

Minutes for Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School Board
Meeting: March 8, 2010
Time/Place: 7:00 pm in the School Cafeteria

Opening Prayer

Attendance:

Father Charles, Sister Jude, Alana Edelmann, Philip Seidle, Liz Brown, Kevin Devlin, Jody Moore, and Sister Marjorie

Approval of Minutes:

Kevin made a motion and Liz seconded the motion

Business Item of Importance:

Bethany Gregg of the Diocesan Office of Education addressed the group with various ideas by which to bring in money for the school.

- The use of the updated Alumni List, expanding the list of donors who give annually, and setting a plan in motion for the future. Finding ways to reach the outside community is the way to go. There are people with financial backing outside the realm of the local community. Tapping into those resources is the challenge.
- Grants are difficult to get as everyone is feeling the effects of the struggling economy.
- In cases where restaurants are used as fund raisers, they make the larger amount, while schools have a small cut. So these areas of fund raising are difficult.
- Bethany also offered her services in checking out the financial background of any potential donors. Sister Jude recommended a planning meeting in small groups to follow.

General School Report

- Sister Jude stated that she had been interviewed by the Asbury Park Press regarding the concept being presented in the State of New Jersey Legislature. In areas where there are 'Failing School Districts' parents would be offered the option of applying for a \$6, 000 tuition grant for their child to attend either a charter school or a non-public school. She further explained that the tuition here would have to be raised to a higher level in order to qualify for the funds. Sister Jude stated that she would meet with parents in order to justify the increase. If the legislation is passed, it will hold for at least five years with the option to expand.

Facilities Report

- Kevin explained that due to the weather of this winter he was not able to get the parents together for a cleaning, painting, and fixing up day. He will get this plan in order shortly, as it has always been successful in the past.

Marketing Report

- Buddy Days are being held once a month and by grade level. In March the fifth grade will host their buddy day on the 19th.
- The website is changed constantly with an upgrading of pictures and information.
- The Giving Tree which ran from Christmas through Catholic Schools Week has netted a profit of over thirty-four hundred dollars and money is still coming come into school. Thanks you notes were sent out promptly to the benefactors.
- Activities for Catholic Schools Week were advertised in the Coaster, since this is the most visible paper to use. It should be noted that ads for both the Monitor and Asbury Park Press are quite expensive.

Financial Report

- Jody and Phil will review the School Budget after the formal meeting has ended. Sister Jude explained that she is in the process of changing bookkeepers.

The next meeting has been scheduled for the 19th of April at 7:00 pm in the School Cafeteria.

Motion to adjourn was made by Liz Brown and seconded by Kevin Devlin.

Addendum:

The Advancement Committee members and Sister Jude met to set up a date and time for the Battle of the Boards Fundraiser. She is increasing the Advancement Group by seven new members. Sister Marjorie will work on a flyer to be sent to all school principals, board members, as well as sports boards via e-mail in the Diocese of Trenton. The concept is simple, with little work, and the potential for raising a few thousand dollars.