

## September 2011 Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting date: September 12, 2011

**Present:** Will Sharp, Father Kessler, Kerry Sheridan-Boyd, Matthew Neighbor, Pam Eltringham, Robert May, Heather Malley, Kim Ortiz, Jennifer Spiegel

**Absent:** Zack DeLeon

**Opening Prayer:** Matt Neighbor

**Review of Previous Minutes:** Reviewed May and June minutes. Motion to approve: Sharp, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ortiz.

### **Old Business:**

- None at this time.

### **Principal's Report:** Pam Eltringham

- St. Bernadette has 158 students enrolled for 2011-2012
- There are 16 Full-time Kindergarten students and this is the first year for all-day kindergarten.
- 1<sup>st</sup> grade- 24 students; 2<sup>nd</sup> grade- 30 students; 3<sup>rd</sup> grade- 20 students; 4<sup>th</sup> grade- 23 students; 5<sup>th</sup> grade- 15 students
- The enrollment is down by 13 students from last year, which is 9% of the enrollment; however, some of this decrease is due to the Kindergarten having smaller numbers with the change to all-day.
- There were 12 students who went to St. Mary's for 6<sup>th</sup> grade this year.
- The families who left St. Bernadette for other reasons, left on a positive note with the exception of one family.
- According to the Fairfield County Consortium, the scenario of closing St. Bernadette School is off the table. This information is important to get out to the community.
- The budget for the 2011-2012 school year was discussed.
- The Home and School Association has agreed to pay the \$900.00 registration fee for the St. Bernadette staff to attend the OCEA Convention in Columbus on October 3 and 4.

### **Teachers' Report:** Heather Malley

- **Preschool:** All meeting new friends. Learning school rules and classroom procedures. Starting to learn the alphabet next week.
- **Kindergarten:** Adjusting to school routines and eating lunch together. Writing in journals and doing a quick review of alphabet before starting our weekly letters. Learning directional terms in Math and will start to sort by attributes soon. Religion classes have centered on God's creation.

- **First Grade:** We are learning to read, write and spell words with a short “a” sound. Identifying living and nonliving things in Science. In Religion, learning about the Catholic Church. Practicing adding in Math.
- **Second Grade:** Reading- Studying Character, Setting and Plot. Spelling- Reviewing short vowel sounds. Math- Skip counting and problem solving. Science- Plants (parts and what they need to grow). Social Studies- Map Skills. Religion- Welcoming all into the Church and Baptism.
- **Third Grade:** Math- reviewing addition and subtraction. Mad Minutes to practice facts and place value. Science- living and nonliving. Social Studies- review of maps/studying communities. Health- 3 parts of health and how you need all 3 for balance. Language Arts- reading stories focusing on character, setting and plot. Spelling- long and short vowel sounds. Grammar- different kinds of sentences. Religion- Holy Spirit and the Sacraments of Initiation.
- **Fourth Grade:** Religion- Discussing the Mass and how we give thanks and praise to God, especially for Gift of Jesus. Studying Scripture story of the Last Supper. Science- Properties of Matter (What is matter and how is it classified). Math- Adding and subtracting whole numbers and doing estimation. Health- Studying the Three Parts of Total Health. Reading- Enjoying Hatchet by Gary Paulsen. Writing- Working on the Writing Process.
- **Fifth Grade:** Brainstormed ideas for classroom rules and came up with 5 rules. Math- students are comparing and ordering whole numbers and decimals. Social Studies- learning the diversity of landforms and people found in the U.S. Religion- studied creation story and how to find readings in the Bible. We went to Reconciliation last week with Father Kessler and Father Reade. Science- studying ecosystems. Writing- “I am” poems. Reading- On My Honor.
- **Enrichment/ Interest Groups:** No Report
- **Library:** Kindergarten- learning how to use the library. Playing matching games and “Bugs in a Box” on computers. First Grade- reading stories with puppets and using Brain Pop Jr. on computers. Second Grade- reading Magic Treehouse book: “Mummies in the Morning.” Working on Science plants on Brain Pop Jr.

**Home and School Report:** Kerry Sheridan-Boyd

- Voted to pay \$900.00 to pay for the staff registration for the OCEA Conference in October.
- Discussed a Yoga class.
- Discussed putting an ad for St. Bernadette into the Fisher Catholic athletic programs.
- Trying to find a volunteer for the October School Bulletin Board.
- Discussed charging a per family charge for the Fall Harvest this year.
- St. Bernadette won the first week of Earning for Learning at the mall.

**Pastor’s Report:** Father Kessler

- Msgr. Dunn has requested that each parish of the Deanery consider and make suggestions about what the parishes can jointly do to help the difficult economic situation that each parish and its affiliated school faces.
- The Deanery will meet again on September 19, 2011 to share these ideas.

- Some of the ideas that were mentioned at this meeting were:
  1. An endowment drive
  2. Joint marketing
  3. Joint pricing of tuition
  4. Joint fundraisers
  5. Increased communication and collaboration among the principals of each school

**New Business:**

- Matt Neighbor asked us to sign up to lead the prayer at future School Board meetings.

**Adjourn:** Motion: Sharp, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sheridan-Boyd.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, October 4, 2011 @ 6:00 (Changed to Tuesday due to the OCEA Convention)