

Advisory Board Meeting

Minutes from the Meeting held on Monday, April 4, 2011 at 1:30 in the Trinity Center

Present at the Meeting:

Monsignor Anthony D'Angelico,

Frank Mokriski, Principal

all Advisory Board Committee Chairs:

Rosie Cwik, **Sustainability** (formerly known as Financial Planning)

Kevin Madison, **Catholic Identity** (formerly known as Catholic Faith Formation)

Donna Marchetti, **Academic Excellence** (formerly known as Data-Driven Instruction)

and Diane Klingner, **Accessibility** (formerly known as Enrollment-Marketing) and recording secretary for this meeting

Agenda:

1. **Prayer-** prepared by Kevin, entitled *Jesus of the Scars* by Edward Shillito
2. **Pastor's Remarks:** Monsignor D'Angelico commented on how well things are going at the school, he encouraged continued dedication of faculty and staff. He praised everyone who made the recent Spring Arts Festival such a success. Monsignor requested that teachers volunteer to work at the parish carnival each year, for at least a portion of one evening. He said that he is committed to Catholic education and will continue to support all of our endeavors.
3. **Reports from Committees and Mission Statements:**

Kevin Madison reported that he, Donna Marchetti and the eighth graders represented OLGC at a prayer service at St. Peter's Church in honor of the 200th birthday of Saint John Neumann. On that day, a moving speech was given to the congregation, advocating that Catholic Schools "Put ourselves back out there, get back our nerve and revise our dynamic." We should go back to our roots and proudly boast the value our Catholic Schools. Mr. Madison and Mrs. Marchetti brought parish mission statements with them. Kevin distributed copies of the Action Plan prepared by the Catholic Faith Formation Committee.

Mr. Mokriski stated that all committees are expected to contribute towards writing a revised school mission statement. Every faculty member should submit some ideas to their respective chairpersons, so that one comprehensive mission statement for the school can be finalized.

Frank agreed with the pastor that the Spring Arts Festival was a successful fundraiser and a wonderful cultural experience. Frank said that if there is a cause, people will support it.

Frank also discussed the value of Common Core Standards which will begin next school year. We will have the same national standards in Math as any school nationally, and eventually, internationally. These Core Standards will establish Curriculum Unity.

Mr. Mokriski noted that Terra Nova Scores will be in by the end of April.

Frank said that he would like to find a way to provide catechesis for parents, especially those coming into our school and parish. Frank suggested that Kevin invite Marianna and Father Pawelko to meet with the two of them and the Monsignor to discuss ideas on how school families can join with parish families to discuss Christian beliefs, values and practices. Each month we could have a special theme and prayer to encourage more families to serve as catechists among us, in both the parish and the school. Rosie suggested using keywords for each month. There could be special monthly activities and themes. Reminder postcards could be sent out each month.

Donna Marchetti read a Mission Statement that her committee has been working on. . It was very well accepted. Mrs. Marchetti commented on Common Core Standards in Math. Beginning next year, all 8th graders are expected to learn Algebra I. In anticipation of this, Mrs. Marchetti has begun teaching Algebra I to all 8th graders this year. She commented on how well our current 8th graders are navigating their new and challenging math lessons and how well prepared they will be when entering 9th grade.

Rosie Cwik had previously requested a budget proposal from each committee prior to May, so Diane Klingner presented some ideas for marketing and accessibility needs for the coming year. The most ambitious item on this committee's agenda was to propose the implementation of a Development Office. The budget request was to hire a new part-time employee who would head a Development Office for sustainability and accessibility of OLG. She/he would:
Research and write grants, develop publications for advertising and marketing, coordinate fundraising activities and volunteer involvement, recruit and maintain school families, give school tours, coordinate alumni activities, and much more.

The new employee, if hired, would chair the Accessibility Committee and take the place of a Marketing Chairperson. Diane will relinquish those positions as of next year.

An idea for School Welcome Packets was discussed. A sample folder from a school visited by Carol Errichetti was examined. Monsignor felt that we could garner some good ideas from it, but that we could not afford to create a folder as elaborate as the one presented.

(The Proposal for a Development Office is available in its entirety for anyone on the faculty who would like to read it. It was based on committee discussions and comprehensively prepared by Susie De Witt.)

Martha Matysik is currently working on writing a grant for \$10,000. If awarded, the grant money would provide \$2,000 for marketing and \$8,000 for tuition assistance.

Diane noted that she and Linda Yerkes would represent our school at an upcoming workshop on Common Core Standards Transition Planning. (If anyone else registered, we were not aware of it at the time of the meeting.. please let Frank know).

In response to hiring a new employee, Monsignor said that he and Rosie would investigate typical salaries for such a position and discuss hiring someone part-time to keep us accessible and sustainable. It seemed likely that we will begin the 2011-2012 school year with a coordinator for advancement and development.

The meeting ended at 3:15 pm, with a prayer led by Monsignor D'Angelico.