

The Board of Catholic Education of St. Joseph Parish

October 5, 2011

Meeting called to order by Tom Jordan at 7:30 p.m.

Opening Prayer

Members Present: Kate Beck, Sharon Emerine, Jennifer Hall, Sandy Hatch, Donna Hicks, Melissa Holzmacher, Tom Jordan, Dale Losey, Fr. Reinersman, Jill Ritter

Members Excused: Steven Fischer, Fr. Lange, Sherrie Keller, Vicki Klocke, Diane Rinehard

Approval of Minutes: Donna Hicks made a motion to accept the minutes. Jill Ritter seconded the motion.

Pastor's Report:

- Third Edition of the Roman Missal: Slight changes to some of our prayers and responses will begin on the First Sunday of Advent, November 27. Cards will be placed in the pews to assist everyone with these changes. Fr. Josh Lange is also planning two information sessions to give parishioners an opportunity to understand these changes at 9 AM on October 18 and 7 PM on October 19. Simply put, the changes will be more faithful to the original Latin prayers and responses, will have stronger biblical references and the language will be more distinguished for the liturgy.
- Forty Hours is being “kicked up a notch” this year, thanks to Fr. Lange and the Worship Committee. Please see the letter and information from Fr. Josh Lange. Also, please commit to some prayer time during the 40 hours and to be at the Closing of Forty Hours.
- Our census is very well organized, thanks to the hard work of the Census Committee. We are still in great need of visitors. It is an opportunity for us to let our neighbors know we are here and ready to respond to their religious inclinations, as much as we can. There is bound to be some good come from our efforts. No doubt, we will discover that there are some fallen away Catholics, or others, waiting for an invitation to return to the Church. We can view it as a pre-evangelization effort and/or as going out in search of the one lost sheep. Bishop Foys has asked us to assist him in the pastoral care of the people in this Diocese. We should respond generously. Please assist with the census and invite your family members, neighbors and friends to assist as well.
- The Finance Committee has scheduled a number of focus group meetings, such as the Parish Council and Board of Education attended in June, to help sharpen a presentation to be made to the whole parish in November. Parish groups have

been invited to participate in the process. Very few attended one of the sessions, but they went very well. We are revising the presentation we will make to the entire parish in November.

- Bishop Foys will install Dave Wegert as an Acolyte at the 5 p.m. Mass on Saturday, November 5. Those who provide an extraordinary devotion in service to the Eucharistic Liturgy are given this designation. Dave has given impressive service by preparing altar servers and serving at the Eucharistic Liturgy for many years here at St. Joseph. Your presence at the Mass of Installation will be a well-deserved sign of support for Dave.
- Nineteen women attended the CRHP retreat on the weekend of September 17-18. About twelve women were on the “giving team”. The retreat was very well received.

- Upcoming events:

Priests Retreat	Mon – Thur. October 10-13 Fr. Lange and Fr. Reinersman gone for the week
Parish Census Sundays	October 16 and 23
Mission Co-Op Sunday	Masses October 23
Annual Ministry Dinner	Wednesday, October 26 at 6 PM
Institution of Acolyte	Saturday, November 5 at 5 PM Mass–Dave Wegert
All Saints Day	Holy Day of Obligation–Mass 6:30, 8:30 AM, 7 PM
Mass for Deceased	November 2, 2011 at 7 PM
40 Hours Devotions	November 11 - 13

Administrator’s Report:

- We had a very successful Pet Blessing. It was a beautiful day. The animals were very well behaved. Both priests were able to participate.
- Fall Break is October 10th – 14th.
- Tuesday, October 18th is the Parent Confirmation Meeting in Church at 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, October 20th is the Parent First Reconciliation Meeting in Church at 7:00 p.m.
- We’ll be celebrating Red Ribbon Week the week of October 24th. This week is dedicated to teaching drug abuse awareness.
- Fr. Bach and Sr. Ruth will be visiting with us on Friday, October 28th in the afternoon to speak to grades 6, 7, & 8 about vocations.
- We have several field trips scheduled:
 - 4th Grade will be going to the Sanitation District on Tuesday, October 18th.

