

Auburn Area Catholic School  
School Committee Meeting  
9-15-11

Members Present: Father Tom Sutton, Terri Duch, Lisa Walter, Lisa Boswell, Kylie Kaczmarczyk, Teresa Finner, Chris Neitzel, Melanie Steffen, Jenna Thompson, Danelle Velasquez, and Jennifer Chislea

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm

Minutes Approval: Approved by Teresa Finner, second by Melanie Steffen

Reviewed the School Committee By-Laws. There were a few sections where updates are needed. Mrs. Duch and Mrs. Boswell took an action to update the sections as noted during the meeting.

**Principal Report:**

- K-5 numbers at 58 with pre-school at 30 students.
- New teacher for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade doing well. With 23 students in this room, an assistant has been hired (Mary Kay Fisher). She is a member of the parish and is also volunteering her time to help with K-1<sup>st</sup> grades. Mary is in 2-3<sup>rd</sup> grade classroom each day from 9 – 11:30 am to help cover English, Language Arts, and Math.
- There is already a substitute teacher identified (Cindy Shann) for when Mrs. W goes on maternity leave around Thanksgiving time.
- The before and after program is doing well so far with more kids than last year using this service. Mrs. Duch is trying to get more interest in the after school program (currently 2 to 5 students using the after school program). There was discussion about the need for a 2<sup>nd</sup> person in the before program, but Mrs. Duch reported that they only have 10 kids max and so there is not a need at this time. There was an action taken to review the economics of the Before and After program at the October school committee meeting.
- Discussed bringing back the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade honor roll. This wasn't on Mrs. Duch's radar, but she took an action to review and be ready to discuss at a future meeting.
- Mrs. Duch reported that there has been a change to the way AR testing results are displayed. They are no longer posted by student on the hallway board since Mrs. Duch received a suggestion from a parent that displaying in this way makes the kids who aren't doing as well feel bad. Grades 1-5 participate in AR testing.
- The accreditation has officially passed and the certificate is hanging in the school hall.
- Mrs. Duch was able to get a variance approved for the 1.6 hours we were going to be short of the required hours for the school year
- Mrs. Duch is working out the library schedule based on managing between the "specials" and the schedules of those who have volunteered.

**Pastor's Comments:**

- Question was asked about the new signs by the road in front of the church. Father explained the reasoning behind the new sign and taking down the separate sign for the school.
- Discussed the implementations of revisions to the Roman missal starting during Advent season this year.
- There has been a 3<sup>rd</sup> party hired to undergo a 1 yr study of the 108 churches in our diocese to determine their feasibility going forward given financial pressure and lack of priests. Since we have already consolidated our parishes and are financially stable, no major impact is expected.
- Reviewed the finance report. Father noted that the Bishop has put a moratorium on spending for capital improvements. This has put a delay on the planned upgrade of the school fire alarm box.

### **Home and School Update:**

- Jodi Cook has been elected Treasurer.
- Funds have been distributed to each teacher for class room start-up supplies.
- Plan to revise the volunteer form and send it back out to the parents.
- Only two fund raisers will be going on between now and December (Pizza kits and cheese cake).
- Looking at scheduling a family dance on 2-4-12. Noted that there could be a conflict on this day with boys basketball finals. Noted that the Friday, 2-3-12 may work as an alternate date if needed. Rachael Leaman is coordinating the family dance.
- Plan to try to send out information to promote the use of Meijer/Target/Gordon Foods rewards to benefit the school.

### **Marketing:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> meeting is scheduled in October. Will give an update at the next school committee meeting.

### **Athletic Report:**

- Determined that there will not be 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade girls' basketball due to low participation and lack of a coach volunteer.
- Soccer has their first games this Monday.
- AACS is the AD for the rural sports league this year.

### **Miscellaneous:**

- Parish raffle is this Sunday. Proceeds go to the Technology fund. On track for \$5,000 in ticket sales. Mrs. Duch noted thanks from the school for those on the raffle committee.
- Had a discussion on Mrs. Kaczynski's starting earlier next year to help her avoid getting swamped during the 1<sup>st</sup> weeks of school starting. Mrs. Duch said that she'll plan to have Mrs. Kaczynski start earlier next year. Some volunteers to help Mrs. Kaczynski get unburied could be available (to answer phones for example) if Mrs. Duch deems it needed.
- There was a suggestion to get the packet of registration forms out ahead of curriculum night as a way to avoid the flux of paperwork Mrs. Kaczynski has to deal with at the start of school.
- Jeremy Peterson will handle the prayer at our next meeting (10-20-11)