



Immaculate Conception School

Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Immaculate Conception School
October 30, 2017
Library 7 PM

In Attendance: Mrs. Joan Sullivan, Principal, Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor; Board Members: John Camozzi, Andrew deBernardo, Rich Eaton, Betsy Farrell, Marin Fortune, Dong-Soo Song

Prayer: Fr. Tim opened with a prayer.

Pastor's Report: Fr. Tim reported that his pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi was a wonderful success; the parish is in the implementation phase of the Pastoral Plan and on Nov. 5 will hold the first implementation meeting; Holy Redeemer remained without power due to the overnight storm; the Rose Window in the IC church is nearly complete. The parish is preparing for a busy season.

Principal's Report

Current Enrollment: 252 students; we gained a new family with two children; current students are adding days in PK-4.

Staff Appointment: A new Gym Teacher has been hired, Cat Batchelder. Mrs. Batchelder works directly for the school and has received great responses.

Building Improvements

WIFI upgrade: Stronger routers were installed and there is a great improvement in internet access and connection.

Gym Floor: scheduled to be updated and redone over the Christmas Vacation

New copy machines: installed in both the school and parish center; much more efficient.

Marketing

Open House response: one family came in for an official tour; will designate one day per month as "Open House" and also offer tours/visits on request.

Business Spot Light publication: We had a terrific response to our purchased space in this section of the Daily News; readers think we were chosen.

Principal's Meet and Greet after 10/13 Mass: Reaffirming Mrs. Sullivan's open door policy and accessibility to families.

Academic Initiatives

PD for staff: introduced Google Ed and Pear Deck and both were received with enthusiasm; faculty continues to become familiar with using these platforms.

Makerspace: Information is going home to parents. Students will be working with a variety of materials (donations). The supply room will be transformed into a Makerspace.

STREAM: Target start day after end of marking period for grades 3 and 4; working on totally integrating this within the school day.



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Sports Journalism Program: Conner Whooley from the *Newburyport Daily News* visited the 8th grade; he asked to continue working with the kids and wrote about his experience in his column; two 8th grade students published an article about the recent cross country meet.

Math Meetings: Mrs. Sullivan is working with teachers PK-4 to Gr 4 regarding speed and fluency with basic facts and improving the overall understanding of facts.

MAP Testing: administered three times per year and the first was completed; they chart growth versus achievement throughout the year.

Development

NPE: despite technological issues with ticket sales, all available tickets (3500) were sold out within 45 minutes; there were tech issues with the volunteer sign-up platform. Each year the committee will reassess the tech companies and platforms to improve the experience.

Auction: March 17th date set; there will be raffles and silent and live auction items, including some new ideas.

Student and School Community Events

High School Fair: a great success; we hosted 30 schools

FUN RUN: Over \$23,000 raised for PTO Enrichment Programs

Cross Country Team: the runners had a terrific season and school records were broken every week; the girls are the Girl's Catholic Conference Champions

Junior High Socials: Participation is highest ever. 100% of 8th grade

Mother-Son Corn Maze: again great success, high participation

Halloween Party: donations will buy gift cards for frozen turkeys to be included with Thanksgiving baskets being assembled by Leadership Team

Principal for a Day: Auction 2017 winner did a great job! Will be an item again.

Field Trips and Enrichment Programs: Grade 2 went to the State House; Owl program; Grade 6 goes to MIT. Trips and programs provided by PTO.

Seabrook Emergency Response Plan: We are the only school in area that does not permit KI pills. Mrs. Sullivan has extensive information from the power plant about the free distribution of these tablets.

A motion was made to approve *Mrs. Sullivan to give Immaculate Conception School parents the choice to allow their child to receive the KI tablet in the event of an emergency at the Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant.* The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by the IC School Board.

By-Laws: Copies of the By-Laws were available at the meeting and are also available on-line. Mrs. Sullivan will make a correction to remove former business manager Greg Miller's name and add Donald Alunni.

Other: Mrs. Sullivan and Fr. Harrison discussed the school's calendar in relation to the Newburyport School, pertaining, in particular, to the 2017 calendar not offering a day off



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for the Veteran's Day Holiday. Several complaints were received, and Mrs. Sullivan and Fr. Harrison recommended that school close on November 10 in honor of the November 11 holiday. Due to the offering of an Easter Monday holiday, this means that the IC is one day under the recommended 180 days and Mrs. Sullivan will determine making that day up. This situation highlighted the issue of being a separate school but in relation with the Newburyport School District.

Next Meeting: December 11, 2017 7:00 PM; (upcoming calendar: January 22, 2018; March 12, 2018; April 23, 2018)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Farrell
Secretary, IC School Board