

**SMOTH School Commission**  
**1/22/2013**  
**5:00PM**  
**Parish Hall**  
**Minutes**

**Attendees:** Mary Davis, Fr. Jerry, Rhee Fincher, Steve Hagler, Kyle McArdle, Mary Beth Mitchell, Tony Ramage, Ruth Ann Vericella, Charles Whatley

**Excused:** Carol Fuller

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM with prayer by Joe McBride.

**Principal's and Assistant Principal's Update – Joe McBride and Mary Beth Mitchell**

- Enrollment and registration
  - Registration for FY 2014 is now open
    - Re-registrations: 295 to date
    - New registration – 20-25 kindergarteners
    - Usually have a few new 6<sup>th</sup> graders; currently there are 4 spots available (several other students have applied to transfer to Davisdon)
  - Open House next week – typically new kindergarteners are registered at that time-
  - FY 2013 total enrollment is 435; including 52 8<sup>th</sup> graders
  - At this point, additional attrition is not expected (a few families are behind on tuition payment or stewardship commitment)
- Notre Dame curriculum
  - FY 2013
    - Social studies curriculum segment for FY 2013 written and open for comment/input by other diocesan teachers
    - Next step will be vetting by Notre Dame
  - FY 2014
    - Writing lesson plans and implementation of social studies curriculum
    - Initiate work on math curriculum
- Catholic Schools Week – next week
  - 1/30 – 9-1: Open House at SMS (Details in Mary Beth's Friday note)
  - Children will speak at Masses this weekend
  - Deacon Bob Larcher, former Aquinas principal, will preach this weekend

**Marketing**

- Bus transportation for SMS – Joe McBride
  - Potential purchase
    - 29 students with space for gear; \$3500; 200K on it, but good shape
  - Teresa Evans – is a CDL-certified bus driver and may be interested in driving bus
  - Other potential uses – e.g., seniors lunch
  - EDS bus update – Mary Davis
    - 19 riders (14 families) – Nob Hill, Columbia County Library, Bi-Low
    - Charged all families to buy bus
    - Charge user families additional fee

- Biggest challenge – finding drivers for bus
  - Repair and maintenance has been quite high
  - Unanticipated break-downs, etc. will occur
  - Funding
    - PTO might help
    - Investment would be off-set by just a few new children
  - Joe checking with diocese about insurance, liability, etc.
- Student speakers before Mass
  - Second Sunday of each month on regular basis
  - Next week to kick off Catholic Schools Week
- Bulletin and SMS – Mary Beth taking lead on sending weekly updates
- CCD survey
  - Meeting with CCD parents (transportation, cost, easy access to accurate information about school)
  - Written survey – Tony and Alicia are developing – will be sent to CCD families, hopefully by postal mail and electronically
- Marianite and SMS – Lisa McArdle, editor
  - Catholic Schools Week this month - Jan
  - Feature on Ms. Cato (beloved teacher who recently died)
  - Sports
  - Notre Dame curriculum

#### **Fr. Jerry's Update**

- 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Catholic education on Hill – John Sherer, chair
  - Will ask Bishop Boland to be celebrant and homilist for celebration
  - Carnival – 10/11-12/2013
  - Christmas Offering for schools: 50% endowment and 50 % divided among 17 schools (about \$6000-8000/parish). Could be used for need-based scholarships to SMS
- Emphasize relationship of strong Catholic families and their faith with Catholic education and behaviors

The meeting adjourned with prayer at 6:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhee Fincher  
Chair