

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

February 1, 2010

A meeting of the St. Joseph School Board was held at 1740 Lake Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois on Monday, February 1, 2010. The meeting was convened at 7:00 p.m. and adjourned at 9:45pm.

Present: Fr. Pollard, Laura Clark, Principal, Mike Kerrigan, President, Denise Kenny, Vice President, Bob Daly, Gary Delaney, Mike Gervasio, Fran Seymour, Megan Floyd

There being a quorum established in accordance with the School Board Constitution, School Board President Kerrigan called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Mrs. Clark led the meeting with a prayer.

Guests: Dean and Valerie from Ridgeview Restaurant were invited to speak after the meeting was called to order.

Guests Dean and Valerie from the Ridgeview Restaurant wanted to present to the Board and seek the support of the Board for their desire to apply for a variance from the Village of Wilmette (ordinance) prohibiting the sale of spirits/alcohol during school days/hours, because Ridgeview falls within the 300 feet property line to property line of a school and establishment that serves or sells spirits/alcohol.

Dean and Valerie shared with the Board that Ridgeview Restaurant currently serves liquor on school days from 4:30pm to close M-F. On non-school session days and on weekends, they can serve alcohol per the Village ordinance for all establishments in Wilmette with a liquor license. The business rationale stated by the Ridgeview owners for a variance is that feel they are losing business due to the fact that they are not allowed to serve alcohol at a luncheon, business meeting or party hosted in the Ridgeview party room during lunch on school days.

Dean and Valerie fielded various questions from the Board. After Dean and Valerie left the meeting, the Board had a lengthy discussion on this issue.

A motion was presented to support or oppose the Ridgeview Restaurant owners' request for support for the restaurant to serve

alcohol during school hours. There was a vote and the vote to "oppose" the request for support by the restaurant owners passed 6 to zero.

The Board asked for consideration for the following language to be added to the school newsletter upon review of the Village Ordinance and verification this is accurately stated here:

The St. Joseph School Board opposes the Ridgeview Restaurant request for a variance to their current liquor license, to serve liquor during school hours (within 300 feet property line to property line as the current Village of Wilmette ordinance states).

OLD BUSINESS

A motion for approval of minutes from the January 4, 2010 meeting was made. The minutes were then voted on and approved. It was agreed that the January minutes will be posted on our website in entirety.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Principal Laura Clark highlighted the following areas concerning School Management:

A. Registration for 2010-11 School Year

Mrs. Clark reported that we have 96 current families and 9 new families registered for next year. There are a total of 317 students registered for the 2010-2011 school year.

B. Tuition

Mrs. Clark reported \$11,968 in tuition delinquencies.

C. Planning for the 2010-11 School Year

This matter was discussed in the School Board's Executive Session.

D. Pre-School Full Day Survey

Mrs. Clark found that there are 14 families interested in a full day pre-school and 8 families not interested, of those surveyed. The goal would be 10-12 students in a full day pre-school class and a maximum of 16.

E. February Open House

Mrs. Clark reported that St. Joseph coordinated with Faith, Hope and Charity and St. Francis in running open houses on the same date in February. Helen Considine is conducting the Open House this Wednesday during Catholic Schools Week.

PASTOR'S REPORT

1. Haiti

Fr. Pollard reported there will be collections made at this weekend's masses, in addition to last weekend's masses, for the victims of the earthquake in Haiti. This is in addition to the wonderful school initiative of "Helping Hands" which raised just under \$2,000 to give to Catholic Charities Relief Services for the victims in Haiti. The Church collection so far is \$12,000.

2. Director of the Haitian project at New Trier High School (NTHS)

NTHS had adopted a group of people in Haiti at the St. Joseph School in Haiti. We

are partnering with NTHS's director to help rebuild the school. The Director is

going to come to the next Parish Council meeting to speak.

3. Special thanks to Sharon Murphy for her effort related to these Haiti projects.

4. The first 3 days of March are the Parish Mission during Lent.

5. We are \$40,000 behind budget with half of the fiscal year behind us.

6. Father requested to get a copy of the draft of the letter to families regarding the school policy of contributing a minimum of \$500 per family to St. Joseph Parish per year.

7. Father said the reading of the State of the School by the School Board members at the masses went well. Father suggested next year we have the school board member speak first and introduce the student to share their comments after the formal report is given. Father definitely would like to have the children participate again next year.

An executive session was called to review school registration.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT/Committee Reports

A. Catholic Schools Week

- 1. In conjunction with Teacher Appreciation Week, the School Board assisted the Athletic Board in hosting a breakfast for the teachers on February 1st. Barb Bevenour is in charge of the event. Megan Floyd organized our coordinated effort for the breakfast and teachers dinners we were helping with. Denise and Alison helped with some of the food donations.**

B. Internal Affairs

Gary Delaney reported advertisements for openings on the School Board are running in the parish bulletin, school newsletter and the website. School Board members were encouraged to think of possible new board members.

C. LRP

Gary Delaney reported that he is assembling the final LRP and that it would be ready for approval at the March meeting.

The next school board meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 9th due to the Parish Mission during the first week of March evenings.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45pm.

Respectfully submitted by Denise Kenny.