

**Cedar Valley Catholic Schools
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2009**

In Attendance:

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Pastor</u>	<u>Lay Representative</u>
Blessed Sacrament	Father Juhl	Russ Heiple Larry Rasmussen
Queen of Peace		Jake Schaefer
Sacred Heart	Father Jaeger	Jana Schmitt Mark Russell
St. Edward	Father Kopacek	Tim Kneeland
St. Patrick	Father Secora	Liza Hulme Suzy Luecke

Absent: Father Jose, Donna O'Brien and J.J. Meier

CVCS Office

Cathy Walz	Director of Education
Tom Drish	Controller
Mike Knipp	Development Director
Aundra Meeks	Athletic Director/Site Coordinator
Steve Duggan	Finance Committee Chair

Administrators

Tom Ulses	Columbus
Nancy Stirm	Blessed Sacrament
Pam Schowalter	St. Edward
Amy Sandvold	Sacred Heart
Barb Duggan	DRE Representative

Call to Order:

Russ Heiple called the meeting to order at 5:02. Father Kopacek led the opening prayer.

Approval of Minutes:

Nancy Stirm noted that Taylor Richter is in *Grade 1*, not *Grade 3*, is doing fine and back in school. Father Jaeger made the motion to accept the December minutes with that correction. Father Juhl seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Correspondence:

- The Board received a thank you note from Pam Schowalter in gratitude for the appreciation shown for Principals' Day.
- A thank you note was received from Donna O'Brien expressing her gratitude for the care and concern shown her during this time of illness.
- Condolence to Rita Vettraino, preschool teacher at St. Edward, on the recent loss of her brother-in-law.
- Condolence to Carla Even, Gr. 5 teacher at Sacred Heart on the death of her father.
- Appreciation to Julie Thomas and Mary Jones for all their work and planning for such a successful Madrigal Dinner.

-Congratulations to the Columbus Danceline on their recent outstanding performance.
-Congratulations to Angie Hileman, Grade 4 teacher at St. Edward, recipient of a \$5,000 Teacher Award.
Congratulations to Jodi Bauler, Teacher/Technology Coordinator at Sacred Heart, recipient of \$1500 McElroy Grant for the Smart Rewards project.

Information:

Cathy Walz invited all Board Members to the CVCE Catholic School Week Mass at 9:00 A.M. on January 28th. She also invited them to a Catholic School Week social on January 30 at the KC Hall from 3:30-6:00.

Inservice: Math Curriculum - Mrs. Cathy Walz

Mrs. Walz spent the in-service time this month updating the Board about the CVCS Math Curriculum. There are twelve representatives from all the schools and grade levels. The four areas that the committee addressed were: drill and practice; procedural study; instructional time and teacher qualifications/capabilities. It was found that there was little consistency in the drill and practice area so several changes are being made in that area. How teachers proceed in teaching math was reviewed and several methods that have been found to be more effective than others will be used. Instructional times varied in all grades. The time allotment for all curricular areas was reviewed and this has been put in place. It was discovered that only five teachers in the system have the math endorsement and two of these are at the high school level. Six teachers attended the Iowa Conference for Teachers of Math in 2007-2008 and four teachers will be attending the conference this year. AEA has not been offering much in the area of math in-services/workshops for teachers recently. The review of the curricular materials resulted in purchasing new texts for K-5 and 6-8, completed for the 2008-2009 school year.

Address to the Board: None

Action Items:

Finance Committee Approvals - Tom Drish

Mr. Drish asked for approval of the November financial report. Father Secora made the motion they be accepted and Suzy Luecke gave the second. The approval of the finance report was passed.

Tim Kneeland made a formal motion to accept the recommendation for repairs to all the bathrooms at Columbus. Liza Hulme gave the second. The Board had voted on this before Christmas via email but the motion needed to be brought to the meeting. This motion was passed.

Father Juhl made the motion to proceed with the purchase of a tuba for \$2904.35 from West Music for the Middle School Band. No budget monies will be used as funding will come from individual contingency funds. Father Jaeger gave the second. The motion was passed.

Middle School Football Consolidation - Mr. Aundra Meeks

Mr. Meeks presented a proposal for the Consolidation of the Middle School football

program. There would be one team for each grade level six, seven and eight. The sixth grade would practice at Baltimore field. The seventh and eighth grade teams would practice together at the Columbus field. The rationale is that there will be greater opportunities for game play and competition, continuity of a systemwide football program, shared coaching and facilities, and the number of available interested athletes warrant consolidation. Conversations have been held with the WaMaC and Catholic Metro League. A separate fund will be established for the program. Funding will come from the elementary school booster clubs/athletic associations and a 6-12 football fundraiser. Expenses for the bus and driver for each game will be approximately \$75. Four total certified coaches will be needed. Volunteers can be used if they are certified coaches. Approximately \$80 will be needed per uniform. Father Kopacek made the motion that Aundra proceed with the consolidation plan for the Middle School football. Larry Rasmussen gave the second. The motion was passed.

CVCS 2009-2010 Budget - Tom Drish and Steve Duggan

Tom Drish and Steve Duggan, Finance Committee Chair, presented the 2009-10 budget summary and projected cash balances. Steve reported that the Finance Committee can't support a wage freeze at this time when they have been so committed to a just compensation to attract and retain staff. He also expressed concern what message this could send to the public. After much review and discussion, Tim Kneeland made the motion that the final budget decision be tabled to the March meeting. This would provide a better picture of the incoming enrollment and allow for further study where expenses can be trimmed back. Consensus was reached that the final 2009-2010 budget was be presented at the March meeting.

Old Business:

08/09 CVCS Enrollment Figures - Cathy Walz

Cathy Walz presented the printout of the to date enrollment and reported that there are 2 additional preschoolers.

Capital Campaign Update - Mike Knipp

Mike Knipp reported that \$1.8 million has been pledged thus far and the campaign is still in its silent phase. Board members had pledged \$393,000 and met the challenge of a matching \$150,000. This month, Russ Heiple and Mike Knipp will be visiting Parish Finance Committees, Parish Councils, and the teachers at each school. Several gatherings are still being planned and will be held soon.

New Business: None

Adjournment:

Father Jaeger made a motion to adjourn at 6:22 pm. Larry Rasmussen made the second. The motion was carried.

The next meeting is February 5, 2009 at Blessed Sacrament, Putz Hall.
(Submitted by Donna O'Brien, Acting Secretary, and Gladys Oppold, Recording Secretary.)