



## **IHMCS School Advisory Council Minutes February 8, 2007**

**Attendance:** Cheri Gardner, Brad Cook, Wendy Composto, Sue Sullivan, Kristin Stanley, Ann Olson, Tim Benz

**Principal's Report:** Enrollment continues to increase – we are now at 332. Three new students began in the last week. The students are in kindergarten, fourth grade and seventh grade. Preschool enrollment is now at 37 students and registration is in process for 2007-08.

Catholic Schools Week activities went very well. IHMCS sixth grader, Sam Meshbeshier won the Archdiocesan Spelling Bee. Twenty Catholic Schools participated in the grade 4-6 competition. Sam won a \$100 savings bond and IHMCS receives a \$1000 product voucher from Houghton Mifflin publishing, the event's sponsor. Way to go Sam!

Father Pat Kennedy, pastor of Pax Christi parish, will be the celebrant at the February 14 all school Mass.

Registration materials will go home in the blue folders to current school families on February 16. The registration timeline has been published in the *Weekender* and the parish bulletin. We anticipate grades 4 and 5 to fill once the registration process is open to parishioners and others.

**Finance:** Ted reports we are running a budget surplus for the first seven months of the fiscal year. Reasons for this are higher enrollment than anticipated, increased revenue from Grand Celebration, increased revenue from Kids Care and tight control on spending. The timing of certain revenue and expenses will even out over the next few months. We still expect a surplus for the year.

**Policy:** Discussion focused around the classroom size. Currently, the policy allows for larger class sizes in grades 5-8. Through discussion and input members and staff, the Council agreed to amend the policy and limit each classroom to 25 students, two classrooms per grade. Language will also remain to allow the administration flexibility in this policy for special circumstances. Ann will update this policy and this will be brought to the Council in March for final approval.

**PR/Marketing:** Wendy reports the Open House was a success. Eighteen families toured the school, with a potential of 24 new students. The next Open House is March 6.

A new brochure for the Preschool program is being developed for this new registration period.

The attendance at the Pax Christi School Fair was down slightly from previous years.

**LR/Strategic Planning:** Brad reports we are still receiving surveys. There is quite a good amount of commentary, and that has delayed some of the timing for the results. There will be more to report at the March meeting.

**Development:** Kristin has connected with Gina Musech to talk about some previous development topics. They will meet in the next few weeks. Kristin has also contacted two local schools to discuss their development process.

**Home and School:** The Bingo Bonanza was great. The profit may be lower than last year and the committee is looking at making a couple of changes to the format. This remains the primary family-friendly event for IHMCS.

**Next meeting: Thursday, March 8, 2007 @ 6:00 p.m.**