

Saints Peter and Paul Regional Catholic School Council Meeting Minutes

November 26, 2012

6:00 p.m.

Attendees: Stephen Clements, Debbie Spike-Pierce, Kristi Adams, Fr. John List, Chris Thiel, Dc. James Weathers, Sr. Clara Fehringer, Pam Rice, Bill Barr, Lesley Farmer, Allen Garner, Charlotte Webb, Sonya Morris

Representatives: Julie Kelley, Jenny Parker, Jeanne Miller, Anna Martin Storck, Lisa Oeltgen-Peyton

Absent: Candace James, Debbie Cambron, Melissa Rasmussen, Greg D'Angelo, Dennis Bender

Call to Order and Opening Prayer

The meeting of the Saints Peter and Paul Regional Catholic School (SPPS) council was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Bill Barr, chair, after determination that a quorum was present. The opening prayer was led by Fr. List.

Approval of October 2012 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Lesley Farmer to approve the October 2012 SPPS council meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Allen Garner and approved unanimously.

Management Team Reports

President Jeanne Miller

Enrollment is 429. Open enrollment for current families will begin toward the end of January 2013. "Eagle Experience" days are taking place this Friday, November 30. Target grade levels are Pre-K4, Kindergarten and fifth grade.

Billy Martin, facilities manager, is getting access points and wiring installed at the ECC.

Annual fund letters are going out November 30.

Mardi Gras plans are underway, and the event will be held February 9, 2013. Sponsorships are being sold in \$1500, \$1000, and \$500 increments. The goal is to have a "sell out" event with 400 people. Big ticket items are being sought for the live auction.

Jeanne Miller is working closely with Jane Wilkins, bookkeeper, to manage expenses and compare budget to actual. Currently, SPPS is staying within the expense budget for numbers reported from July to October 2012. In response to a question from Chris Thiel, Mr. Barr and Mrs. Miller clarified that SPPS is operating on a deficit. However, the financials are being managed very closely, and weekly and

monthly updates are reviewed by SPPS management. The diocese continues to oversee the SPPS financials.

Principal's Report (Jeanne Miller for Candace James)

Committees and coordination of information for accreditation has been happening over the past month. Sr. Mary Karen Bahlmann and Mrs. James are overseeing the process. The site visit for accreditation will be April 10, 2013. The goal is to have all documentation completed by March 1, 2013.

Students have been participating in Eagle Arts classes for a few weeks now, and many opportunities have been made available: voice lessons, musical theatre, cello, piano, hip hop, violin, and much more. Many relationships have been established with arts instructors and organizations.

"Student of the Month" program is up and running. One boy and one girl student are named per grade level with the next students to be announced at the Thursday Mass.

Sr. Clara inquired about parish recognition for honor roll students. Mrs. Miller will check on this. Sr. Mary Karen reported that she and Connie Carr have been working on a poster that will celebrate honor roll students. This poster is to be displayed in the school.

Early Childhood Center Director Anna Martin Storck

Classroom learning goals will be going out for the second time on December 3 for all Little Angels. Preschool will be sending out progress reports in early December. LA staff has completed Blood Borne Pathogen Training. Individual LA classroom meetings took place this month to focus on room-specific issues. All ECC parents received an electronic copy of the ECC handbook and an acknowledgement form.

Current enrollment is 52 in Little Angels. Preschool parent information night was held this month, and several current parents provided testimonials and current PK3 teachers provided an overview. An Eagle Experience date for current PK4 students is December 5 (tentatively).

Grandparents' Day and the book fair were very successful. The final amount raised from the book sale is not yet available. Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Martin Storck visited Bracktown and met with the director there to compare programs. Other visits will be arranged with local daycares and Catholic daycares in Louisville. Friday, December 7 is the ECC family Christmas celebration from 6:00-7:00 p.m., and children ages 2-K will perform followed by caroling.

The ECC committee and Mrs. Martin Storck, after research and discussion, propose that the following adjustments be made to the Little Angels classrooms: 6 weeks to 8 months, 6 months to 14 months, 12 months to 20 months, 18 months to 26 months, 24 months to 30 months and 2.5 years and up. These changes would be beneficial for the following reasons: it would allow for more developmentally appropriate supervision and would prevent holding children in one room for too long; the overlap in ages between rooms creates a cushion for children to reach various milestones at their own rate; the adjustments also better prepare the ECC for STARS; and children who are of age to enter preschool in

August will move out of the Little Angels program into the summer camp program to enable children to keep aging on through the program.

