



# School of Saint Elizabeth

**Date:** September 8, 2010  
**Time:** Monday, 8:45 AM  
**Location:** Library

**Next Mtg:** October 6, 2010  
**Time:** Wednesday, 8:45 AM  
**Location:** Msgr. Tourney Room

## Distribution:

SAC		SAC		Committees TBD	
X	Father John Fell, FJF	X	Kristine Lewis, KL		Volunteer
X	Richard Diegnan, RD		Justin Molinaro, JMo		B&G
	Judy Gaggis, JG				Finance
X	M. Abby Molinaro, AM				Fundraising
X	Gina Harrobin, GH				
X	Bill Venezia, BV				
X	Jim Carle, JC				
X	Mary Hughes, MH				
X	Germaine McGrath, GM				

**X Denotes attendance @ meeting.**

## COMMITTEE OVERVIEWS

### General

9.8.10	FJF opened & closed the meeting with a prayer.	All	9.8.10
9.8.10	The 6.28.10 meeting minutes were reviewed and accepted.	Noted	9.8.10
9.8.10	Kristine Lewis was introduced and welcomed as our newest member.	All	9.8.10
9.8.10	BV stated that the opening of school went extremely well. Many thanks go to Ros Garcia & Tom Brenner for all their hard work.	BV	9.8.10
9.8.10	BV reviewed the latest initiative to "go green" & reduce paper usage. The idea was conceived & developed by Ros Garcia. Technology will be utilized to transmit correspondence to all school families instead of the traditional family envelope.	BV/RG	9.8.10
9.8.10	The school web site has been updated. This includes posting of recent student standardized test scores.	BV/MH	Ongoing
9.8.10	New staff & their backgrounds for the 2010/11 school year were discussed. These include: Dierdre Volpe, MUSIC; Sister Mary Elizabeth, GR 1; Judy Gaggis, PK-4 Assistant; Ruth Corazza, K-AIDE; Lydia Styles, Library.	All	9.8.10
9.8.10	BV provided an update on the recent legislative action S18-72. Generally speaking the bill would give children in failing public school districts the opportunity to attend a private or religious affiliated school. The bill would allow families to apply for about \$6,000 in supplemental funding for children attending private schools in grades K-8. Dioceses throughout the state are fully supportive of this bill as well as the Latino, African American, Hasidic communities as well as other ministries. GH is the point person for Legislative information from the Diocese; Joann DiOrio is our teacher liaison.		

- 9.8.10 BV indicated that our school is in full swing to complete all the information required for our Middle States re-accreditation. The Middle States team will be here from 10.19 through 10.22. The evaluation is comprehensive and includes: student performance, continuity of staff, staff professional development, the teacher handbook, teacher goals & objectives, spirituality plans, community outreach programs (Bronx Immaculate Conception). BV will be asking for parent volunteers to help out.

## Marketing Committee

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|---------|--|-----------|----------|
| 9.8.10  | MH updated the committee on our current enrollment picture. Our retention rate is almost 95%; we are seeing a 15% increase in our enrollment numbers for grades K-8; we have 10 new students from the public middle school; we have a wait list for our PK 4 program. The group discussed the possibility of adding a teacher/aide and increasing the number of students in the PK program. Negative fallout to doing this would be that parents would object to large class sizes. In terms of the future for Kindergarten, it is ideal to have 30 PK-4 students (2 sections). This would result in a Kindergarten class of approximately 18+- students. Our full day Kindergarten is a huge draw since the local public schools are cutting back to ½ day programs to meet their budgets. It should be noted that about 60% of PK4s end up staying for Kindergarten. In our PK3 class, the ideal number of students is 12. We did see a shift from our CCD program to SES this year. All local programs are seeing a decline in enrollment numbers due to the downward trend in birth rate for the past 4-5 years. | MH        | Ongoing  |
| 9.8.10  | Regarding Fund Raising, the Golf Outing, we will work with the HSA & the school families to have each class sponsor a hole. We will also be looking at rebranding the gala as the Educational Ball to create more involvement from the parish/community etc. One suggestion was to have co-chair persons eg, a parishioner/CCD and an SES parent working together.   | All       | Ongoing  |
| 9.8.10  | The Diocese has a Marketing Advancement Workshop on 10.26; there will be 2 sessions. BV will ask the Diocese Marketing staff if they would be interested in coming to speak with us.   | MH/BV     | 10.26.10 |
| 6.28.10 | <b>ALUMNI:</b> GM + MH are working on a database of alumni contacts. The theme of the alumni drive is "\$100 from 100".  | MH,GM, JM | Ongoing  |

## Community Liaison Committee FUTURE

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| 4.12.10 | The group discussed our school's involvement in the local community as well as our involvement with Immaculate Conception School in the Bronx. We hope to have the students from IC visit SES in May. Other plans for community involvement include joint efforts with Ridge Oak, & possibly hosting a "Golden Day" with our grandparents/senior citizens. We need to identify a person willing to serve as the Community Liaison leader; suggestions include a grandparent of a current student. <b>THIS TASK WILL BE DISCUSSED AT OUR NEXT SAC MEETING.</b> | All | Ongoing |
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## Buildings & Grounds Committee FUTURE

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| 5.10.10 | AM stated that the playground mulch needs to be replenished. There are bare spots & areas where a child could be injured. This could be a service project | AM | Ongoing |
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or we could ask the more recent alumni to assist.

## Finance Committee

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| 9.8.10 | RD gave an update on the new "soft capital campaign". A list of approximately 70 members of the parish was developed. The list identifies those people who are capable of donating \$3000 annually for 5 years. | RD    | 9.8.10 |
| 9.8.10 | A check for approximately \$30,000 was given to the parish for fundraising efforts in 2009-10.  | Noted |        |

## Closing Remarks

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| 9.8.10 | FJF announced that Rhonda Calinda accepted the position of SAC President. The group acknowledged & thanked Rich Diegnan for all his efforts over the past two years.                                      | FJF | Noted |
| 9.8.10 | Upcoming events include the Peace Garden Ceremony on Friday; Opening Mass for the school will be Friday, 9.17 @ 9AM; the Diocese sponsored Legislative Advocacy Training is scheduled for Saturday, 9.25. |     | Noted |

## New Business

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|--------|---|-----|--------|
| 9.8.10 | Next meeting is scheduled for <b><u>WEDNESDAY, October 6, 2010 @ 8:45AM EST.</u></b> Meeting shall be held in <b><u>Msgr. Tourney Room.</u></b> | All | 9.8.10 |
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Submitted by: M. Abby Molinaro, Secretary.

These minutes represent a summary of the discussions that occurred during the meeting. Meeting minutes will be formally reviewed and accepted during the next monthly session. Should there be any questions, kindly contact the author of this document.