

# St. Sebastian Education Committee Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2014

**Attendees:** Joel Agacki, Kim Berner, Joe Desch, Donna Dorschner, Paul Hohl, Kathy Kirkpatrick, Maureen O'Meara Rowen, Reanna Ottoson, Leah Sealey, Audrey Keppler- Skwierawski, Cheryl Warner.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm. Opening prayer and snacks were provided by Leah Sealey.

**Approval of Minutes:** February 2014 minutes were approved.

## **Committee Reports:**

Parish Council: PC and Joint PC (w/St. Cates) minutes sent out beforehand. No new business.

Home and School Report: Suggestion that magazine sales may be replaced by 'suggested' monetary donation during walk was touched upon once again. Money raised could be used for new text books.

Common Core Alignment Sub-Committee: No new business. Faculty attending a day-long English/Language Arts Common Core seminar on Feb. 21 at Mt. Mary University with other District 12 schools.

## **Old Business:**

ACE: Upcoming meeting Tuesday following this meeting date with Arch representative Thomas Kieley.

Performance Pay Proposal: Teacher concerns formally submitted to Ed Cmte were reviewed. Proposal pros, cons and fitment with spiritual community of St Sebastian was discussed; opportunity to establish 'what kind of community' we are exists. It was determined that performance pay program will not be adopted for 2014 / 2015 academic year. Paul will address teachers on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Ideas ranging from requesting minimum tuition contribution from each family, to a sub-committee to re-evaluate teacher professional development and academic performance were discussed.

New Ed Cmte Nominations: Nominations for outgoing Ed Cmte members were discussed. Ed Cmte members were asked to email names of nominees to Leah.

## **Principal's Report:**

Choice Notes: Recent Journal-Sentinel article describing Common Core to layman was reviewed and discussed. St Seb's could opt out of Common Core but it is more rigorous and is set up to meet Common Core. Arch is in favor of Common Core alignment, so explanation for secession would be required. Testing for grades 3, 5, 7 ITBS, COGATS, Arch Religion Assessment to commence shortly. Results for WKCE have been reviewed and Choice numbers will be publically released. Smarter Balance assessment for Choice students is coming in 2014-15; DPI was going to pay for Choice; non-Choice cannot take test unless Sebs pays. Senate has backed off of accountability measure as of meeting date. DPI may translate ITBS scores into Smarter Balance. Having students practice some computerized Smarter Balance sample tests was discussed. Currently there is nine-week window to test every child; this could be shortened to three-weeks under new testing regimen. Science and social studies will still be taken by Choice students in WKCE format. School foundation was approached to gift twenty-five iPads and external keyboards to test instead of computer lab.

100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: Overwhelming success at 100<sup>th</sup> fish fry; orders were not accepted after 6:15 as food ran out. 1980 boys Padre Serra banner was unveiled in gym and well received.

Professional Development: Paul discussed options for expansion of 2:30 Wednesday dismissal time, either shortening to 2 pm every Wednesday or 11:30 once a month. Purpose is to give teachers more time to share resources and expand professional development opportunities. Notion of monthly professional development committee among teachers was also touched upon. Item was tabled until April Ed Cmte meeting. Frank Malone at PAL also will need to be consulted in regard to impact on his program w/the 11:30am scenario.

DC Trip: Trip was a success. All but two students who had planned on participating went on trip.

Enrollment: Currently there are 263 students enrolled for next year. Paul is pleased with renewals, but more new families are needed.

**New Business:**

Academic Excellence Cmte: Three volunteers are needed to form committee.

Marketing / Outreach: Marketing and outreach ideas were discussed. Recruiting new families is priority. Three volunteers are needed to form committee. Catholic schools walk DVD has been produced.

**Closing Prayer:** Leah Sealey

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in Teachers' Lounge.