



IHMCS Advisory Council Meeting Minutes January 13, 2005

Attending: Deann Speltz, Gina Musech, Cheri Gardner, John Goodrich, Jane Victorey, Terri Kemmerer, Tim Benz

Tim began the meeting with prayer.

Minutes from the December 9, 2004 were approved with corrections.

Principal's Report: The Christmas Concert was fabulous. Having the program in the Church added to the meaningfulness of the program. In the future there may be just one Christmas concert of the entire school. This will help parents of younger kids see the talent of all students from grades K-8. Catholic School Week begins January 30 and preparations are being made. There will be a couple out of uniforms days, but we will keep the normal school schedule for the week. The Archdiocesan Spelling Bee will be January 29, and Zach Wahl will represent IHMCS. Congratulations Zach! We have received many inquiries from prospective parents. Archbishop Flynn was scheduled to come to IHMCS during Catholic Schools week to bless the new facility, but he will be in Rome. A date will be rescheduled through Fr. Pat. The Curriculum overview is now posted on the website. Many faculty members have put in a great deal of work on this project.

Finance: Through December 31, 2004 finances continue to look positive. Tuition collection continues to run ahead of schedule. All family transportation fees have been paid.

Total construction expenses are \$2.181 million. The loan is schedule to lock in January, but there is flexibility on drawing the money on our loan. The longer we delay drawing money, the more we save in interest. All parish finances were transferred over to a new accounting system on January 1, 2005 and everything is working great. The finance committee continues to do 10 year enrollment projections for finances of the school. Jane and Cheri will put together a budget for the 2005/06 school year. The Advisory Council will look at tuition rates during the February meeting.

Development: Thus far \$1.350 million has been pledged to the capital campaign goal of \$1.5 million. Cash received is \$713,000, which is ahead of projections. Forty-eight

percent of school families have made a pledge or gift to the campaign, and a letter was sent to all school families who have not committed to the campaign. Announcements and bulletin ads will be placed during the next few weeks. Email blasts will also compliment this last push to the goal. Thus far, all new pledges since the challenge was announced have been at least \$2,000, with several of \$5000+. The solicitation phase is scheduled to end on January 31, 2005. However, pledges will be accepted following this date.

PR/Marketing: Ken submitted a written report. Four events are schedule during the next 6 weeks, Jr. High Curriculum night (1/11), Pax Christi Catholic School Fair (1/22), K-8 General Open House (1/30) and Pre K-Grade 1 Open House (2/15). The marketing committee has also done some tentative projections on enrollment for the next three years. They are projecting a 4-5% increase annually in enrollment for the next three years. A postcard was mailed to several zip codes in the Minnetonka, Hopkins, Eden Prairie and Chanhassen areas.

Strategic/LR Planning: Brad Cook submitted a written report. He and Cheri met again to discuss busing. Brad has been in contact with Church Corlis, who is a consultant on school transportation about options for IHMCS. Brad hopes to meet with Gary Faust, from the Archdiocesan Education Office, during the next few months to discuss parish subsidy and the “Needs-Based Tuition vs. Fixed-per student.”

Brad met with Pam Pundsack to discuss IHMCS family demographics and Jane V. will provide parish demographics. With this information, we can begin to develop strategies minimize costs to the school and families, make it attractive to parish families who do not have children in the school currently and non-parishioners looking for options, address the issues of equity/fairness with busing from some areas and not others while keeping children safe and in-transit the shortest amount of time.

Policy: Terri distributed the second draft of class size and admission policy. Should our enrollment be larger than we can handle in the building, the admissions policy will establish a “preference order” on how students are admitted. The Advisory Council felt another qualifier should be added which gives preference to siblings of past school attendees. The Policy and Evaluation Committee is currently working on 12 policies for consideration and there are 4 additional policies that will be looked at down the road. Terri and Tim will meet to discuss nominations process and succession for the opening on the Advisory Council. There are three openings on the Council for the 2005-06 year.

Home and School: Deann reports the HSA put on a faculty/staff Christmas party on December 17. Final numbers from Grand Celebration show a net profit of more than \$94,000. Bingo Bonanza is set for January 29, 2005 the committee is still collecting donations for door prizes. McDonald’s night has been a great success and we hope this will continue. The school Carnival will be held in the spring.

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 10, 2005 @ 6:00 p.m.