

ST MARY'S GRADE SCHOOL PTO MEETING MINUTES

Friday, February 4, 2011

The PTO meeting was held on Friday, February 4, 2011 in the school office. The meeting was called to order at 12:15 pm by Duffy Meyer - President.

The following board members were present:

Duffy Meyer - President, Lynn Burgard – Past President, Karen Fischer - Treasurer, Melanie Konieczka – At Large/Media Relations, Cindy Fischer - Teacher Representative

Others present: Bonnie Balkowitsch, Robynn Berger

The following board members were absent: Bernadette Dosch – President Elect, Kathy Glass – Secretary, Tony Fladeland – Principal

Old Business:

- **Family Fun Night/Silent Auction – Held Saturday, January 22, 2011** – The evening was a great success. There was a good turnout, everything ran smoothly, and everyone had fun. Thank you to everyone who chaired the various portions of this large event, as well as all the parents who helped make this event possible.
 - Carnival – Chaired by Duffy & Matt Meyer and Steve & Bernadette Dosch. One additional game, the basketball toss, was added to the midway. It was thought that this would be a good game for the combined Preschool and Jr. Kindergarten classes to assist with next year. Due to the weight limit and injury potential children in junior high will not be allowed to jump in the castle in future years and we will have to make sure that it is positioned away from the wall. There was a large variety of midway prizes and the prizes were well received. There were several carnival prizes left over for next year. The group discussed the possibility of lowering the ticket amounts needed to earn prizes for next year.
 - Concessions – Chaired by Carla Arndt. Kneophla soup, pizza, kuchen pie, candy and pop were sold at concessions. The kneophla soup sold out. Thank you to Carla for making the soup and chairing the event.
 - Silent & Live Auction – chaired by Lynn Burgard and Sabrina Renner. We were happy to receive many wonderful donations from local businesses, parents and parishioners. Thank you to the students and teachers for putting together the classroom baskets. The classroom baskets were the highlight of the live auction. Thank you also to Tom Nagel for once again volunteering to be our auctioneer at the live auction. The silent and live auctions ran smoothly and were very successful.
- **Super Bowl Football Pool** - Chaired by Duffy and Matt Meyer. Not all squares for the Super Bowl football pool sold. Duffy recommends not doing either of the football pools next year.

New Business:

- **Boxtops Celebration** – PTO sponsored an ice cream party for the entire school in thanks for doing such a great job during our Boxtops collection contest. The first grade class was also treated to a pizza party for being the class to collect the most Boxtops. Thanks to everyone for your support of the various labels for learning programs the school participates in and thank you to Karen Fischer for Chairing and coordinating them all.
- **Bowling** – PTO one again paid for the trip to Midway Lanes so all every classroom could go bowling during Catholic Schools Week.
- **Braided Bread** – Chaired by Shauna Greff & Shawn Morlock. This longtime fundraiser will start soon. The order forms will be sent home with the kids on Friday, March 7. Completed order forms and money are due back to the school by March 21 with delivery scheduled for April 19.
- **Artist in Residence** – Local Bismarck artist Ali LaRock will be this year's Artist in Residence. She will be at the school from March 21 through April 1. Ali will be working with students in all grades in the area of visual art with an Art Show held the following week. PTO will assist with the funding needed to bring this

program to the school. The school was also successful in obtaining a grant to help cover some of the expenses of the program.

- **Easter Bake Sale** – Chaired by Duffy Meyer and Karen Fischer. PTO will be holding our annual Easter Bake Sale after all Masses the weekend of Palm Sunday. All parents are asked to donate baked goods for the sale.
- **Spring Showcase** – Chaired by Steph and Greg Zenker. A date will be set soon for this event that showcases the school and the much of what has gone on in the classrooms throughout the year.
- **Rummage Sale** – Chaired by Diane & Kennen Huck. This event will be held May 7 & 8. Although, this is the same weekend as First Communion, Father Gene has given his approval for both events to be held the same weekend.
- **Calendar & Family Involvement Forms for Next Year** – The Family Involvement Fee will be going up next year from \$150 to \$300, or \$100 for each activity. The fee is only charged if a family doesn't participate in three Family Involvement Activities. Family Involvement credit is only given for the PTO sponsored activities listed on the form. Participation in activities will be limited to the number of volunteers needed based on the order the forms are received. This will help ensure an appropriate amount of volunteers for each activity.
- **Bowls for the Kitchen** – It has come to our attention that there are not enough bowls in the kitchen to serve all the children. PTO decided to purchase additional bowls to be used by the school and other groups using the kitchen. PTO will also be able to use the bowls when serving ice cream and during the Family Fun Night and Spring Showcase events. This will eliminate the need to purchase disposable bowls for these events, which is more economic and environmentally friendly. It was estimated that two to three cases of bowls would be needed. Karen will work with Sharon to determine the number of bowls needed. One case of bowls includes 48 bowls at the cost of \$100.
- **Treasurer's Report** – The financials were distributed and discussed.

Other Business:

- **Thank You from the Teachers** – The teachers expressed thanks to PTO for the purchase of the Kid Picks 3-D software that PTO purchased for the school. The software can be used for making art, movies, assistance with reading, etc. The software was provided for each of the computers in grades K-4 and the computers in the computer lab. The teachers also expressed thanks to PTO for paying for the school bowling event and the ice cream and pizza Boxtops party.
- **Balls & Frisbees for Playground** – Amy Heuer requested that PTO allow her to use all unused classroom funds to purchase new balls, Frisbees & other toys used by each of the classrooms on the playground. It was decided that it would be best if Amy worked directly with the individual classroom teachers regarding this request.
- **Petition of School Calendar** – A parent presented a petition to change the Catholic grade school calendar. The petition began circulating at Cathedral. As PTO has no authority over the school calendar it was recommended that the parent bring any related concerns to Mr. Fladeland

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm by Duffy Meyer, President.

Upcoming PTO Meetings:

Wednesday, March 16 from 7:00 – 8:00 pm in the library – daycare provided

Friday, April 8 from 12:15 pm - 1:15 pm in the South Multipurpose Room

Wednesday, May 11 from 7:00 – 8:00 pm in the library – daycare provided