

## **SPPS Council Meeting Minutes July 28, 2014**

In Attendance: Lesley Farmer, Dennis Bender, Scottie Brockman, Anna Martin, Melissa Rasmussen, Jeanne Miller, Candace James, Jenny Parker, Julie Kelley, Dcn. Wakefield, Debbie Cambron, Michelle Lineberry and Debbie Spike-Pierce

Absent: Bill Barr, Stephen Clements, Pam Rice, Sr. Clara Fehringer, Fr. John List, Dcn. Marco Rajkovich, Jess Naylor, Greg D'Angelo, Dcn. Weathers, Chris Thiel and Lisa Oeltgen-Peyton

The meeting was called to order by President Jeanne Miller at 6:05pm. Deacon Wakefield opened the meeting with prayer. The meeting was led by Melissa Rasmussen.

### **President Report:**

K-8: We are currently at 324 students, budgeted 320. We have 332 committed but waiting on financial commitment for 8. There are 46 new students in the Short Street Campus.

PreK: We are at 51 enrolled which is down 8 from budget. Part of the reason is the rising 3 program allows for some to repeat the 3 year old program.

Little Angels has 73 enrolled we have budgeted 75 and this is likely to continue to grow.

### **Principal Report:**

Staffing: Mrs. Robin (Charles) Clark will be teaching kindergarten. Ms. Samantha Matthews will be a resource teacher replacing resigned Mrs. Carter. Mrs. Grace Cottam will be teaching middle school language arts.

There have been numerous areas of professional development for staff. STREAM training completed by Therese Morris. Kodaly/Orff training has been completed by Christie Pabin. Connie Carr participated in the RenWeb Power conference. Accreditation training was completed by Candace James and Sister Mary Karen. A team of teachers participated in MAP testing training.

MAP testing: We are higher than the national average in all subject areas. Reading- 85% and Math-88% of SPPS K-8 students are at or above the national level. Language Usage- 80% and Science-89% of SPPS 3-8 students are at or above the national level.

**ECC Report:**

Classroom cameras and iPads for internal monitoring are in use in the infant and crawler rooms. The new infant room will open 8/11. There have been many physical classroom shifts (all positive). Mrs. Tressa Rowe will teach PK4, she has a Masters in elementary education and has Orff music certification. Mrs. Kim Bush will not be working at the ECC, however Mrs. Pam Rice will be joining as the Office Manager. Preschool activities begin 8/6. A special thank you was noted to Peyton Nunley and Lorri Terry for working in the ECC office over the summer.

**Financial Report:**

We incurred a loss of ~\$123,000, however once aged pledges were written off this reduced to ~\$36,000 loss and we had budgeted for a \$35,000 loss. This was a huge budgeting success as previous years we had close to a ~\$300,000 loss. We only missed our budget in income by \$70,000, however we came under budget \$70,000 in expenses. Overall we did very well only missing the budget by \$1000. The budget is a positive number for 2014/15. Key factors to budget success will be enrollment and raising the \$260,000 for Endow the Future.

**PTO Report:**

The new PTO representative is Michelle Lineberry. In years past the PTO was a separate entity for wish list items when the school had no debt. At this point the PTO is really a committee of our school. Their line items are in our budget. The question arose, "Do we need bylaws for the PTO?" The consensus was that we need guidelines, not necessarily bylaws, because the committee is so important to our school. The goals of the PTO are engaging the school and teacher appreciation. Carrie Barr will be managing the volunteer website. All dates are set for the year and will be released at the back to school party.

**Endow the Future Report:**

We raised \$150,545 in cash for 2013/14 and our matching goal was fulfilled. Over \$290,000 was raised in pledges and gifts. The 2014/15 campaign is ramping up and we will be looking at estate planning and major gifts as well. Deacon Wakefield reported that the term papers have just been received from PNC to restructure the debt since the bond payment is coming due in January, 2015 and that needs to be avoided.

**New Business:**

Pam Rice will be stepping down as a council member due to her new ECC employment. It was recommended that Nick Rice take her place. Nick would serve as a Pax Christi representative and Fr. Nick Pagano supports that representation. It was noted we may want an employee of ECC on council.

Dcn. Wakefield brought up the discussion that the Catholic Church has councils. During council meetings we do not operate under Roberts Rules. Decisions are more by consensus and therefore discussion is extremely important. He recommended a list serve for discussion prior to meetings. It is possible but rare that something may need to come to a vote. Staff does not vote if that is the case. The person that presides at a council meeting is the leader of the juridic entity which for our council would be the school president Jeanne Miller.

Please bring ideas for the next council meeting on how to change our bylaws to guidelines. Jeanne will send a link to the bylaws and pastoral life. The meeting was adjourned with a prayer by Dcn. Wakefield.