After discussion—during which time questions were asked about time frame for implementation, potential for “looping” caregivers, and potential obstacles to implementation—a motion was made by Allen Garner to accept this recommendation. Motion seconded by Fr. List and approved unanimously. Mrs. Martin Storck will send out a letter to parents in the near future, with implementation expected to begin gradually in December 2012 or January 2013.

The second proposed change at the ECC would involve creation of a “Rising 3s” class, which would have a cap of 12 students with one lead teacher and one assistant teacher (as is currently in place). The purpose of this class is to provide a place for all children regardless of their needs. These children might have a birthday close to the October 1 cut-off, their parents might prefer a 3-day-a-week option, and/or they might be still mastering bathroom independence. Children from this “Rising 3s” class would move on to PK4 if the teachers, director and parents feel they are ready to do so, or they may move into the PK3 class (which is five-day-a-week option only).

After brief discussion, a motion was made by Sr. Clara to approve this recommendation. Lesley Farmer seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously. Mrs. Martin Storck indicates that this “Rising 3s” class will begin in August 2013.

Old Business

Copies of the PTO 2012-2013 proposed budget were distributed. The PTO net income is estimated to be \$15,225 for 2012-2013, after approximately \$39,475 in expenses are taken from \$54,700 (money generated from the UK ticket raffle and other activities). Expenses were calculated using last year’s budget as a starting point, according to PTO president Lisa Oeltgen-Peyton.

After brief discussion, a motion was made by Lesley Farmer to approve the PTO budget. Motion seconded by Sonya Morris and approved unanimously. (Stephen Clements, PTO treasurer, abstained.)

New Business

Sr. Mary Karen Bahlmann distributed copies of the proposed SPPS vision, mission, and goal statements and the SPPS objectives. These items are required for the accreditation process and were developed by an SPPS committee. Brief discussion ensued regarding current mission (and vision) statements that were developed after the last SPPS strategic planning session(s) in January and March 2011. Jenny Parker asked if the statements provided for review would align with Blue Ribbon School (re)-application process, if SPPS were to re-apply.

Allen Garner made a motion to table this new business until comparison can be made with current mission and/or vision statements and until criteria for the Blue Ribbon re-application process are reviewed. Motion seconded by Chris Thiel and approved unanimously.

Committee Reports

Financial Accountability—No report.

Health/Wellness/Fitness—Jeanne Miller reported on behalf of Greg D'Angelo. This committee will begin work on an anaphylaxis management/allergen policy, with the ECC committee, for the Barr Street campus.

Catholic Identity—Dc. Weathers reported that this committee is working on a Catholic Identity statement and will be meeting with Sr. Mary Karen and the accreditation committee(s) for mission and vision statements.

Technology—Bill Barr reported that this committee is looking at a uniform process for projection of information into the classrooms. This committee also continues to look at opportunities with Ipads, and decisions are yet to be made regarding funding, which grade levels will use them, etc. More information should be presented at the January 2013 council meeting.

Curriculum and Instruction—No official report. Jeanne Miller praised the technology curriculum and Mr. Clements in particular.

Development—Allen Garner reported that the 100th anniversary of the Short Street campus is upcoming. Banners for the gymnasium are planned.

This committee is excited to launch "Eagles' Wings," a program aimed at providing full or partial scholarships. Much work will need to be done to locate donors and to develop criteria for awarding the scholarships. The development committee's motion to move forward with fundraising is seconded by Stephen Clements. Motion approved unanimously.

Facilities—Jeanne Miller reported that this committee has done a lot of work. Punch lists will be developed at both campuses in December.

Arts Integration—Lesley Farmer reported that the Eagle Arts program is up and running. Currently in session 1, SPPS will announce offerings for sessions 2 and 3 in the near future. Many students recently attended a performance of The Little Mermaid by SCAPA students at the Lexington Opera House. Gallery Hop was a great success, and at least 60 people walked through SPPS on November 16. A site visit to a Chicago school in early 2013 is planned.

ECC—Debbie Spike-Pierce reported that this committee has been working on the proposals approved tonight. Decorating for Christmas will be happening soon, and prayer services will be planned on a regular basis beginning in 2013.

Other Reports

PTO-Lisa Oeltgen-Peyton reminded everyone that children participating in the Christmas parade on December 6 need to have their parents sign a release within the next couple of days. Release forms will be available at both campuses.

Other Business

None

Parent Comments

No additional comments.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Allen Garner made a motion to adjourn at 8:03 p.m. Motion seconded by Fr. List and approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi Adams, secretary