5th Grade will be visiting Great American Ball Park on Wednesday, October 19th

8th Grade will be going to the Zoo on Wednesday, October 19th.

1st Grade will be going to the Zoo on Friday, October 21st.

2nd Grade will be going to California Nature Preserve on Friday, October 28th.

- Mrs. Joseph hosted a breakfast for new students in grades 2 – 8. Some of the students' comments about St. Joe's included: more friends, back with old friends, playground, friendlier teachers, frequent quizzes, they are pushed more to learn, notifications/violations make you more mature, Edline, specials are longer, class sizes, and being able to ride their bike to school. Tom Jordan suggested posting these comments on the bulletin board during Open House.
- Mrs. Holzmacher shared an email sent to Mr. Young regarding the 8th graders' recent field trip: the hosts of the field trip commented that they were impressed with the focus of the students. They were also very helpful and knowledgeable.
- There are some ongoing issues with the Campbell County buses arriving late to school in the mornings. The bus contract states that they actually have until 8:30 to get the kids to school, but of course, school begins at 8:20. It is a routing issue; there are no problems with the drivers. It is possible that we will have to push the start of school next year (2012-13) to 8:30. To compensate, the end of the school day will be pushed back 10 minutes to 3:20. When and how to communicate this change, if made, will need to be decided.
- Response to Intervention (RTI) is being introduced and implemented to the first and second grades. This is a reinforcement program using phonics, games, sight words and basic math facts.
- Mrs. Hamm and Mrs. Holzmacher accepted a plaque from Children's Service recognizing us as a School of Contribution.
- Mrs. Holzmacher shared the results (2010-11 school year) of the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills. This was the first year that all grade levels were tested. Beginning with the third grade, our results are compared with national averages. St. Joe's was above the national average in all categories in all grades 3 – 8.

Faculty Report:

- Sandy Hatch's full report can be found on the school website.

Religious Education:

PSR: No report

RCIA:

- We celebrated the Rite of Welcome for 2 of the candidates on Sunday, Sept. 25th at the 7:00 p.m. mass. All four catechumens and four candidates have now been through the Rite of Election and Welcome.

- Fr. Reinersman added that the RCIA sessions on Monday nights have been very exciting. This is a very talkative group who seem very excited to learn and discuss their faith.

Adult Faith Formation:

- Little Rock sign-ups went well. We have 24 people signed up. The sessions will begin at the end of this month.
- Next AFF presentation is scheduled for Friday, November 18th: “Making Love God’s Way: How embracing the Church’s teaching about sex can improve your marriage”. This presentation will focus on how the sexual relationship between spouses consummates and renews the promises they make on their wedding day. We will help couples see that making a complete gift of themselves to each other will strengthen and improve their marriage, and how holding something back can cause harm. Plan to attend and please help promote this in the Parish. The AFF presentation will also be advertised in The Messenger, on Sacred Heart Radio and in other parishes’ bulletins.

Special Events:

- The Parish Ministry Dinner will take place on October 26th.

Finance:

- Dale Losey stated that there has not been a Finance meeting since the BOE last met. As Father stated earlier, the focus group meetings went very well, with participants being open and willing to share their thoughts and opinions.

Marketing:

- No report

Parish Council:

- Dale Losey informed the Board that the new parish/school website is expected to be rolled out in November.

Maintenance & Grounds:

- November 5th has been scheduled as a clean-up day for the Parish. Volunteers are needed.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Tom Jordan mentioned that the Open House is scheduled for January and that this will be our chance to show off the many accomplishments of our school.
- Jill Ritter suggested sharing our (overall) test scores. Jennifer Hall also suggested mentioning that we test in all grades as a means of establishing baselines.

Communications: None

Motion to Adjourn: Dale Losey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Jill Ritter seconded the motion.

Closing Prayer

Next Board meeting is November 8, 2011 beginning at approximately 7:30 p.m. after the Teacher Appreciation Dinner in Kelley Hall.

Minutes recorded and prepared by Kate Beck.