

St. Alphonsus Home & School
Meeting Minutes of September 1, 2010, 9:00 am, School Library

In Attendance: Monsignor Owens, John Steck, Emily Klammer, Judy Morrissey, Kathy Tavolaro, Meg Pensabene, Kathie Reilly, Colleen Araco, Michele Hand, Tricia Loftus, Steve Shegogue, Bridget Barton, Deb DeAngelis

Opening Prayer: Mr. Steck

- Mr. Steck opened the meeting with a Prayer for the New School Year.

School Report: Mr. Steck

- The first floor of school has been repainted a solid color to match the second floor and new building hallway.
- The teachers met yesterday for a Faculty Reorganization Day. Mrs. Fleming will be teaching third grade, and Miss Cholaj will be teaching fifth grade. Mrs. Senior will be teaching seventh and eighth grade math while Mrs. Maher has become the Honors Math teacher for grades four through eight. Ms. Lebiezinski has replaced Mrs. Senior as the computer teacher in the lab.
- Three new curriculum programs will be introduced this fall. A new Math program has been purchased and will be implemented in grades 1-6. A new Phonics program will be introduced in grades 1-3. A new Grammar program will be introduced in the Middle Grades.
- The new notebook computer carts have arrived, one received through the Connelly grant and one through a generous matching gift from one of our grandparents for a total of 64 notebook computers. The building is in the process of going wireless with the installation of routers throughout and this should be completed by the beginning of September.
- Mrs. Lebiezinski has acquired a 60 day trial for an Active Board which employs hand held remote devices that allow students to interact more with the teacher and Smart Board.
- A “Technology Night” has been scheduled for Thursday, October 7 at 7:00. All new equipment will be on display with demonstrations. Paul Sanfrancesco will discuss Internet safety, cyber bullying, and trends in technology education.
- The five teachers who participated in the Professional Learning Practice cohort in technology will begin their second year of training and will be training the faculty in what they have learned in the new trends of technology education.
- We will begin the reaccreditation process for the Middle States Association in developing a 5-year strategic plan.
- The Back to School Nights are scheduled as follows:
 - September 7, Pre-K and Kindergarten
 - September 13, Grades 1-3
 - September 15, Grades 4-8
- The Student Council and SASO will be combined and reorganized this year with more emphasis on service.
- Volunteers met and cleaned the driveway. Mr. Franklin brought special equipment to sweep the driveway, and 12 wheelbarrows of grit and gravel were

removed. The parish and school are researching a new material for the parking lot.

Parish Report: Monsignor Owens

- New security cameras have been installed by the gym and bathroom doors. The cameras were a gift, and the parish paid for installation. The fobs are timed for better control and security.
- Cardinal Rigali has announced an initiative to address the shifting population in the Archdiocese. He will group parishes for conversations to review the allocation of resources.

Treasurer's Report: Judy Morrissey

- Judy distributed the St. Alphonsus Home and School Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual 2009-2010. The book closed on June 30.
- The basketball court has been fixed, and SportCourt has made suggestions for maintenance.
- We have 15 positions remaining for the new lunch/yard duty schedule. We are distributing the schedule and guidelines through e-mail and on Book Day. Formal training will take place the following week (Tuesday or Wednesday).
- Judy discussed the nurse subsidy. Currently, one and one-half days are covered by the county. St. Alphonsus Parish and Home and School covers the remaining 3 1/2 days. Currently, H&S and the parish contribute to the nurse subsidy. The parish would like Home and School to increase their contribution. After the auction, we will better know our financial standing and can revisit the subsidy issue when more information from the parish business office is given.
- Home and School supplies the teacher startup funds (CAS) from the auction proceeds. Each teacher can use up to \$600 for the 2010-11 school year.

Committee Chair Reports:

Social: Colleen Araco

- The Fall Family Fun Day is scheduled for October 17.
- When the social calendar is finalized, we will publicize dates for the whole year.

Volunteers: Michele Hand

- Michele will distribute volunteer request packets on Book Day.

Ways and Means: Trish Loftus

- Trish distributed a flyer depicting sample Christmas ornaments and an Ornament Analysis. Deana Michie will photograph the church at an angle that highlights Saint Alphonsus School. The photograph will be made into a brass Christmas ornament for sale at the Auction.

- For the school store, Trish has ordered additional items that will be on sale at Book Day: green and white lacrosse shorts for boys, tie-dye Soffe shorts for girls, and black sweatpants. The pajama pants have been recalled because they were not heat pressed a second time. The supplier will resupply all previously purchased pajama pants. There will be a blurb in the family envelope after school starts.

Publicity: Kathie Reilly

- Kathie has completed the Auction flyers.
- The marketing folders need to be re-stuffed with the tuition page for the Open House.
- Kathie has researched options for advertising the Open House since updating the lawn signs with new dates was very expensive. She showed us a sample of a poster sized sign to post in high traffic areas. Monsignor informed Kathie that the rectory can print the posters.
- On the St. Alphonsus Shutterfly website, pictures from the 2009-2010 school year have been archived and are still accessible from the website (<http://saintalphonsus.shutterfly.com/>). New pictures will be added. Kathie plans to take photographs on the first day of school and Mercy Day.

Programs: Steve Shegogue

- Steve and Maura are working on plans for the Mercy Day Lunch.
- Mr. Steck will meet with the Programs Committee to discuss assembly ideas and dates.

Community Affairs: Bridget Barton

- The Mileage Club will begin in mid-October.
- Bridget discussed adding different themes besides just walking--jump roping, yoga, etc.

Old Business:

- Emily distributed a Home and School Events calendar which includes the H&S Board Meeting Schedule. The Home and School Board will meet on the following Wednesdays at 8:15 am in the Adult Faith Formation room:
 - September 22
 - October 20
 - November 17
 - December 15
- For the Back to School Nights, we will provide water bottles and small snacks.
- We discussed office protocols for the new committee chairs.
 - Judy announced that reimbursement forms are available in the treasurer's box in the office. Attach receipts or invoices and forward to the Treasurer's mailbox. Please submit the form and receipts as soon as possible!
 - Use the copier near Mr. Steck's office for copies greater than 20. Use Home and School paper.

New Business:

- The focus of this year's Auction will be on ongoing Technology and Curriculum needs.
- We discussed continuing the TerraCycle Drink Pouch Recycling Project and need to follow up with Melissa Locati.

Next meeting, **Wednesday, September 22, 8:15 am in the Adult Faith Formation room.**

Meeting Adjourned: 11:15 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kathy Tavolaro.