



SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Minutes: Thursday, September 24, 2015

Attendees:

Fr. Cliff Smith	Patricia Opon
Pam Steinkirchner	Debbie Reed
Gilberto Aguilar	John Garvey
Jeff Hoke	Claudine Humphries
Angie Baldwin	Mitch Bates

Opening Prayer: Fr. Cliff

Minutes: Motion to approve minutes received by John Garvey and motion seconded by Mitch Bates – August 2015 Minutes Approved

Pastor's Report:

- 3 Youth Groups in addition to Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts now present at St. Mark Parish
 - Trail Life
 - American Heritage Girls
 - St. George (Father/Son camping group)
- Vocation awareness beginning in October, led by Agnes Denvir
 - 5th-Middle School, gather each day at 2:30 to learn about vocations
- Career Week
 - 1st – 4th grades in tandem to learn about careers (presented by parents)
- St. Mark Catholic Church 50th Anniversary on October 17th
 - Celebrated with movie and family picnic in STMCS field – all are welcome and encouraged to attend.
- Friday, September 25th Father will end mass with the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction. Will talk to students about Adoration.
- Net Team arrived the week of September 14th

- STMCS received a nice plug at JPll Back to School Night through the mention of the Net Team being back at St. Mark

Mrs. Opon's Report:

- October is a very busy month at the school.
 - ½ day on September 25th for Staff Volunteer Day
 - Fall Clubs start on 9/28 with over 150 kids participating
 - A variety of clubs will be offered covering various topics
- Enrollment:
 - 7 new children have started since the beginning of the school year
- Continuing with the theme of kindness this year
 - Anti-Bullying/Kindness assembly will be presented to the kids on October 2nd.
 - Guest Speaker Tom Scott (former student/Olympian) will speak to kids.
- New families meet and greet to occur on 10/20 from 5:30-6:30, adults only
 - Refreshments to be served
 - Father will attend
 - SAC members were asked to join
- Survey data indicates parents are not aware of HSA and/or SAC
 - Need to generate more visibility
- One of our students won the Diocesan Spelling Bee last year and as a result, STMCS will host this year's spelling bee on January 14th, 2016
- October 22, 1st-4th Grade play. Patty Corsi is leading this initiative.
 - Great opportunity for children, while building poise and confidence.
- October is Rosary month
 - Every Wednesday in October, the Rosary will be said in the cafeteria at 7:25am with any and all that would like to participate.
 - Staff will join to say the Rosary once a week.
- Eye Testing will be done in October
- Youth Picnic to celebrate the Parish Anniversary will be held on October 17th on the School field. In the event of rain, the event will be held in the school cafeteria.
- October 24/25 HSA and students will handle mass supporting the youth of the church.
- October 11th is Homecoming and will be celebrated with a Pep Rally on October 8th at 2:30pm.

President's Report (Gilberto Aguilar):

- Passed out the Guideline on Catholic Schools and requested that all read and familiarize themselves with the document.
- Survey will be done at the end of the year.
- October 22nd is UD Ministry Conference and several SAC members are attending.
- Reiterated that we all add the Newcomers Welcome Reception to our calendars and to please plan to attend.

Marketing Report (Debbie Reed):

- Just finished North Texas Giving Day
 - Raised about \$10k this year
 - Next year need to consider having Grandparents Day with students on N.TX Giving Day in hopes of generating possible donations from them.
- Holy Trinity Seminary – “Seminarian Welcome Dinner”
 - Amazing experience, STMCS had 5 tables, STMCS was well represented and all showed support for Parker Thompson and Cameron Wilson, former STMCS students.
- SAC needs to be more visible
 - Father offered to post a photo board in the church next to the Parish Staff photo board
 - A link to SAC meeting minutes will be posted in the school bulletin once approved
- Plano/Richardson Chamber of Commerce
 - Would like to get SAC involved with the Chambers; need help attending various Chamber events
 - Huge opportunities for networking/public relations
 - How can the Chambers help us:
 - Great “word of mouth” opportunities
 - Our logo is on their website
 - Networking opportunities
 - Opportunity to get involved and get the word out about STMCS
 - Mitch Bates added that the Chamber Monthly Lunches are big deals and are great networking opportunities
 - Plano Chamber holds quarterly lunches and breakfasts
 - Mrs. Opon added that nametags will be provided for SAC members that would like to attend Chamber events along with STMCS business cards that can be passed out.
 - Opportunity to participate in Plano Chamber of Commerce “Business Interchange” in which we give a quick commercial on STMCS

- Our logos are on Chamber website/materials and our Open House dates are on the Chamber calendars
- STMCS literature will be placed at the Chamber offices
- Chambers offer a “ribbon cutting” ceremony for any business as a “welcome” to the Chamber. Need to consider this in order to draw further publicity.

Finance Report (John Garvey):

- Would like to spend some time on the “Guardian Angel Fund” – Catholic Foundation, in diversified funds. Need a plan for it. John will focus on and run the fund while Paula Allgood chairs Finance.

Technology Report (Gilberto Aguilar):

- Technology team will meet with Mrs. Opon in the next month or so to discuss technology plans/potential initiatives.
 - Deployment of iPad
 - Goals for the coming year and moving forward
- Mrs. Opon added that the deployment has gone well. A minor glitch with Tech Tubs not charging the iPads. iPads are being used, 1) to connect with experts, 2) create and share among others, 3) constructing information in new ways/creative ways – SAMR method
 - SAMR: Substitution/Augmentation/Modification/Redefining
- Putting together a survey for teachers to see where they are with iPad.
 - Survey will probably be done in another 2 months.
 - Survey will then direct go-forward plan
- Allowing teachers time to get used to and comfortable using the iPad
 - Teachers are encouraged to recommend apps for home use, but have been asked to stay with free apps.
 - Apple offers a free app daily, these are apps that usually have to be paid for. The school librarian screens the apps and then sends out to teachers if applicable.
 - Survey will probably be done in another 2 months.
 - Eventually the classrooms will be outfitted with Google classroom
 - Learning curve with iPads as expected but generating a lot of excitement

Facilities Report (Jeff Hoke/Mitch Bates):

- Mrs. Opon discussed goal for this year’s auction will be improvements to the gym and concession stand along with playground improvements
 - Goal is \$50k ++

- Three oil paintings have been ordered and will be delivered soon for placement in the school
- Perpetual Honor plaques/Wall of Honor will be added to the school
- Ms. Tammy Williams will paint a Noah's Ark mural for a school hallway
- Classes are working on a Sunflower picture for another hallway

Closing Prayer: Fr. Cliff

Adjournment

Next meeting Thursday, October 22nd, 2015