October 9, 2002

Present: Gary Busbee, Sharon Cahill, Jenifer Delson, Joyce Ellenberg, Sandy Giunta, Christa Kell, Susan Parr, Bob Peterson, Jane Rising

Because of the absence of co-chairs Diana Brim and Jeannine Chavez-Parfitt, Joyce Ellenberg presided over the meeting. The minutes from the September 11 meeting were approved with corrections.

Committee Reports
The Staff Council's standing committees are Compensation and Benefits, chaired by Gary Busbee; Bylaws; Staff Climate, chaired by Susan Parr; and Staff Orientation, chaired by Brother Brendan. Each Council member is expected to serve on at least one Committee.

The Staff Climate committee is involved with staff welfare and morale. They were instrumental in arranging for Sodexho's earlier lunch hours, which particularly helped Buildings and Grounds. The Compensation and Benefits Committee has investigated the benefits and tuition exchange programs at other schools. The Orientation Committee is involved in redesigning the staff evaluation form and training managers and administrators.

The Council also has ex-officio representation on College Committees, e.g., Activities, Nominating/Elections, Great Books, Faculty/Staff/Student Liaison, Budget committees, and Human Resources. Representing the Great Books Committee, Susan Parr requested funding for their refreshments in the amount of approximately $30 at each of their 8 or 9 meetings. No decision will be made until the entire budget is discussed at the retreat.

New Business
It was moved, seconded, and passed to accept the following addition to the by-laws. "In the event that there are no nominations, or an insufficient number of nominations from a specific Presidential or Vice-Presidential area, that position may be filled by any qualified staff person appointed by the Staff Council as an At Large representative, not to exceed three representatives." Sharon Cahill, Jenifer Delson, and Bob Peterson have accepted at-large appointments to the Staff Council.

It was moved, seconded, and passed "to allocate not more than $350 to be used by Backbone for their activities during the year."

Sharon Cahill will poll the Council members to determine a retreat date. Budget decisions and topics regarding Human Relations are possible retreat discussion subjects.

Suggestions for immediate action: polling the whole staff via email to assist in setting goals for this year, reinstituting Highlights of Staff Council meetings, reminding people of suggestion box locations.

Christa Kell resigned in order to redirect her energies. Sandy Giunta was nominated and elected to replace Christa as Treasurer.
The meeting was adjourned at 1:45.

Respectively submitted,

Jane Rising, Secretary