

St. Mary's Catholic School Parent Association (SPA)

November 16, 2018 Monthly Meeting Minutes

INTRODUCTION:

Meeting started with an opening prayer led by Charlie Jordan. The general introduction of "What is SPA" was briefly discussed with members since a couple new parents were in attendance.

PAST EVENT UPDATES:

Boosterthon-Teacher Feedback – the teachers were excited about the classroom challenges. Some felt they could have increased goals while others will decrease next year. Since event several teacher requests have come in . We voted on all and approved. Fundraising Payment method feedback was discussed. A poll was taken we will need a multi-option for payments (cash, credit card and checks) due to several businesses do not use credit cards and parents. This year was challenging as it was our first year collecting money and it took several weeks after the event to collect all the money. Next year we will need a couple committees including a Fund Collection Team and a Prize Distribution Team to streamline the process. For daily communication we could have possibly one parent per class to make the task easier for distribution of prizes. Daily communications would still go to the teachers and parents by the SPA Presidents due to computer access restrictions. The final collected money was discussed and finalized by Charlie in the budget.

Next Year Timeline: Oct. 11th, 2019 will be the Pep Rally and the Fun Run will take place on Oct. 23, 2019 (wed vs. fri).

BUDGET:

Charlie handed out the revised budget including breakdowns of gym bleacher estimated SPA donation, teacher requests, hallowed halls expense etc. Requests from teachers included: Amazon Acct, Entrance Mats (2), Classroom Rug , Epson Doc. Camera, Visual Timer, Preschool holiday dolls, and Basketball uniforms (3 for families unable to pay). All were approved. Finally, two additional requests came in during the meeting . Approved. (cell phone holder). Concern over phones not being with children were discussed. Safety Pro/Con.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Catholic School's Week: A committee is currently being formed. PJ Pancake Day, Catholic Community Partners, Vendors, and Mass (rosary) events will take place that week. Email Mr. B if you are interested in joining the committee. Keep in mind vendor (spa sponsored) for the event will need to be chosen and a contract and insurance certificate will need to be submitted to the Diocese a min. of 6 weeks before the event.

Feb. 8th Winter Dance. DJ Sheldon contract was forwarded and approved to the Diocese. A photo booth was enjoyed by the students last year and will be there with music again. Light refreshments will be served. Stay tuned for more information.

Dec. 12th Krystal will host a Santa Workshop with some help from SPA. Volunteers will be needed to help with the craft tables. Last year we did mult. crafts. This year we have chosen one larger craft which will allow children additional time to decorate and design them. Elf hats and cookies / snacks will be given out. Pre K-5th grade can sign up for the one hour event which will take place right after school.

SPA Growing Responsibility Manual- Currently Kim and Kerri are working on a manual including a responsibility and policy and procedure guide for SPA members.

Basketball Season will begin Dec. 1st and run until end of Feb. Sue C. will need volunteers to help with concessions and score board. Home schedule will go out shortly. Games run 11-4pm so if you can pitch in contact Sue.

UPDATES/ADDITIONAL TOPICS:

School Uniforms- The school is looking at different options for adding a possible vendor as discussed at last month's meeting. Lands End or Tommy Hilfiger were looked at involving pricing and contacted by SPA. A rep provided SPA with a couple samples. They are similar in matching color/ patterns for jumpers etc. Mr. B will look at our current contract and find out where we are with adding or replacing a vendor. If we go with Lands End we can use SCRIPT and get money back to the school. You can also use a 30%-40% coupon when available which brings most of the uniforms below current pricing. They will also include FREE shipping on orders and have a store in Burlington which you can visit for FREE alternations.

National Honor Society- students are currently taking donations for a clothing drive for the community who are in need. Only new items are being collected outside classrooms including hats, gloves, coats, ear muffs and socks.

Holiday Giving Project – SPA will partner this year with the 8th graders to assist with collecting gifts for the less fortunate. Student driven event but SPA will assist when needed. More information to follow.

8th Grade Movie Night- PJs and a movie – SPA will cover the event this year (sponsor). More information will be coming out with date/time.

Tutors requested by a parent on SPA. One of the challenges parents face is technology changes. Several moms are struggling with new Math curriculum and asked Mr. B if he could look at offering an after school Study Period? Starting in Jan. possibly from 230-330 after the holidays preferable. Mr. B will look at and have a separate discussion on this topic as there are numerous factors that would need to go into this option. Teachers are available to stay to help students Mr. B. reminded parents. Many parents suggested maybe children from other schools could assist that we partner with. This offers maybe another perspective on how to do their homework.

Do you want to see other items on the agenda? Please email Kim or Kerri prior to the SPA meeting to have questions/items addressed. Your feedback matters.

The New School Advisory Committee was created with the St. Mary's Church. Two meetings have taken place with bylaws. Members were sent out in a memo recently and are listed on the website. The Diocese and other group relationships were discussed and reasoning for this Advisory developed. Father Mike approved the committee members and voted on the parent that will represent the school. This will include marketing, advancement, development of future School and Church partnerships. For more information see the Bylaws and or Mr. B.