



Date: February 2, 2022

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: St Mary Banquet Room

Event: St Mary PTU Meeting - MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Board – Holli Bruno, Sheila Liszka, Megan Fogle, Julie Fedak

Parents – Lynn Woolard, Gina Ciani, Jen Zulantz, Kathy Payto, Angela Donato, Heather Stetler, Heidi Hatfield, Christine Weidig

SMS Staff – Friederike Wintersteller, Kara Passow, Coach, Aleisha Wolf

i. Call to order – Holli called to order at 6 p.m.

ii. Prayer – Sheila prayed

iii. Review of Prior General and Board Meeting Minutes -

iv. Officer reports

President Holli gave a report that the pancake breakfast was very successful; Almost \$500 in donations. Next year we would like to think about having it at the noon mass, or even to align with the open house. We want to make sure that new families have an opportunity to eat and see the school.

Mrs. Donato suggested maybe something for Saturday mass next year, like cookies or something.

Vice President Sheila asked who she should be working with for the eighth-grade scholarship. Mrs. Fedak asked that she email Mrs. Cardenas with the parameters, and she can make the timeline.

Secretary – Nothing to report

Treasurer – Brian provided financials

Teacher Liaison – Mrs. Fedak thanked PTU on behalf of the faculty for a successful PTU week – the luncheon; Fish fries are important because they fund the adopt a student and they are looking for lots of volunteers (outside of the assigned weeks).

v. Principal's Report

Mrs. Wintersteller thanked everyone for volunteering for CSW; Website is up and running now and is a huge improvement. Updates will be made as needed, and they are looking into online payment options for next year.

Marketing/Advertising – Maple Leaf ads and article about STEM Grant, CWS article were submitted. There was also an ad in the News-Herald and in the billboards at three outdoor locations; they also created a pamphlet for new families.

Registration for the upcoming school year is active and went home last Wednesday and is also on the website. March 4 is the deadline – there might be a waitlist for 2nd grade.

vi. Fundraising Report/Committee Updates

- a. Playground – At the most recent meeting, they narrowed the choices down to two potential vendors – one is a parishioner, and one is local to NEO. Both estimates are about 120k, a plea was made to the Parish to help with financing. They are looking for some sponsors to help with the deficit and then do a big sign with the large donors. Next steps they wanted the companies to come in and give one last pitch to help decide. The committee really likes attributes from both proposals, but they want to understand when a decision will need to be made so that construction can start to have it done in time. The base will not be mulch and will instead be a rubber mat with drainage. Mrs. Donato had questions about the building process and the funding. We discussed operating costs for next year and suggested directing any budget-specific questions to Brian.
- b. Santa Shop – Sheila gave an update from December's shop – there was a great turnout of vendors and the kids were glad to be able to shop. We ran low on bags so we have ideas how to simplify things for next year. We are looking forward to it next year. If anyone has bags they are welcome to bring them in to donate and we can put them in the PTU closet.
- c. Viking Quest – Will return in 2023; not enough volunteers and other constraints caused it go hiatus. Ideally, we would like to start planning late summer for 2023. It's a very big undertaking and we have a problem bringing new blood in. Maybe we could do an online auction for some of the more popular things to still generate a little bit of income. Sheila will check on AESBid and if the contract is still live.

Question was posed – what is being done for new families? A lot of families felt a little lost as there was no place to go for information and there should be multiple touch points so it's not one and done. A committee would be helpful. Mrs. Fedak suggested pairing up new families with existing families, mainly active ones that volunteer that can speak to the experiences and the importance of volunteering in the school.

It was brought up again how to increase volunteers – can we assess a fee? Diocese doesn't allow it. But other schools in the area assess and maybe see if we can reword as donation? Can there be alternate ideas such as dress down days or other things that don't cost money. We discussed increasing communication in the beginning of the year so that everyone knows what events are coming up and has awareness of all the events. In the past there were also letters about how every family is expected to volunteer at 3 events

- d. Nominating committee – Holli spoke to Marc Burr and there is one person volunteering for each position; Holli will talk to the board about it and Marc Burr will see if there is anyone else that wants to be considered for each position. The nominees should be presented at the March meeting and then voted on in April.
Next general meeting will be March 9 and then April 6 and May 4
- e. Father/Daughter and Mother/Son outing – Can we do it at St. Mary's? Mrs. Ciani said that it has been booked 4/9 off-site at Ransom Sage Farm already as they were unsure if it could be held. Homeroom moms will communicate the dance so that the entire school can be invited. Mr. Zirzow is taking it on as a parent and then next year we can do it through PTU. It can be promoted on the website and in the Wednesday folders. It is a paid-admission event that covers the cost of the event. It's a break-even event.
Mother-Son maybe bowling? Mrs. Zulandt will check with Ernst lanes, also considering Roll House and Round 1. She may send a survey out to the parents in the school to find out if bowling vs skating is preferred. It was recommended to also check City Skate in Mentor. She will investigate options.

- f. Spring Flower Sale – Sale starts March 4 – 18; delivery day will be May 14th in the a.m., it's the weekend after Mother's Day. Committee has a meeting next week to go over the online ordering portion. Everyone was very happy with last year.
- g. First Communion and Graduation – We can have the receptions now. Mrs. Passow will assist and PTU will reach out to the 7th grade.
- h. End-of-year outing – do we want to do something different? Drive-In is good, participation wasn't. Can we do an end of year Mass and picnic? Or a Saturday lunch and then mass after. Maybe Chris can do an outside lunch for everyone? Thinking the Saturday before the last day of school – May 22. Also, a welcome back event for families would be a nice addition. A Playground reveal in the fall would be the perfect event to host for everyone. Sheila will work on details.

vii. New Business

- a. Friday Night Dinners – Sheila will check with Chris about resuming; We will look into Chipotle night and any other restaurants that can do a profit.
- b. Fish Fry – PTU Night; We don't have a designated night but there is a general sign up.
- c. Can kids have a dress down day – all kids of parents who are here can dress down tomorrow, Mrs. Fedak will notify teachers
- d. Minutes will go on the website with a notification to parents that they are there.

viii. Open Discussion – Mrs. Ciani motioned, and Kara Passow seconded; Meeting adjourned at 7:27