

Sts. Peter and Paul Regional Catholic School Council Meeting Minutes
July 27, 2011
6:00 p.m.

Attendees: St. Luke—Billy Martin, Kristi Adams
Pax Christi—Sonya Morris, Joan Jahnige
Holy Spirit—Jennifer Annis
St. Peter—Fr. John List
St. Peter Claver—Greg D’Angelo, James Weathers
St. Paul—Bill Barr, Sr. Clara Fehringer, Melissa Rasmussen
At large—Tom Rolfes
Principal—Cathy Cybriwsky
Faculty/staff—Brian Minton, Therese Morris, Debbie Cambron
PTO—Connie Carr
Superintendent—Tim Weaver
Guests—Jim Sharpe, Shannon Burkholder

Opening Prayer and Welcome

At 6:00 p.m., members of the Saints Peter and Paul Regional Catholic School (SPPS) council and guests were welcomed by Tim Weaver, diocesan superintendent, who also offered the opening prayer.

Review of Amended Bylaws

Tim Weaver distributed copies of revised SPPS council bylaws. Several changes have been made in an effort to align SPPS with the rest of the diocesan schools. The proposed changes are presented as a first read and include:

- change in nomenclature from “board” to “council” to reflect that the SPPS council is no longer a limited jurisdiction board
- emphasizing that the council will make recommendations rather than policy changes
- elimination of finance and facilities committee chairs
- eliminating the position of development director as a non-voting member of the council

The amended bylaws will also be discussed at the next SPPS council meeting. Upon questioning, Mr. Weaver reported that the school’s finances will be run from the diocese; hence, there is no need for a separate SPPS finance committee any longer. Other previous “SPPS board” committees will continue to meet—and will continue to have chairpeople or liaisons to the principal—and reports from those committees will be made to the principal and then onto the council, as deemed appropriate.

Principal’s Report

Ms. Cybriwsky presented the principal's report and emphasized that she is thrilled to be at SPPS.

Enrollment is currently 495, of which 176 children are enrolled in the ECC.

SPPS will be undergoing accreditation this year, and there will be much more information about this to follow at upcoming meetings.

Regarding the facilities, Ms. Cybriwsky has noted that the building has been left open in the evenings. Walk-throughs need to be conducted every morning and evening. Interior and exterior cleaning schedules will be determined. The conditions of the lockers were briefly discussed as well.

Annette Justice resigned her position, and Kayleigh Puttman has been hired to replace her. There have been parent concerns regarding perceived high turnover of staff in the ECC. A bookkeeper/receptionist position is almost filled at the ECC. More information to follow.

At the main campus, new hires include Karen Abrams (4th grade), Angie Allen (family life, guidance, drama), Sr. Mary Karen Bahlmann (assistant principal), Hayley Harris (art), Whitney Owens (middle school math), and Laurie Preston (drama). Additionally, a potential fine arts coordinator/gifted and talented teacher hire is in the works.

Curriculum updates will follow throughout the school year. A focus for the year is language mechanics. A summary of the Terra Nova scores was presented and was briefly discussed. Science and math scores are exceptional.

There was brief discussion about recent concerns over Girl Scouts and their "affiliations" with agencies that are in opposition to Catholic teaching. Bill Barr asked if there was a diocesan policy for scouting programs, and Tim Weaver added he would put this issue on an agenda for a meeting with Bishop Gainer.

Ms. Cybriwsky also asked the council for advice with publicizing SPPS to local businesses and how best to proceed with questions from families who might need financial assistance. For the latter, communication between the families' parish and the school representatives was encouraged.

Election of Officers for 2011-12

A nomination was made by Tim Weaver that Billy Martin be elected chairperson of the SPPS council. This motion was seconded by Greg D'Angelo, and Billy Martin was unanimously elected. Billy Martin then nominated Bill Barr for vice-chair. Bill Barr was unanimously elected. Bill Barr nominated Kristi Adams for secretary, and all in attendance voiced approval.

2011-12 Meeting Dates

Meetings will be held on the fourth Wednesdays of the month, with the exception of November 30 (no meeting November 23). There will also be no meeting in December. The next meeting will be August 24, 2011.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi Adams, secretary