



IHMCS School Advisory Council Minutes December 14, 2006

Attendance: Cheri Gardner, Ann Olson, Jane Victorey, Wendy Composto, Ted Ceglia, Sue Sullivan, Brad Cook, Tim Benz

Principal's Report: Enrollment remains at 321. After the Christmas break there will be several new students starting at IHMCS. There could be as many as 7 new students. We have been giving lots of tours!

The faculty and staff continue to work on the self-study document for accreditation. Surveys have been sent to parishioners and school families.

Mr. White and Mrs. Allen won a \$2500 Best Buy Te@ch Awards for IHMCS. Mrs. Allen will use the grant to expand the oral language opportunities for her Spanish classes. They also have been invited to compete against 250 other schools for a \$15,000 award. The larger award would allow IHMCS to use technology to partner with sister schools in Guatemala and Antigua. Students will use the grant to tell stories about growing up, record events at the school and foster cultural understanding.

Finance: Ted distributed a spreadsheet of tuition comparisons for schools in our deanery. IHMCS remains in line with other schools' tuition rates. This will give us a gauge as we begin to discuss tuition rates for the 2007-08 school year.

Ted also distributed the 10-year financial plan for the school. In general, IHMCS is on solid financial footing, although it is clear that enrollment is a major factor on the financial picture of the school.

Policy and Development: Ann, Kristin and Tim met to discuss roles of these committees and options for sharing volunteers. While there are no urgent needs for either committee, it may be good to engage some volunteers for upcoming assignments that may come out of the accreditation process.

PR/Marketing: Wendy reports the Pax Christi School Fair is on January 20-21, 2007. A mailing will be sent to all parishioners on January 9. We have received very positive feedback from our appearances there and we will again have a booth.

A new display board is being developed and will be ready for the Pax Christi fair.

Postcards for the Open Houses (January 28 and March 6) are completed and will be mailed shortly.

The committee is still looking for a volunteer to help with press releases and media contacts.

LR/Strategic Planning: The surveys have been mailed and we are already receiving responses. In total 1163 surveys were sent, segmented into four separate constituencies. We have received 190 responses (16+%) thus far, with a desired total response rate of 50%+.

The response rate across all four segments is similar and they include a considerable amount of written commentary.

We expect statistical and interpretive results to be completed by end of January and final reports during February.

The transportation/busing issue will likely be unsettled for a period as the Hopkins School district works through the current problems and school closings. More information to come.

Home and School: The faculty/staff Christmas Party is set for December 22 and is very organized.

Results from Grand Celebration are ahead of last year. Final figures will not be known for a period of time.

Next meeting: Thursday, January 11, 2007 @ 6:00 p.m.