

Saint Mary's High School Advisory Board

In the Tradition of the Franciscan Fathers and Sisters of the Precious Blood

The Mission of Saint Mary's High School is to provide a quality Catholic education by developing and sustaining a rich tradition grounded in Gospel and family values, discipline and respect.

School Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 15, 2010

5:30pm

Thomas J. Reilly Library & Resource Center

The Saint Mary's High School Advisory Board met on Monday, March 15, 2010, beginning at 5:30pm in the Thomas J. Reilly Library & Resource Center.

The meeting was called to order by President, Jeff Glenn.

Members present: Jeff Glenn, Roseanne Osborn-Perez, Stan Bednarek, Evelyn Dawson, Rosie Perez, Kurt Schuler, Vernon Speshock, Michael Ward and Cindy Zapien.

Members absent: Adela (Lillian) Trujillo and Stefanie Villa

Attendees: Suzanne Fessler, Rob Rogers, Liz Hansen, Carlos Sanchez, Katie Barr, Zach Sanchez and Johnny Young.

Michael Ward led the group in an opening prayer.

No audience was in attendance.

The minutes of the February meeting were reviewed. They were approved as submitted.

These minutes will be posted on the school web site.

Reports:

The Student Council Report was presented by Derrick Sanchez and Katie Barr. The Easter Basket drive is in full swing. The baskets collected will be given to students at St. Matthew's Catholic Elementary and to St. Joseph's Hospital.

Blue Ribbons were distributed to the faculty and students for Brain Damage Awareness Day.

April 22nd is Earth Day. Members of Student Council will be planting trees in a city park on that day.

Elections for class officers and student council officers will be held in April.

Prom is scheduled for April 24, 2010, at Fireside Resort in Scottsdale.

The Stu Co is currently working on ideas for the Senior gift and the Senior shirt.

Johnny Young presented the Parent Organization Report. The By-Laws for the Parent Organization have been updated. A representative will attend the Advisory Board Meeting as an ex-officio member. The Parent Org will have quarterly meetings instead of monthly meetings. The election of officers will be held at the April meeting. The group plans a fund raiser in cooperation with Red Devil Pizza. Coupons can be picked up at the front office at St. Mary's. The event is intended to be a community builder and fund raiser.

Mr. Sanchez gave the Athletic Department Report. The Girls' Varsity Basketball team played in the finals of the State Basketball tournament. The Boy's Varsity Basketball team played in the semi finals of the State Basketball tournament. Both teams represented St. Mary's well in these athletic events. The Boys' Varsity Soccer team won their match vs. North Canyon. The team and boosters were very excited about this win. Max Preps is doing an article on Dallas Escobedo and the SM win at the Tournament of Champions. Everything is going well for Boys' Tennis. We have had many winning matches for their team. Baseball is struggling at this point in the season. Volleyball for Boys' will begin this Friday. Revenues are down for all areas of athletics this year. The biggest money maker for basketball was the Tolleson vs. St. Mary's game. We hope to play this team again next year. Adjustments are currently being made to reduce expenses wherever possible in the Athletic Department. Expectations are high for next year's football teams. Coach Zubey has had the football athletes "working out" which will continue to improve our teams' ability. If we win our games at the beginning of the season we will draw a bigger crowd. Next year the JV and Varsity teams will practice together as they prepare for games. Frosh will continue to practice as a unit.

There was no Development/Scholarship & Benefit Report.

Mrs. Fessler presented a written Principal's Report. Mrs. Fessler noted that our enrollment is down by eight students since February. 5-6 of these students withdrew because of discipline issues. Two members of the faculty, Mr. Lopez and Dr. Rajyaguru have been nominated for awards. Report Cards will be distributed next Wednesday. This week we will begin frosh registration. This will be the first step towards creating the master schedule for next year. Our student numbers will be estimated after April 1st. One hundred ninety acceptance letters were sent out to 8th grade test takers. The Assembly for Andre Ethier's jersey retirement is set for 3/24/10. It will be held at 11:00am that day. Many sports personalities have been invited to attend. Tommy Lasorda and other LA Dodger team members are expected to attend. We had three extra days added to the school calendar to be used as needed in the school year. We have decided to add two days to the Easter Break and go back to school on April 7th. The other day off will be given on May 17th. To date we have had one application for the Advisory Board.

