

Meeting Summary

ST. HILARY BOARD OF SPECIFIED JURISDICTION

October 1, 2013 7:00 p.m. RECTORY

As approved on November 5, 2013

Members Present:

Father Bill Eddy, Pastor; Kathie Donovan, Principal; Theresa Jovanovic, President; Rich Batista, Vice President; Ann McNabb, Secretary; Robert Schwendau, Board Member; Jim Minchella, Board Member; Mary Kay Donnelly, Faculty Representative; Pearle Torralba

Approval of Meeting Summaries and Minutes

- The September 10, 2013 Meeting Minutes and September 10, 2013 Meeting Summary were reviewed and approved.
- The Meeting Summary will be posted on the school's website.

Pastor's Report

- In the upcoming two weeks, the fiscal year 2013 financial report will be published in the parish bulletin.
- A new bible study program began, focusing on the Psalms.
- Meetings and candidate inductions for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Confirmation will occur this week.
- The Men's Club participation in the Harvest Fest is coming up this October 12th and 13th.
- A parish transformation update will be posted on the parish website.
- An all-school reunion will be held on October 26th in the newly renamed Julia Vacala Auditorium.

Principal's Report

- School staff has recently assumed the school's financial reporting/billing from the parish staff. A summary report of collections vs. amounts due was distributed. Detailed financials will be available at future meetings.
- The 1st quarter ends on October 25th, with the first exclusion day scheduled for the following Friday. Any student with outstanding tuition will be excluded from classes.
- Grandparent's day was recently celebrated with the Pre-K - 2nd grade students. The students and grandparents attended Mass followed by a reception in the gym. It was very well attended.
- Mrs. Donovan attended each parish groups' initial meeting of the school year. She received a warm welcome from the Men's Club and Women's Club. She also introduced herself to each CCD class.

- The school hosted a high school fair for 7th and 8th grade families on Thursday, September 19th. Representatives from Catholic high schools were on hand to provide information about enrollment opportunities.
- Parent/Guardian/Student/Teacher conferences will be held September 25th and 26th. New this year, the conferences will be scheduled to accommodate parent schedules and maximize time spent with faculty.
- Parent/Guardian access to Powerschool went live recently giving parents access to student's grades and attendance records.
- On Friday, October 4th, the annual walkathon themed "Reaching out to those who serve others" will occur. Students will be presenting original murals to neighborhood public service organizations, including the Police and Fire stations, River Park fieldhouse and the Galter Center. Mrs. Donovan pitched the story to WGN news outlet.
- A committee of faculty has formed to work on the Archdiocesan AdvancedEd accreditation initiative. Faculty has been assigned to Math, Science, IT, Social Studies and Language Arts areas. The accreditation focuses on six standards, with several strands under each standard. The accreditation is awarded to both public and private institutions. An additional strand has been added for Catholic schools. In 2015, 20 percent of Archdiocesan schools will go through the process, with an additional 20 percent each year until every school finishes.
- Mrs. Donovan shared the new car magnets used to promote the school. Magnets can be purchased through the school office for \$3.00.

Organization reports

- Mrs. Donovan attended the *Family School Association's* recent meeting and requested the FSA identify a liaison to the BSJ.
- The *Men's Club* had its first meeting of the new school year. Mrs. Donovan addressed the group, and the new officers are in place. The Club is seeking volunteers for its participation in Harvest Fest.

Old Business

- a. Legislative liaison. Updates on proposed legislation regarding textbook rentals, school choice and insurance mandates were provided. It was also reported that SB1625, which amends the School Safety Drill Act to focus on exiting faster, and HB3190, which amends the School Code and the Communicable Disease Prevention Act regarding meningococcal vaccines were passed and now law.
- b. Approval of BSJ By-Laws. The Board approved by-laws were sent to the Archdiocese for approval.
- c. An updated calendar of meeting dates was distributed

New Business

- d. Four schools in the area council were awarded Blue Ribbon Schools.
- e. The Board discussed the need to continue its focus on recruitment and discussed skills it is seeking and opportunities to recruit volunteers. A flyer will be made available at the upcoming all-school reunion. Other potential avenues discussed include reaching out to neighborhood business and advertising in the parish bulletin.