

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES
August 19th, 2009

1. Call to Order:

- a. The meeting of August 19th, 2009 came to order at 7:05 p.m. in the Pastoral Center with a prayer led by Lorrie Coles.
- b. Members Present: Jackie Palermo, Mary Newquist, Claudia Ogrin, Monica Hoover, Jeff Fisher, Debbie Gaston, Terry Grimmitt, Lorrie Coles, Kelly Martin, Ann Marie Sturdivant, Father Jose De La Rosa, Father James Seiwert, and John Harper.
- c. Members Absent: John Trayhan, Romy Gonzalez (interim resignation), Jimmie Gonzalez (interim resignation).
- d. The minutes from the May & June, 2009 meetings were approved and will be posted on the OLPH web page.

2. Discussion Items:

a. Principal's Report (Jackie Palermo) – see full report for details:

1. Introductions: This meeting was the first opportunity for our new priests to join the school council. Father De La Rosa described his first week with his new school as a “wonderful adventure.” Father Seiwert is also “very excited” about the opportunity of serving our OLPH school. Mrs. Palermo mentioned that Father Seiwert connects especially well “with the little ones.” We are very blessed to have both of them serving our school.
2. Enrollment 2009-2010: We are currently at 430, and we are budgeted for 440. Wait lists exist for K, 1st, 2nd, 5th, and 8th grades.
3. School Remodeling (Via PTC funding): The 5th grade remodeling is going well and is almost complete – a few more pieces of furniture are on the way for these classrooms. New AR/Math programming was purchased, and AR tests and Math Facts program will be available online. The computer lab received flat-screen monitors for all computers, including the teachers’ computers in their classrooms. Dry erase boards (4) are on the way. The cafeteria, main building hallways, and CDC building floors were professionally cleaned. A new roof AC system was installed in the library.
4. Tuition collection from last year was nearly 100% (significant improvement).

5. Faculty: There are 2 new faculty members – Ms. Veronica Mendiola (Kinder) and Mr. Eric Lopez (Music). A very productive & motivational teacher in-service was conducted the week before school started. This year's theme is "Conquer Brick Walls and Celebrate Miracles."

6. St. Andrew Statue for Father Kim's memorial is on order.

7. Walkway of the property facing the access road: Removal of the PVC pipe and pouring concrete are Loth Vasquez's next project.

8. Calendar:

8/21/09- first school mass (8:30am).

8/22/09- "Wildcat Welcome" Mass and Bar-B-Q (5:30pm Mass, serving begins 6:45)

8/24/09- "Meet the Teachers," 6:30pm, 7:00pm

b. Child Development Center Report (Claudia Ogrin):

We are at full capacity (long waiting lists). Enrollment is at 106. A French drain has been installed, now all we need is rain to test it out☺. Other than the expected/normal separation issues, the year began smoothly.

c. PTC Report (Monica Hoover):

1. OLPH fund raiser, (Night in OLPH), 2009, officially netted \$20,000.00. The next annual fund raiser ("Casino/Raffle Night") is currently scheduled for April 16th, 2010.

2. The year ended with an excess of funds (~\$16,000.00), in addition to the 10K subsidy to the school council budget: This money helped with the remodeling mentioned above. There was a 75/25 split of the excess between the school and the CDC.

3. Tuition Reduction Fund Raiser: 50% of these sales will aid in individual tuition reduction. Monies may also be applied to account or Helping Hand fund. The sale starts August 24th and ends September 14th. Delivery is expected during the week of October 12th.

4. New Spirit Items: Many new items were discussed - see Monica for more details.

5. Wildcat Welcome (8/22): PTC has budgeted \$1,500 to fund this event. A sign-up sheet was passed around – this will be a great opportunity to build and strengthen relationships within our school and church community.

6. A demonstration of the new AR/Math facts program is planned for the Monday, September 14th PTC meeting.

7. The PTC Board has 2 vacant positions.

d. Committee Reports:

1. Building and Grounds (Jeff Fisher): We discussed consideration for getting a 3rd dumpster versus having an extra pick-up to better accommodate larger events. We will explore and proceed with the most efficient and economical option.

2. Policy and Planning (Terry Grimmett): The new parent handbooks will be passed out next month.

3. Development (Lorrie Coles): There will be a meeting 8/20/09 to discuss the management of the script card program. The web-site is coming along and almost fully functional. Jason Hernandez is doing an excellent job – we are blessed that he donated his technical expertise.

4. Finance (Kelley Martin/John Trayhan): Monthly budget reports were not available as of this date - no discussion or actions taken.

5. Technology (no designated person): No discussion or actions taken.

6. Nominating Committee: 2 positions are now open after Romy & Jimmie Gonzalez resigned since our last meeting. An announcement will be made at the next PTC meeting to help generate interest.

7. Executive Committee: No discussion or actions taken.

3. Old Business:

a. OLPH school mental health services: Mrs. Palermo met with Mr. Joe Aguilera individually. These services have been discontinued under our current budget. Mr. Aguilera's valuable counseling services are still available through the church.

4. New Business:

a. 2009-2010 School Year Kick-Off, August 22nd, with the "Wildcat Welcome": After the 5:30 pm Mass, the family BBQ Picnic will begin at 6:30pm (serving starts at 6:45pm).

b. Strategic Planning: The previous plan from 5 years ago will soon expire. The council will serve as the nucleus of this committee while pulling in as much parent, school, and community talent as possible. This committee will look at all

conceivable issues (e.g. incoming & outgoing enrollment) that could reshape our school's mission statement and set definitive goals for where we want our children and school to be in 5 to 10 years. Full community participation will be solicited soon – Lorrie Coles may set up a preliminary meeting before our next council meeting.

c. After School Chess Class: Mr. Alex Weinberg, a National Chess Master, has designed a 34 chapter Scholastic Chess Curriculum that offers our children an excellent opportunity to improve their critical thinking skills. Mrs. Palermo is excited to provide the needed classroom space to make this happen. The current proposal is for this to be paid for by participating students. Many families have responded positively to the initial survey of interest. A follow-up letter will be sent out in the school folders next Wednesday, 8/26/09. Jennifer and John Harper can provide information packets upon request.

d. Next Council Meeting: Wednesday, September 16th, 2009, at 7pm in the Pastoral Center.

5. Closing Prayer/Comments: Closing prayer conducted by Father Jose De La Rosa. The meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Trayhan, President

Jackie Palermo, Principal

John Harper, Secretary