APPROVED
Marshalltown Area Catholic School
Minutes March 31, 2011
St. Mary’s

Pressent: Julie Swartz, Jamie Cook, Jenny Fisher, Paul Seberger, Wendy Soltero, Jim Wessling, Father Don Czapla, Father Jim Miller
Excused Not Present: Shannon Naughton
Guests: None
Executive Officer: Jim Wessling
Opening Prayer: Father Jim
Approval of Agenda: Consensus
Approval of the Minutes for February 3: Consensus as amended; for February 17: Consensus as amended.

Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Julie Swartz


Comments from the Public: None

Reports:

Principal:
   i. Reviewed report.
   ii. CogAT tests were administered to 2nd and 4th grade students.
   iii. Fourth grade ICAM’s will be administered on April 5 and 6.
   iv. St. Mary’s students were unable to represent MACS at the Regional Battle of the Books in Cedar Falls because the event fell during Spring Break.
   v. Legislative Update: Legislation replacing the current 180-day school year requirement with a minimum of 990 clock hours for K-5 and 1080 for 7-12 is before the Senate. Also included is an amendment banning schools from starting before September 1.
   vi. Spring music concerts are scheduled for 12 pm and 7 pm at St. Mary’s Attendance Center gym on April 7 (5-6), on April 12 (K-2), and on April 14 (3-4).
   vii. Pre-enrollment numbers were reviewed.

Home and School: No report.

Finance Committee: A savings account was opened at Wells Fargo Bank that will allow the account to accrue interest. Banking and transfer of funds may now be done online.

Promotions Committee:
   i. Baptism letters will be sent out in April.
   ii. Committee is in process of updating brochures and compiling locations where they can be made available to the public.
iii. They are considering a promotional item to offer for purchase.
iv. Committee is discussing avenues to spread the word about MACS within the
community such as offering brochures/promotional displays at local businesses,
Healthy Kids Program at the Y, etc.

School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC): Reviewed report.

Leaders’ Gram: Father Jim discussed an article discussing Pope Benedict XVI’s Lenten
message to renew our baptismal commitment through fasting, alms-giving, and other acts
of charity. The Women and Spirit Catholic Women’s Charity exhibit will be on display
from February 18-May 22 at the National Mississippi River Museum in Dubuque. He
also talked about the difficulty involved with engaging young adults in faith formation.

Input from Local Boards: St. Henry- They are considering implementing a new program
involving parent letters, which would promote communication between the school and
families beyond the time of baptism and which would provide an avenue to promote STO
assistance.
St. Mary- They are in the process of interviewing candidates for the position of
Coordinator of Youth Ministry.

Unfinished Business: Reviewed teachers’ report for suggestions for retention of students.
Board will look into 1. prior to pre-registration, having speakers and a translator following mass
at both parishes, with a presence afterward to answer questions, distribute pre-registration forms
and STO information, and generally promote MACS.; and 2. promoting MACS at Vacation
Bible School.

New Business:
Calendar: The Marshalltown Community School District calendar was reviewed.
Mr. Wessling noted the change of conferences from Tues/Thurs in November to
Wed/Thurs with a 2:30 pm start time. Motion to approve: Father Don. Second:
Soltero. Consensus.
May Elections: Election process was reviewed. Names for nomination due
April 10. Board is encouraged to make personal contact with nominees and convey
the expectations and time commitment of a board position.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 pm.

The next Board of Education meeting will be Thursday, April 28, 7 pm at St Henry’s Attendance
Center.

Respectfully Submitted: Patty Hermanson