

RESURRECTION SCHOOL PTO

JUNE 1, 2010 PTO MEETING MINUTES

In attendance: Harold Nielsen, Cynthia Savage, Cathy McCordick, Michele Korian, Michelle Traynor, Julia Rogers, Kathy Callahan, Theresa Hutchinson, Kerry Ann Christensen, Megara McAward, Cathy Spencer, Tracey Sullivan, Andrea Ciparri, Beth Woodtli, Ann Messerly, Claudia Zaccagnino, Lori Adair, Ann Smego, Ellen Beyer, Andrea Della Mara, Iris Lharisson, Maura Semprevino, Lis Mitchell, Shawn Parker, Anita Davis, Julia Dailey, Irma Rodriquez, Patricia Broderick, Sue LaFala, Desiree Rondinelli, Michelle Denca, Joanne Daly, Kate Taubner, Kristen Siano

Mr. Nielsen opened the meeting with a prayer and a special request to pray for Ms. Larkin.

2010 11 School Year Calendar Matters

Mr. Nielsen reported that the calendar for the next school year is coming together. There will be a full day of school the day before Thanksgiving and a half day the day before the start of Christmas vacation. There will be “conference days” for faculty the Tuesday before the start of school, as well as in November and December. The November meeting will be off-site for teachers and the December meeting will be to discuss the results of the October ITBS tests. There will also be a religious conference day for teachers in March.

As has been the case over the past years, there will not be a February recess. School will be closed for President’s Day and the following Tuesday. School will be in session the Friday before President’s Day weekend.

Easter recess will be late in 2011 and unused snow days may be used in April and May. School will end the third week of June 2011 to avoid the heat. However, if inclement weather causes school closures during the winter, the last week of June may be used to make up missed days.

In 2011, graduation will be held on the last day of school.

Parish Traffic Initiative

Architects engaged by the parish will be presenting initial schematics to address parking issues and changes may occur over the next several months. Problems unrelated to traffic patterns include cars idling in the parking lot, cell phone problems and excessive speed. The school community should seek to avoid these issues.

ITBS Tests

Summary test results are available for the school. County summary results are also available for comparative purposes

Mr. Nielsen read the ITBS results in summary form as follows:

Grade	Rag.	County Rag.	Lang.	County Lang.	Math	County Math	Core Total	County Core Total
K		K.8		K.8		K.6		K.6
1	1.5	1.4	1.9	1.6	1.7	1.4	1.8	1.5
2	3.1	2.7	2.9	2.6	2.6	2.3	2.8	2.5
3	4.6	3.9	4.4	4.4	3.8	3.5	4.2	3.8
4	6.0	5.1	6.4	5.9	5.1	4.6	5.8	5.2
5	7.6	6.5	7.6	7.4	6.3	5.8	7.0	6.5
6	9.3	7.6	10.2	8.7	8.6	7.0	9.3	7.7
7	11.0	9.0	12.6	10.0	10.1	8.3	11.0	9.0
8	12.4	10.5	13+	13+	13+	9.9	13+	10.8

Overall, students performed above grade level in all subjects. However, test graders, including Mr. Nielsen, observed that the results for math computation were not as high as expected. Parents are encouraged to spend time during the summer having their children review simple math facts and/or reviewing areas in which their children may have experienced some weakness during the school year. Suggestions included copying pages from textbooks or purchasing basic math books for use on rainy days.

New Acquisitions of Academic Materials

There will be two new smart boards installed in the Grammar School and two new smart boards in the Middle School.

In addition, new science materials have been purchased. For grades 1-5, McGraw-Hill textbooks have been purchased and there will be an on-line component available as well.

For grades 6-8, a module-based science approach, published by Pearson, will be implemented. This module-approach divides different sciences among three years, rather than single-subject jumbo texts. The content is rich, hands-on and provides the teacher will many options for peripherals and smart board components. The module approach also allows students in 7th and 8th grades to focus on the materials that they have not yet covered. In addition, the acquisition of the new materials made financial sense as the deal required a significant purchase for the first year, but includes six years of new material for free.

As reported at prior meetings, the school will explore the acquisition of new math and social studies texts in the next school year. For social studies, in particular, there is an Archdiocesan initiative to incorporate religious events in the texts and the publisher will have books available for review next year.

Treasurer's Report

Thanks for all who contributed to a great fundraising year. Please remember to submit your expenses. Submission of expenses is important for both reimbursement and for accurate

budgeting in coming years. The school is open during the summer for the submission of receipts or receipts can be submitted to Michele Korian and Anita Davis.

Thank you to outgoing Co-Treasurer Michelle Traynor!!

Teacher Appreciation Luncheon

The luncheon is June 16 and all are encouraged to attend. There are also opportunities to sponsor a teacher to offset the costs. Envelopes are available in the office.

Students in grades 3 through 8 are encouraged to write poems or essays showing appreciation for their teachers. A selection of student compositions will be read at the luncheon. Students should put their submissions in an envelope and bring them to the office. The deadline for submissions is June 11.

Volunteers are needed to transport students from school to the luncheon, to assist with table arrangements and wrap gifts for teachers.

There is an ongoing collection for faculty and staff gifts for those without homerooms. The faculty and staff truly appreciate the gifts and it is a wonderful way to say thank you. A collection envelope is in the office.

Supplies to Please

Materials will be sent home concerning an Armonk-based vendor from whom school supplies can be ordered and delivered to homes. Please note that this is NOT a school fundraiser. Information is being provided as a convenience to parents. For students in grades 2 and 3, where supply lists differ, Supplies to Please will offer a “basic” package of common supplies, and parents will need to supplement their children’s supplies with the individual items from their class supply list. Please also note that contact paper will not be in the packages.

This is a pilot program for the next school year and feedback is appreciated. The deadline for orders is June 30.

2010-11 PTO

The new PTO officers were introduced and a list of committee chairs was read. The list is attached as an appendix to the minutes.

Big thanks to Cathy McCordick, outgoing PTO Co-President for her two years of fantastic service to our school!

PTO Transition Notes:

- Reimbursement Procedures
 - Please submit reimbursement forms.
 - Submission of receipts is needed for accurate budgeting and forecasting.

- Communication Procedures
 - Notices for the FYI are due on Monday.

-Please submit blast email notices as event dates approach.
-Posters and notices on school doors are effective means of communication.
-Emails to PTO VPs for the appropriate grades are also an effective way to communicate with class moms.

- Attendance at PTO meetings is encouraged
 - Meetings are the first Tuesday of the month.
 - Agenda items should be emailed to Cynthia Savage and Beth Woodtli. The agenda is finalized on the Monday prior to the meeting.
- A list of committee responsibilities is posted on the website.
- Any contracts entered into for PTO sponsored events should be submitted to the Co-Presidents prior to execution.

Have a wonderful and safe summer!

Respectfully submitted,

Christine M. Ford