

Approved December 2011 Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting date: December 5, 2011

Present: Father Kessler, Robert May, Matthew Neighbor, Pam Eltringham, Kim Ortiz, Mrs. Darfus (Pre-school teacher)

Absent: Zack DeLeon, Kerry Sheridan-Boyd, Will Sharp, Jennifer Spiegel

Opening Prayer: A Prayer of Peace said chorally

Approval of Previous Minutes: October minutes will be approved at January meeting.

Old Business:

- Discussion on the possibility of using Facebook to reach more people.
 - Could be in place by registration
 - Cannot be accessed through school due to the filters

Principal's Report: Pam Eltringham

- Terra Nova results for grades 2-5 were as good as or better than anticipated.
 - The N-View breaks test down to show strengths and weaknesses so teachers can then group students according to skill- there are various graphs for teachers to use.
 - Results are being sent home this week.
- There will be a Penance Service for 3-5 grade.
- There will be a sacramental meeting for parents of 2nd graders.
- First Penance will be Sunday, March 25, 2012
- First Communion will be the weekend of May 19 and 20, 2012
 - Kids will be divided according to preference of Mass time.
 - This is the same procedure as last year.
- Marketing- working on updated flier, but it is not quite ready to share. It will hopefully be ready soon.
- Holy Hour was a great experience for students.
- St. Nick will be December 6 at 9:15.
 - Dr. Guinan will be St. Nick.
 - It will begin with a discussion of St. Nick and "he" will give a candy cane to everyone.
 - Then St. Nick puts goodies and treats in the shoes that students have put in the hallway.
 - It is very exciting for students.
- Christmas Program dress rehearsal is Tuesday, December 6 at 12:30 for 1st, 3rd, and 5th grades. The program is Tuesday evening at 7:00pm.

- The Fisher Catholic Band and Show Choir will perform at St. Bernadette on Friday, December 16 at 9:30 am.

Teachers' Report: Marisa Darfus

- **Preschool:** We have started our Advent season and are excitedly awaiting Jesus' birthday. We are continuing our alphabet with J and K. We have learned about insects, patterns and graphing. We started a "Zoo Book" to journal about our last field trip.
- **Kindergarten:** **Religion-** Jesus is God's greatest sign of His love for us. We are learning about the Advent season. We made pictures for the Nursing Home as our service project. **Reading-** Learning the letters Cc and Ff and sight words *to* and *have*. We write daily in our journals and wrote a Halloween and Thanksgiving story using the computer. **Math-** Numbers to 10, sequencing and number line, greater/less than. **Science-** Animal categories- insects, birds, reptiles. **Social Studies-** Community helpers
- **First Grade:** We are learning to read, write and spell words with long vowel sounds. In Math we are learning about place value. In Science we are talking about animals and habitats. We are discussing Advent and getting ready for our Christmas program.
- **Second Grade:** **Social Studies-** water and natural resources. **Religion-** Advent. **Math-** finishing addition and subtraction of 2 digit numbers with regrouping and moving on to money. **Health-** food and nutrition.
- **Third Grade:** **Math-** finished time and money, now working on multiplication. **Science-** Animal habitats are being displayed in the hallway. Students will begin reporting on the animal they researched. **Social Studies-** studying geography: landforms, natural resources (how we use them, how it affects the environment and the things that they have there.) **Health-** we'll be studying nutrition and how it affects our body systems. Language Arts- reading a variety of genres, we've been focusing on letter writing, studying verbs in grammar. **Religion-** studying Advent.
- **Fourth Grade:** **Religion-** sent out our Shut-in Letters for Thanksgiving and are receiving responses from them. We are studying Advent and making our Advent wreath with our Advent promises. **Math-** We are working on collecting data and organizing it into different charts and tables. **Health-** working on growth and development and heading into nutrition.
- **Fifth Grade:** **Religion-** studying Liturgical Calendar and Advent Season. Reading from the Bible everyday and to count down our days until Jesus' birth. **Math-** multiplying decimals. **Social Studies-** seeing how first Europeans settled in North America. Science- weather. Reading to class **The Best Christmas Pageant Ever** to go along with our preparation for our own Christmas play.
- **Music-** It's beginning to look A Lot Like Christmas as we have Decked the Parrish Hall, Jingled the Bells, and prepared for an O Holy Night which will be Tuesday, December 6. Grades 1, 3 and 5 are performing and they are sure to bring lots of Joy to the World! First has made matching Santa t-shirts. Third will be featuring many instruments and fifth has arranged their own version

of "Sing We Now of Christmas", a play about the birth of Jesus. All classes have started singing Christmas songs- including some that are brand new and others that have been around for years.

Home and School Report:

- None at this time.

Pastor's Report:

- Father really wants to see 6th grade at St. Bernadette, but he must work with all of the schools/parishes unilaterally.
- He feels that the issue needs to be dealt with at the grassroots level.
- The Bishop might make a decision in January, but Father is not sure if changes will occur this August or not.
- Fisher is forming a fundraising committee- not sure if this is for all Catholic schools or just for Fisher
- Tuition is a big jump from K-8 at St. Bernadette and St. Mary (\$2,800) to high school at Fisher (\$5,000).
- The St. Bernadette subsidy at Fisher is \$320.00
- Subsidy increases over four years. By the fourth year it is \$1,500. Father may be pressured to be hard-nosed on how active/attending mass parishioners are to receive subsidy.
- Creating a financial board to oversee is a scary thing.

New Business:

- Registration and tuition cost will be in February.
- Going off board is Zack DeLeon. An election is usually held in March so we need to discuss it in February.

Adjourn: Motion: May, 2nd Ortiz

Next Meeting: Rescheduled to Tuesday, January 3, 2012 after a discussion because there is no school on Monday, January 2, 2012.