

St. Gregory School Board Minutes
October 1, 2009

Start: 6:30 pm End: 7:15 pm

Board Members Present:

Lisa Nastari – President
Bill Gatt- Vice President
Lisa Azzopardi
Donna De Benedetti
Tom Finn
Peggy Marinaro
Mike Pearl

Board Members Absent:

Suzanne La Mar- Secretary
Mike Callagy
Jody DiMauro
Ron Rock

Administrative Members Present:

Lorraine Paul – Principal
Father Mark

Administrative Members Absent:

Monsignor McElroy – Pastor
Sandy Brook – Grade 5-8 Vice Principal
Cindy Stuart – Lower Grade Vice Principal

Parents Club Representative Present:

Elisa McCoy
Valerie McGuigan

Minutes

- A. Meeting Location – Faculty Lounge
- B. Opening Prayer – Father Mark
- C. Lisa Nastari - President
 - No announcements.
 - Moved to Mrs. Paul for Principal's report.

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D. Principal's Report – Lorraine Paul

- Iowa testing
 - Testing is complete and went well.
 - Expect to have results by Parent – Teacher Conferences.
 - Classes are scored as Low, Medium or High.
 - Classes with 25% or more of students in low category require attention on the part of the School.
- Mrs. Paul has been approached by parents inquiring about potentially including a foreign language in the school curriculum.
 - At this time, including a foreign language in the schedule would mean less time for language arts.
 - Not yet ready for a reduction in time spent on current language arts. Writing has improved over last few years and we want to keep that trend going.
 - Potentially 20 minutes available during school day in primary grades but this time would be better spent on mathematics.
 - Looking at possible math programs to increase scores in math especially in lower grades. Potential program is Math Made Real.
 - Math is next area of focus just as writing was the focus a few years ago. Hope to achieve the same success in math skills that was achieved in writing skills.
 - Overall, core subjects need to be as strong as possible prior to including a foreign language in the school day.
- Technology in the classroom
 - Potentially may obtain three more smart boards.
 - Expect answer in November.

E. Pastor's Report - Monsignor McElroy

- No report at this meeting.

F. Committees

- Parents Association
 - Winter Event
 - Planning is moving forward and on track.
 - Seven weeks until event.
 - Communication to school community needed and is forthcoming.
 - Family Night
 - Potential date after January 1, 2010.
 - Crab feed
 - Planning moving forward and on track.

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G. Other items and questions

- Lisa Nastari – President
 - Commitment Hours
 - Current minimum is a burden for some parents who are looking for work and also for those who may be working more hours or more than one job in order to meet obligations.
 - Potentially discuss at next meeting with Monsignor present.
 - Board should present and consider ways to possibly ease the burden for some parents.
 - Are there ways outside of traditional ways to meet hourly commitments – work that can be done at home at night or weekends.
 - Very few families did not make minimum commitment last year.
 - Valerie McGuigan suggested that we post available volunteer work on school web site.
- Donna De Benedetti – Board Member
 - Asked if the Worner Center is ready for use. (Response from Mrs. Paul)
 - Small library should open in a week.
 - Large library is moving along and should be open for use in two to three weeks.
 - Small bathrooms located in the front of the building can be used but cosmetic repairs are still being made. Would like these repairs complete prior to fully opening.
 - Large bathrooms (locker rooms) are not yet complete. Work still being done to fix water damage.
 - Inquired as to how the St. Gregory grading policy was made. (Response from Mrs. Paul)
 - The St. Gregory grading structure is set the by the San Francisco Archdiocese and not the School.
 - It is a rigid structure but all schools in the S.F. Archdiocese use the same structure.
 - Archdiocese is potentially looking at new structure but in preliminary stages.
 - Any changes, if any were to be made, would not occur until next year.

Closing Prayer – Father Mark

Next Meeting: November 5, 2009, Open Meeting, 6:30pm.

End of Minutes

Attachments:

None