

**Cedar Valley Catholic Schools
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
December 4, 2008**

In Attendance:

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

Absent: Father Secora, Donna O'Brien and Liza Hulme.

CVCS Office

Cathy Walz	Director of Education
Tom Drish	Controller
Mike Knipp	Development Director

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. Suzy Luecke led the opening prayer.

Approval of Minutes:

Father Kopacek made the motion to accept the November minutes. Larry Rasmussen seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as read.

Correspondence:

- Thank you notes were received by the Board from Nancy Stirm and Amy Sandvold in gratitude for the recent appreciation shown them on Principals' Day.
- A card was sent to Donna O'Brien on the day of her surgery.
- Condolence to Ruth Ullestad on the recent loss of her father.
- Condolence to Laura Rowen on the death of her father.
- Prayers were asked for successful open heart surgery for Taylor Richter, grade 1 student at Blessed Sacrament.

Information: None

Inservice: Six who attended the National Middle School Association annual conference held October 29-November 2, were presenters of the in-service. These were: Mrs. Cathy Walz, Mrs. Sheila Miller, Mrs. Christine Juhl, Mrs. Laura Gilbert, Mrs. Sarahmarie Hardy, and Mrs. Tricia Mayer. As part of the conference, participants were able to visit a model middle school and select various conference sessions each day. They also were in attendance for keynote speakers: Alan November, Jim Collins, and Marlee Matlin. Sheila and Laura visited Mountain Ridge Middle School; Christine and Sarahmarie went to Clear Lake Middle School, and Cathy and Tricia visited Mead Middle School. Specifics for each school were presented by the pairs. Summaries of the three keynote presentations were given with the same enthusiasm about the school visitations. The final portion of the in-service was a description of the Best of the Best by each of the six: Christine-Poetry in the classroom; Sarahmarie-Helping middle school students fight peer approval addiction. Laura-Teaching to the middle school brain; Tricia-Explaining teaching the digital native and the digital immigrant; Sheila-Ten very cool brain compatible classroom activities; and Cathy-Building a middle school from the ground up. The enthusiasm of the presenters was impressive and catchy.

Address to the Board: None

Action Items:

CHS Booster Club Request - Russ Heiple

Russ reviewed for the Board the request made by the Booster Club to continue using Wednesday night as the night for their meetings. Discussion was held of the continuous requests for exceptions and how this particular committee who are leaders could abide by the ruling and not put the Board in a compromise position. Tim Kneeland made the motion to support the long standing tradition of keeping Wednesday night as religion night. Father Juhl gave the second. The motion was approved unanimously.

Finance Committee Approvals - Tom Drish

Mr. Drish asked for approval of the October financial report. Father Juhl made the motion they be accepted and Jake Schaefer gave the second. The approval of the finance report was passed.

Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit Option - Tom Ulses

In the past Columbus students who took college courses as a junior or senior did not always get credit for those courses. Tom presented a policy change: Columbus High School students will receive Dual Credit for college courses completed. The courses may or may not be paid through the Post Secondary Enrollment Options Act. If it is not, it will be the expense of the student and his family. A one semester college course will receive one Columbus credit, and be considered an elective, unless previously agreed upon by Columbus administration. The proposed policy will take effect June 1, 2009. Mark Russell made the motion that Columbus students will receive Dual Credit for college courses completed. The second was made by Father Kopacek. The motion was passed.

Old Business:

08/09 CVCS Enrollment Figures - Cathy Walz

Cathy presented the up-to-date enrollment in the CVCS System. Some families have moved from Iowa so there is a loss of 4 students. Two new students will start after the New Year.

Capital Campaign Update - Mike Knipp

Mike Knipp reported that \$1.597 million has been pledged thus far. He and his committee continue to listen to the people and their concerns. He encouraged the Board members to be ambassadors, addressing questions and concerns, or directing them to him, if needed.

Perpetual Adoration Sign UP - Russ Heiple

Russ Heiple passed a volunteer sheet for the Perpetual Adoration hour that the Board Members take each Saturday. The hour has been filled for 2008. The sheet was inlisting volunteers for January 3rd and thereafter.

New Business:**Review Tuition Prospectus - Cathy Walz**

Cathy explained a prospectus she had emailed to the board members. It set forth guidelines in establishing tuition levels and planning for the STO for the coming school year. After her presentation, Tom Drish presented the proposed tuition increase for 2009-10 school year: increase Parishioners \$100 K-8 and \$200 CHS and Non-parishioners \$200 K-8 and \$375 CHS. There was much discussion of the current deficit budget with a much larger one anticipated for the 2009-2010 school year. Discussion also was held about the increased tuition amount at Columbus. Tim Kneeland made the motion that the tuition raise for parishioners be \$130 K-12, with the non-parishioner remaining as proposed by the finance committee and the stipulation that the finance committee not come back with a deficit budget. Jana Schmitt gave the second. The motion was carried.

Adjournment:

Father Juhl made a motion to adjourn at 7:00 pm. Mark Russell made the second. The motion was carried.

The next meeting is January 8, 2009 at Columbus.

(Submitted by Donna O'Brien, Acting Secretary, and Gladys Oppold, Recording Secretary.)