

**Mother of Good Counsel
School Committee
August 10th, 2011 6pm**

Present: Fr. Bob, T.Carey-Perry, P.Morse, D.Scholz, J.Schwartz, R.Shaw, R.Tourtillott, Erica
Absent: C.Conway, S.Gleesing, J.Humm

Opening Prayer – Rick T

I. **10 Minute Open Discussions.** There were no guests present. However, there were two questions posed to the committee by email. The first involved BUDDIES. The middle school students were once paired with primary school students, but they were discontinued. Could this be re-introduced? Regina said the change in middle school home rooms was started three years ago and it became impractical to do the buddy program. Also, the homeroom time was reduced so the schedule was tight. Upon further thought, maybe one hour per month is possible. She will discuss with the teachers. The second question concerned NEW TEACHOR MENTORING – could it be brought back? Judy Filut & Jackie Lichter both mentored in the past. This is taking place, for example, Erica Carlson is mentoring the new 4th grade teacher. There is funding available from the state.

II. **Review of Minutes.** May minutes were approved as written. Erica is here taking a non-parishioner parent seat and this leaves two other open seats – a parish non-parent and a non-parish parent.

III. **Update of Staff Changes and Enrollment**

- a. Update from Regina on enrollment – as of today, the projected enrollment is 214. This does not include the new 3K program, which is maxed as 15. The 214 students would be an increase of 25 over the ending enrollment last June. At this time, there are 53 parishioner students and 161 CHOICE students.
- b. Speaking of the CHOICE program – on July 11th, an email was sent out reviewing the higher income limits for CHOICE. A note addressing this will be in the church bulletin twice in August.
- c. The budget this year is based on the 185 students.
- d. Update on staff changes – Last year's 4th grade teacher, Ms. Rezel, moved to 1st grade. Last year's 1st grade teacher is not returning. There are two new teachers. Ms. Updegraff is taking 4th grade. And, since Mrs. Mortell has moved to St. Thomas More H.S., Ms. Ehrmann has been hired as the religious ed teacher. Mrs. Tourtillott has been hired as a Teacher's Aid for K3. The State requires a teacher's aid for a classroom size of 15 students in K3.

IV. **Miscellaneous**

- a. We need a liaison to the Finance Committee. The only person mentioned was Pat Morse and he accepted.
- b. Committee members reviewed both the STUDENT COVENANT and the PARENT/GUARDIAN COVENANT from the handbook. Both were accepted with minor changes. The Student covenant will be used as a point of reflection for students being disciplined. Rick suggested we set up Power School to send out emails to everyone every two weeks. Parents could opt out with an email to Regina.
- c. A committee reworked the DISCIPLINE POLICY and the committee reviewed the work. It was accepted with no changes. It should be noted that Mrs. Carlson, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Vega and Ms. Rezel did an excellent job in reworking a discipline policy that is standardized throughout the grades and can be consistently applied throughout.
- d. Regina said the theme for the coming school year is "He Reigns." Reign stands for Responsible, Enthusiastic, Intelligent, Generous, Noble and Salvadorians. These will be themes for the various months of the school year. It includes a catchy song found on You Tube.

V. **Ideas for New Parent/Guardian orientation for Open House.**

- a. Ideas for tables &/or booths were Power School, ECP, Extracurricular activities, lunch, traffic flow before school and at 3p, music program and Kid Mail.

Closing Prayer – Regina

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 7th, 6pm

Minutes submitted by Pat Morse