

Dear St. Anthony School Parents:

On behalf of the 2010-11 St. Anthony School Advisory Board, I would like to welcome each and every family back to campus for the new academic year. We offer our new families a very special welcome, and hope you find the St. Anthony School to be an excellent academic and spiritual experience for your children.

This year, our Advisory Board members are as follows:

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

In addition to these members, Monsignor Rob, Mr. McConnico and Mr. Neumeier 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. We interact with the PTO and Advisory School Board Sub-Committees, i.e. the Education Committee, and all other committees that are involved in the improvement of the school.

A copy of the bylaws of the board is available to everyone on the SAS web page, at <http://sasfresno.com/wp/school-organizations>.

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 held a Board retreat in June, where we reviewed the parent survey, talked about the strengths and weaknesses of SAS, and set some goals for 2010-11.

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.

The board is discussing and providing feedback to the administration in several areas, as follows:

- Improving Math instruction, learning, and student achievement
- Increasing foreign language curriculum and exposure to more grade levels
- Improving school / parent communication through mass technology, such as email and text messaging
- Improving parking lot safety compliance
- Strengthening the relationship between the Church Parish and School
- Posting parent survey results on the SAS website
- Development in concept of Student to Student supervised tutoring opportunities

There are of course, many more issues under consideration, and we encourage your feedback and involvement.

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. Look for notices of our meetings on the school's monthly calendar, as well as meeting minutes up on the SAS website.

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.

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