Mrs. Hansen presented the February Finance Committee Meeting Minutes and the February Financial Statement. The creation of the budget for next year is in process. We are hoping for 180 frosh and a total of 675 students. We will budget for 650 students and base our faculty on this number. We have

had a meeting with the Diocese regarding our ten year repayment plan for our debt. We hope to spread those payments out over a twenty to twenty five year period. They may also look into bond financing for our debt. We do anticipate a reduction in our faculty for next year. At this time we anticipate a reduction of at least six faculty members. We do not plan to reduce our classified staff. Our tuition has been set for next year. The Catholic rate will be \$8,300.00 and the full rate will be \$10,700.00. This is a 4 % increase in tuition for St. Mary's.

The reduction in staff is an extremely difficult issue. Which faculty members we retain will depend on their areas of certification not on tenure. The teaching staff will be notified by April 1st if they will not have a contract for next year. There will also be a salary freeze across the board at the Diocesan level. All of the insurance costs have gone up. The budget for athletics will be reduced next year. They may have to reduce the coaching staff or reduce the pay level for coaches. Our tuition will be lower than Bourgade and equal to Seton's for next year. All diocesan schools are similar in rate except for Xavier, Brophy and Notre Dame. Most Catholic schools are reporting a reduction in enrollment. Our budget will be presented next month. The Finance Committee, the diocese and our administration will approve the tuition and the Advisory Board will be presented with the budget for approval.

Mrs. Hansen presented the current financials. The Fashion Show only made \$10,000.00 this year, not the \$25,000.00 we expected. Development and Athletic revenues are both down this year. The Foundation check resulting from our financial aid applications will be available to us this week. This will significantly help our current financial situation.

The Strategic Plan Committee submitted a written report.

The Buildings & Grounds Committee submitted a written report.

The Technology Committee submitted a proposed survey for review. Any suggestions or comments should be email to the committee members. The next meeting will be 3/16/10. Mr. Oligschlaeger will test the survey on the SM students in mid April. We currently have 16 smart boards on campus. We still need more for our current classrooms. Title funding \$\$'s will be used for these smart boards. We will have four of the systems and programs installed this year.

The Marketing Committee will meet on 3/17/10.

The St. Mary's Advisory Board By-Laws have been signed. This year four people will complete their terms. The positions/terms will be identified by name to reduce confusion in the future.

The abatement project numbers are now in. D.L. Withers has projected the cost will be \$180,000.00 to complete the project. We do not have the funds available at this time. We may borrow the \$\$ from the Diocese through a bond loan. Construction prices are reduced now during this economic downturn. It would be a good time to complete the project.

Mrs. Hansen made several inquiries regarding the possibility of a SM yearly bus pass. At this time no program is available to us for that type of pass. The Valley Metro Director didn't know of any type of school plan at this time.

We are still recruiting members for the SM Advisory Board. The information should be posted on the web site as well as advertised in the Green Streak. Board Members are encouraged to recruit individuals who would be willing to serve on the Advisory Board. We still need three additional applicants for the April meeting. At that time the applications will be reviewed. The interviews for the applicants will be held at the May meeting. If anyone has questions about these SM positions they may contact Mr. Bednarek.

New Business: Mr. Glenn and Mr. Rogers will represent St. Mary's High School at the NCEA meeting in Minneapolis Minn. They will make a presentation on April 7th at the convention.

Mrs. Fessler has asked for alternative suggestions for the graduation venue for 2011. We need to review possible alternatives prior to July 1, 2010.

Agenda Items for the next meeting:

Abatement

NCEA

Venue for Graduation

Review of applications for the Board

Nomination of Officers for next year

Mr. Bednarek will send a copy of the signed By-Laws, to each member.

Good of the Order:

The St. Mary's band will participate in the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Adela (Lillian) Trujillo will lead the prayer at the April 12th meeting.

Michal Ward led the Board in the closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned.