

ST. JAMES SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
Nov. 13, 2007

Present: Traci Durbin, Tom Schmitt, Sean O'Connor, Daniel Smithson,
Angela Jones, Pam Murrer

Meeting opened with at prayer at 7:13 p.m.

Minutes from September meeting were approved as written.

New Business

Principal's Report

The school celebrated National Young Readers' Day today. Students and staff had a great time. D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything and Read) was scheduled throughout the day over the intercom. Some classes had sleeping bags and blankets and found comfortable places to read.

Blanket Louisville is in full swing. The deadline for blankets is Friday, Nov. 16th. Students contributed \$125 and Charles Hansen, parent of Piper and Teague, and his company, Architectural Glass Art and Glassworks Gallery, donated \$100. Mrs. Payton and Mrs. Hagman purchased fleece from Hancock Fabrics. Students have been working with the fleece making blankets (20 in all). So far, 80 blankets have been made or donated.

The school-wide reading program under the direction of Mrs. Payton is going very well. She is assessing students and working with individual classes.

State Licensing made their yearly visit on Nov. 8th. They were very complimentary with several minor infractions to be made. A followup visit will not be necessary. A child abuse protocol needs to be included in the preschool handbook. Written corrections will be submitted. Fire Mashall made a visit on Nov. 12th. Once again, two minor infractions were noted and have been corrected.

Old Business

PTO Report

Minutes from October meeting were read. They are available online at the school/parish web site: www.stjamesbluejays.com

Technology Report

There are plans to place a SmartBoard in the 7th/8th grade classroom. Mr. Schmitt is getting a quote on a closed circuit hookup for the school.

Parent Handbook

We are still in the process of making revisions to the parent/student handbook. All revisions should be completed by the spring and the new handbook will be distributed at registration in August, 2008.

New Business

Student Recruitment and Retention

Student Recruitment and Retention is a subcommittee of the School Committee. There is a need to look at this area for future recruitment of students. Mr. Schmitt will be looking for people to study the dynamics of recruiting new students and retaining the ones we have, possibly starting with a survey to all families.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m. There will not be a meeting in Dec. Next meeting date is Jan. 8, 2008.