

Dear St. Anthony School Parents:

The 2009-10 school year is well underway as are the activities of your Advisory School Board. I am pleased to follow Lorraine Smith as the President this year, and there are a number of issues we are addressing as a result of parent, school administration and parish input. Members of the Board are as follows:

Deb Martin
Jennifer O'Brien
Cristina Galang-Villegas
Michael Der Manouel, Jr.
Eddie Fanucchi
Kathryn McDougal
Zetta Hadden-parish representative
Tamara Chapman – PTO

In addition to these members, Monsignor Rob, Mr. McConnico and Mr. Neumier attend each meeting and have significant input into the agenda and work that the Board performs.

What is the St. Anthony's Advisory School Board?

The St. Anthony Advisory School board is not a governing Board. The job of the advisory school board is to represent the views of all parents and parishioners in making policy recommendations to the school administration. The board does not get involved in personnel issues or in individual discipline / academic issues.

A copy of the newly revised bylaws of the board is available to everyone on the school's web page.

How do we do our work?

The board meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm. During these meetings, we hear reports from the church, the PTO, and the principal, as well financial, educational, public relations and facilities committee reports. We ask questions, provide suggestions, or offer feedback on the issues brought up. We also consider long term and short term goals for the school and help the administration prioritize these wants and needs. In preparation for the current academic year, we've held two retreats to define our goals and projects for 2009-10.

What we are working on now

When you visit the SAS webpage, you'll see the various committees of the Board. In addition, there is a 5 year strategic plan committee constantly working on updating strategic issues related to various areas of school performance and operations – the entire Board serves as the strategic plan committee.

What part can you play?

If you have a suggestion, concern or idea about school policy, please bring your idea to an Advisory School Board member, or email the Board at advisoryschoolboard@sasfresno.com.

There's one catch

Ideas or items for discussion must be submitted ahead of time to allow the administration and board time to research the topic. If appropriate, the topic will appear on a future agenda and interested parties can attend the meeting to address the issues. This way, all interested parties can attend the appropriate meeting and can be prepared for productive discussion. Remember: all issues have more than one side and we want to consider all of them.

On behalf of your newly elected board members, thank you for your commitment to St. Anthony School, its administration, teachers and students. The parish and school are truly an asset to the community, and the work of self evaluation and improvement is essential to the short and long term success of SAS.

Thank you for your involvement and support.

Michael Der Manouel, Jr., President
St. Anthony School Advisory Board