium
2. The Winter Dinner Dance is tentatively scheduled February 13 and will feature the 50s band from last year.

*EITC, Endowment and Goals:*

1. Frank met with corporate leaders to provide and obtain information on Educational Improvement Tax Credits (EITC). Of nine interviewed: some had committed to other foundations, some said no, some are considering, and some are accepting his help with the process. The school will receive credits through the Neumann Scholarship Foundation.
2. During solicitations and networking, Frank uncovered an interest in directed endowments, directed bequests, and named scholarships, all of which are required to accomplish the board's long-term endowment goals.
3. Another development goal includes long-term planning for an annual event that would engage sponsors.

## II. Policy and Education

### B. Policy/ Melinda Joyce, handout

*Discussion:* Due to an increased need for volunteers at the middle school level, there is renewed consideration for enforcing a (pending) policy of mandatory volunteering.

- Additional areas for future consideration are: a) bullying and cyber bullying awareness and enforcement, b) same teacher following same students for multiple years. There is no awareness of any diocesan administrative directive in these areas.
- Melinda is accepting donations from members for a School Board PEAK sponsorship.

### C. Education/ Jill Aversa, handout

PEAK co-sponsors are encouraged at \$250 each. The committee is seeking 12 more donors to meet their goal this year. The April 2010 reception will highlight purchases made with donors' contributions. *Thank you, Mrs. Whiteman for coordinating the communication with teachers and the special PEAK purchases.*

## III. Communications and Public Relations

(Donna Hergenroeder)

*Discussion:* The committee is looking into a system that would coordinate communications so fundraising appeals are succinct, informative and organized. The current vehicles to do this are:

- a) monthly newsletter where all requests can be filtered through Mrs. Gibson
- b) school website where principal notes are updated more frequently
- c) bulletin announcements
- d) communications with PTO leadership

*Courtesy Reminder:* Board meetings are open to all organizational representatives with the usual one-week notice. (The board will address website emails and each query will receive a prompt reply.)

*Alumni Corner:* Sean suggested the board recognize former students. Donna will draft ideas to reconnect with alumni. Mrs. Gibson suggested recognizing a distinguished alumnus at the Catholic Schools Week Mass.

## IV. Building and Maintenance

(Joe O'Neil)

Committee goals include consideration of the building replacement cost survey and future needs for renewal/replacement of the Education Center equipment.

OLD BUSINESS

*After School enrichment:* PTO seeks coordinators. Mrs. Gibson will work with Jenny Lafferty to recruit. The board suggested a timeframe of two, six-week clubs in January and February.

*Summer Camp discussion:* Mike Whiteman reintroduced the proposal that would be maintained at minimal costs, self-funded, opened to the public, and revenue generating. Mrs. Gibson will obtain input from the staff and make recommendations to the board.

This meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

<p>The next meeting will be Thursday, October 15, 6:30 pm, in the school library.</p>
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Respectfully submitted,

Donna Hergenroeder

Updated 9/22 dh