

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES – Nov. 10, 2009

In attendance: Angela Jones (Chair), Robert Lanning, Kate Harney, John Wilkerson, Pam Murrer, Tom Schmitt

Mr. Schmitt read a prayer emphasizing “slowing down” the pace of life to enjoy all that God has given us.

There was no budget report. Mr. Schmitt will send out a budget report next week.

The PTO budget was distributed and discussed briefly

Upcoming events for PTO: Comedy Caravan/Ramsi’s Café – November 18th; Santa’s Workshop (students may purchase items for family) – December 6 – 11; Santa Brunch, December 13th, noon – 2:00 p.m.; Christmas Flower Sale – November 19 – December 11 (delivery on December 16th).

There was discussion over a fundraiser raffle involving selling 2000 tickets at \$20 per ticket. It would involve gaming license issues. It was decided to table discussion to a future meeting.

Kate Harney presented important, topical information concerning military deployments and the effects they have on families. St. James has one family at this time in which one parent has just returned from Iraq. Mr. Schmitt will give the information to the counselor, Dr. Biles, and use when appropriate. Thanks to Kate for her insight.

Mr. Schmitt has given several tours for families interested in enrolling children for the 2010 – 2011 school year. Enrollment for next school year does not officially open until January. Preschool and Pre-K enrollment has remained high and will be the same for next year. There was some discussion about the possibility of starting a third preschool/Pre-K class in the morning. Mr. Schmitt will research the cost effectiveness of starting another class.

Mr. Schmitt presented the committee with surveys pertaining to the self-study and impending accreditation for 2010 – 2011 school year. Each member will complete the survey and return to Mr. Schmitt. Mr. Schmitt distributed “Exit Interview” sheets to be given to families who leave St. James School or who choose another school after inquiring about St. James. The committee agreed the shorter the form the more likely it would be returned. Kate Harney also suggested placing a postcard for feedback about St. James in folders given to interested families to be returned if they decide on another school.

The meeting ended at 7:50 p.m. Next meeting is Tuesday, January 12, 2010.