

PSR ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
Monday, December 14, 2009

The regular monthly meeting of the Parish School of Religion Advisory Board was held on Monday, December 14, 2009. Those present were Parish Administrator Father Osang Idagbo, Coordinator Anita Toth, Chairperson Staci Wittenauer, and Board members Lynne Mitchell and Lois Thompson.

Following the opening prayer by Father Osang, the Coordinator asked for a volunteer to attend Pastoral Council meetings as well as Youth Ministry meetings. One of the Board members will represent the Parish School of Religion at these meeting when the Coordinator is unable to attend.

The need for a Family Mass coordinator was discussed and for future masses the Coordinator will assume that responsibility with assistance from a Board member. The Coordinator will contact the appropriate teachers at SPPS to facilitate communication before the scheduled masses.

A catechist is needed to replace a 6<sup>th</sup> grade catechist who is unable to return after the Christmas break. The Coordinator will contact persons who might be willing to fill this vacancy.

The 2009-2010 Sacramental Plans were presented to the Board. Included in the plans are dates and details of activities for Confirmation, First Reconciliation, and First Holy Communion.

The results of the ACRE assessments were discussed and strategies for improving test results include evaluating students on a regular basis throughout the year at every grade level. Catechists will also be provided with a copy of the ACRE tests in order to help them focus on essential learning objectives. Over time these strategies will result in improved student performance.

The need for parent volunteers for the 2010-2011 school year will be communicated to parents with specific needs and goals outlined. In particular, a person or persons will be needed at SPPS to open the school and to close at the end of the class sessions.

The addition of a Kindergarten class to the Parish School of Religion program met with approval from Board members. However, the details of such a plan need to be analyzed for future consideration. Combining a Kindergarten program with the Latch Key program is one possible option, but any option will require additional information and discussion.

The issue of discipline in the upper grades concluded with a new policy in place regarding cell phones and other personal electronic devices. Beginning in January, students will be expected to turn off any electronic devices and possibly leave them with the catechists until the class period ends. Failure to comply with the policy will result in

confiscation of the device. A parent will need to retrieve the confiscated item from the administrative desk at the appropriate campus. This policy will eliminate distraction and will allow students to focus on the curriculum and stay on task during the class period.

Lynne Mitchell, the Home School Coordinator, reported that a representative from each of the families enrolled in the Home School program attended the meeting on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. A discussion with these parents indicated that all was going very well for each of the families.

Staci Wittenauer will continue to make available Scrip cards on Wednesday nights at SPPS, as well as after 10:30 mass on Sunday mornings.

The Coordinator presented to the Board two budget items. \$100.00 was donated to the Elite Football Academy, and the cost of the Child Safety program from Catholic Charities will be paid when a statement is received.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned and the Coordinator offered the closing prayer. The next scheduled meeting will be on Monday, January 12, 2010 in the Parish Pastoral Center.

Respectfully Submitted

Lois Thompson