

November 3, 2009

ATTENDEES: Frank Haas, Jo Rhoten, Amy Maricocchi, John Hill, John Cummins, Sue Morman, Dave Volk, Colleen Schultheis, Patti Weaver, Linda Fasola, Paul Madix

Meeting called to order 7:35

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The October, 2009 Minutes were approved. The motion for approval was made by Amy Maricocchi, seconded by Dave Volk and unanimously approved.

Communication

1. School – Jo Rhoten

- New software "pick a time" to schedule parent conferences on line
- New Terra Nova extension from Archdiocese results will not be back until January
- Absentee rate is down to around 30 students per day—which is normal
- Stimulus monies, approximately 20 K, are available, it is difficult to meet the exact criteria for governmental approval.
- Currently working to establish a gate on the east side driveway and Math curriculum map software; Over 20K to spend; Limited the purchasing of textbook and technology from state monies, Auxiliary services costs increased while monies received have been cut by 13%
- Boiler is in and should be up and running soon
- H1N1 had only about 12 minute wait, 429 vaccinations
 - Children 9 and under should have booster in two weeks. St Columban is at the mercy of Health Department if the second booster arrives on time.
- Request from parents of former student who would like to be kept in the communication loop

2. Parish Council – Paul Madix

- Donut Sunday town meeting with Parish Council collecting the voice of the parish
- Approved the Education Commission Charter
- PPC Lisa H. voted as Chairperson
- Paul is Vice Chair

3. PTO - Colleen Schultheis

- A little money left over from bathroom remodel and will be used for the following projects (in order):
 - Playground gate
 - Sound in gym
 - Sound deadening board in café
 - 50 K from magazine
 - Revised constitution and approval

Sub-committee Reports:

1. Fine Arts – Amy Maricocchi

- Surveyed teachers with Available FA programs around city for preferences; current programs are not costly
- Fine art showcase during Catholic schools week

2. Technology

- Goal to train teachers in smaller groups
 - Tailor training to skill level
 - Schedule more meeting
 - Weakness in excel
- Student's Web locker is now working (digital dropbox)
- One call system is working and made possible H1N1 clinic
- Typing exercise information went out in weekly newsletter
 - Archdiocese suggested not to start keyboard before 3rd grade

- After school program
 - Proposed schedule for all after school programs needs to be published as far in advance as possible to allow parents and students to see a class of interest in repeated at a different time
 - Expense was an issue for some classes
 - 5 sessions before Christmas
- The school is trying to reduce the amount of paper used, and a discussion ensued regarding the including of paper copies of important items in the home folder. It is important to be able to refer back to a document, this is easier when it is printed form format
- Discussed the issue of what is the correct amount of communications to parents via one call, email, newsletter? Weekly newsletter is a one day job for Jo and Mary Ann.
- Future plans
 - Sam is working online registration forms, but many forms need signatures so the solution must incorporate an electronic signature capacity. She will continue to investigate.
 - Destiny card catalogue
- Don't have time in the student's schedule or money for full time computer teacher to teach classes in the area of computer.
 - Method for scheduling lab will remain the same seems to best utilizes facilities
 - Video conferences to visit museums
 - Suggestion to look at professional grant writer to help with grant writing
- John Hill will head a project to investigate how other schools are using current technology, and what are their plans for the future?
 - Spend time with Sam to come up with questions of what we need to ask such as: What are the current & future tech needs at St. Columban?
 - Frank will get back to Jenny Dingwall to find her interest in working on a committee

New business: Frank Haas

- Master facilities obviously put on hold—tied to construction of Undercroft, and Parish Campaign
- Blue ribbon tabled until January
- Frank is open to agenda items; please offer ideas and suggestions.
 - Define issues
 - Background of issue
 - What needs to be discussed relevant to the issue

Meeting adjourned 9:05 PM