

Meeting Minutes of the Corpus Christi School Board

October 22, 2009

In attendance: Katie Murphy, Dorothy Militar, Patrick Hurley, Elizabeth Murphy, Walid Abdul-Rahim, Una Gilmartin, Anne Woods

Visitors: Ms. Diane Twomey, 7th Grade Teacher, Mary Alice McNeil, CCPG

Absent: Mary Tarczynski, Loretta Meyer, Mike Huaco

Meeting convened at 7:10 p.m.

Minutes: The minutes for the last school board meeting of September 17, 2009 were approved unanimously.

Faculty Report: Ms. Diane Twomey gave an update of class activities over the last month (Classes K-8). The 7th and 8th grade diocesan science fair has been brought back to life this year. After our school science fair, we will enter this science fair competition. The 7th grade is learning how to meditate from Ms. Jeanie. The 7th graders will then mentor the 1st graders on how to meditate. Ms. Twomey is the conduit for the Sisters of St. Joseph and she is also the religion coordinator for the school.

Parents Group Report: Mary Alice McNeil provided an update on CCPG activities. Major activities of CCPG are focused on upcoming TIP dinner next Monday evening. Deb Manca Waterhouse is in charge of this event with an Oktoberfest theme. Tonight the CCPG is viewing a documentary at Bishop O'Dowd called "Race to Nowhere" about adolescents under stress and what remedies are available to address this. This may be available in the future for a parent education seminar. Other fundraising available will be at Pasta Pomodora, College Avenue, this upcoming October 28 and 29 as well as following week. Families that bring in flyer can contribute 20% of meal proceeds to Corpus Christi School.

| Solicitations for Silent Auction are on target. Lisa Pritchard is the lead in obtaining restaurant certificates.

| Solicitations (CCPG) for the Walk –A-Thon included \$700 and \$400 in food donations and \$1000 in raffle prizes. One teacher with the highest class participation will receive a gift certificate.

Dana Young presented the free tuition auction item concept to CCPG. Donors for any solicited items will be highlighted on the school's website.

Silent Auction Room Parents meet tonight.

Pastor's Report: None

Principal's Report: Katie Murphy

- Katie discussed the school's new brochure and the first Open House held in October. Twenty-nine new families came to the school.
- Teacher In-Service Training: Three trainings have been done this school year,. First in-service training for staff focused on Scriptures which helps toward catechetical certification. The teaching staff is certified with the three new teachers completing certification this spring. Other training will focus on Liturgy and Morality.
- On the Diocesan Level: Vertical training teams are established. All teachers will meet and discuss Language Arts standards (in November). What is essential, important and worthy? Two of our teachers will be among the trainers: Jessica Murray and Marea Palmer-Loh. Groups include K-2, 3-5, and 6-8 departments. Reading, writing, speaking and listening are the four language arts standards. Language Arts guidelines will be developed. Current books are still choice of the school.
- This in-service will be a three year process. Assessments will be done next. In the past the diocesan guidelines were previously done by a small group but it has been opened up to include more stakeholders.
- The teachers also did an in-service with St. Raymond's, St. Theresa's and Corpus Christi on teaching children at all different levels at the same time (this is part of the differentiated instruction). How to engage students with different abilities at the same time are part of this training.
- In-Service Training is well worth the time and money. February in-service training will continue to focus on Language Arts or move to Math standards.
- Katie asked the Board to review the school website as if for the first time and with an eye to whether it includes enough/sufficient information for not just existing parents but also prospective families. Is there anything that should be added? CCPG and CCSB descriptions will be added as well as teacher guidelines under each class. Katie asked that any suggested changes to the Website be sent to her before Christmas.
- WASC/WCEA: Katie presented an update to the CCSB on the upcoming WASC process. "Report of the Utility Committee" is the report that the visiting committee leaves for the school. This includes 1) Progress Reports and 2) Action Plans. The school is required to have Action Plans and the existing student learning expectations arose from these action plans. Katie discussed the Action Plans in more depth. WASC requires that annual reports be written to report on how action plans and implementation of work on action items are being addressed. In the first two years, the format was the same. The third year had a slightly different format. The fourth year results were submitted last May. Whenever the school selects projects or books, the school needs to ensure whether the projects allow the students to make a connection to these student learning expectations and what is taught to them in class. The Five Year Plan comments (from parents) indicates that the school needs to explain what is taught in Technology more. In addition, WASC requires that one curriculum area be examined each year. For example, science moved to FOSS. The curriculum areas include: Religion, Reading – language arts – spelling, Math, Science, Social studies, and Technology. This year the curriculum focus will be on Language arts/foreign language.
- The ITBS testing diagnostic is similar across the years. Corpus Christi cannot use the state test that public schools use.

Men's Club:

No Report.

Board Business:

Dorothy Militar, President

Dorothy reported that the Corpus Christi Leadership will be addressed at the next School Board meeting. At this time we will focus on recruiting for new leadership for school.

Committee Reports:

Finance:

No report.

TIP:

Elizabeth Murphy reported that the CCSB TIP dinner is scheduled for March 22, more info to follow. She will be asking for volunteers. She also reminded members that the Staff holiday celebration will be held on December 3 at Sequoyah Country Club from 6:30-8:00 p.m. A bar for beer and wine will be available. All teachers, staff, CCPG and CCSB members are invited to attend. She also reported that the Ticket Donation Program was sent out to parents in the last Wednesday envelope.

Development:

Patrick Hurley will schedule another committee meeting due to poor attendance at last meeting but reports that Liz Crudo is well organized for the next Grandparents Day.

Strategic Planning:

Anne Woods met with her Committee in early October and she handed out to the Board the results of the meeting and the goals for the Strategic Plan. She asked that Walid and Patrick inform her of any new goals that need to be added or changed for the Strategic Plan. They will send her an e-mail.

Buildings and Grounds:

Walid reported that the committee had a walk through of the school. The plan will include Katie's list, school board walk through items and parents' wish list on the Five Year Survey. The walk through and the Five Year Survey will form the basis of the Five Year Capital Improvement Plan. At next month's meeting, the Committee will propose a list of five year capital projects and school improvements that are desired by parents and the school. A cost estimate of these improvements will be completed in January.

Mission Effectiveness:

No report.

Miscellaneous:

Katie Murphy

No more items.

Action Items:

Loretta Meyer

- Development Committee to convene another meeting. A report will be given next month.
- Walid and Patrick will inform Anne Woods of any new goals that need to be added or changed. They will send her an e-mail.
- CCSB will review the school's website and submit any suggestions or changes to Katie by Christmas.

Next CCSB Meeting: Will be held on November 19, 2009 and Walid will be leading prayer and bringing snacks.

Next Parent's Group Meeting: Will be held on November 2, 2009 and Elizabeth Murphy will be attending as the CCSB representative.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted by Loretta Meyer