

St. Mary PTU Minutes
January 6, 2005

Attendance: Haydiee Perkins-Burkes, Dan Humphrey, Colleen Elbert, Pat Murray, Darlene Zidek, Mrs. Aliff, Rene Leighton, Carolyn Duffield, Laura Chaves, Mrs. Babb, Jan O'Dell, Cindy Finnegan, Donta Walker, Lori St.Marie

The meeting was called to order at 6:35p.m. by Haydiee Perkins-Burkes. Dan Humphrey provided an opening prayer for vocations.

Darlene Zidek – Physical Education

The students will be participating in the American Heart Association fund raiser from January 25th until February 14th. Kindergarten through fifth grade participates in Jump Rope for Heart and sixth through eighth grades participate in Hoops for Heart. The fund raiser raises money to fight cardiovascular disease and stroke. Miss Zidek needs help on February 14th to help during the actual event and before and after the actual event to help with publicity, collecting money, keeping track of prizes the students earn, etc. Call her if you can assist in any way. She appreciates any help.

Dan Humphrey – Principal

Thank you to everyone for his surprise birthday party. It was before the Christmas break and he was truly surprised!

Dan mentioned Gia Tony and Tyler Anderson for their wonderful essays on Freedom and America for the Veterans. Mrs. Kuebler provided guidance for the students.

In 1999, we stated our goals for our school to the state. Our number one goal at the time was to increase the interaction of our priests. It was our biggest struggle. Because of the wonderful efforts of Fr. Ed, we have turned this problem area around. We analyzed the problem and realized what a huge change he has made.

Our next meeting will be February 3, 2005 in the gym. This meeting will announce the tuition for next school year. Pete Duffield and Debbie Connor will be there from Finance Committee to make the announcement as Finance is the committee who comes up with the tuition amount. They will discuss tuition and enrollment. A letter will be sent home on January 11, 2005 to let

parents know about the meeting and encourage attendance. Finance Council next meets on January 25th when final decisions will be made. Packets will be sent home on February 3, 2005 and need to be returned March 1, 2005 for enrollment for the 2005-2006 school year.

Dan will be working on Marketing for our school. He put a few commercials on WEOL, ads in the newspapers, billboards, yard signs, flyers, an Open House (to be held February 6, 2005 from 9:00 – 1:30), banners around the city, mail packets, and events planned during Catholic Schools Week. His goal is to hit the Heights, University Oaks, Washington Ave. area, West side, Downtown, Elyria/Midview district, Grafton, Lagrange, Oberlin, and Wellington. We would like to see the growth start from kindergarten and build up as we have only one class per grade in most of our lower grades.

Dan is looking to PTU to give help and support and encourage other parents to support us as well. Money and help are our limitations. Dan has worked with St. Vincent and St. Jude to come up with numbers for tuition and enrollment. St. Vincent has 60% of their students receive free or reduced lunch whereas St. Mary has 15 students. St. Vincent receives no subsidizing from the parish, all of their funds are received through Bingo, which leads to problems getting help to run Bingo. St. Mary receives 38% subsidizing (\$223,000), our goal is to lower that to 30%. St. Jude receives \$500,000. If we did not receive subsidizing from the parish, our tuition would be over \$3,000 per student.

Dan commented that the Finance Council is very encouraging and easy to work with. One marketing idea, to put flyers in doors, it's illegal to put them in mailboxes or newspaper boxes, was done last year with the help of EC students.

Haydiee Perkins-Burkes – President

Family Fun Night is coming up. She is promoting it anywhere, mentioned it at Parish Council also. Put information in the bulletin also. She has been asked about PTU by several parishioners.

Haydiee asked if there was any increase in attendance at Burger King nights. Dan stated that November was good, not sure about December. There have been about 4,000 hits to the parish web site. Haydiee would like to mention BK nights on the web as well as labels to collect.

Carolyn Duffield – Vice President

We will sell candy for our next fund raiser. We briefly discussed the scratchers that she had looked into as a fund raiser. The premise is to sell squares on a sheet of paper. Under each square is an amount of money, anywhere from \$.50 - \$3.00. Whatever amount is exposed, that is the amount of money the scratcher will donate to the student raising money. You also receive a sheet of coupons for donating. Places such as TCBY, Mrs. Fields, Jiffy Lube, etc. Candy selling seems easier. Each family will receive a box of 50 candy bars or they can donate \$27.00 instead of selling candy. Rene Leighton suggested upping the amount to \$30.00 as there is no effort in donating versus selling and it can be a tax deduction. Some parents complained that there was no option given to even participate in this fund raiser, either sell or donate. Other organizations sell candy as it is easy. We should start in February, before Lent. Last year, we made \$6,000 profit. It was suggested to possibly sell Suzin' L candy for Easter. This would involve taking orders. May be a 50% profit.

Not all people have paid for their magazines. We have made \$4214 after expenses so far. We should receive approximately \$4,000 more.

Cindy Finnegan – Treasurer

We have made \$142 from box tops, \$450 from the gift certificates, \$400 from ice cream sales, and \$2200 from Market Day so far. We spent over \$700 on the teachers gifts so far. A couple teachers were inadvertently overlooked for their Christmas card, which reminded each teacher they had money from PTU for supplies for their room. Just turn in their receipts. Haydiee will rectify the overlooked teachers.

So far for Family Fun Night, we have sold 50 tickets. There are about 210 families in the school.

Ray Riedel – Corresponding Secretary

Just a reminder to submit articles for the newsletter by the Friday before the newsletter comes out on Monday or Tuesday (usually about the 10th -15th of each month).

Jeanine Wascovich – Hospitality

She had a surprise birthday party for Dan before the Christmas break.

Lori St.Marie – Room Parents

There are two parties left this year – St. Valentine Day and St. Patrick Day. She thanked the room moms for helping put together the baskets for Family Fun Night.

Libby Sudnick – Label Coordinator

Please continue to send in box tops and receipts from Target, K-mart, etc. We have not received any money from Giant Eagle or Target (according to Cindy Finnegan – Treasurer).

Vicki Dakters – Market Day

We have made \$2200 from Market Day so far, according to Cindy Finnegan – Treasurer.

Resale Shop – Lisa Love

No report. Seems to be going well. Someone suggested putting a picture on the website as Lisa put so much work into setting it up and it looks great.

Jan O'Dell – Programming

Family Fun Night is set for Friday January 21, 2005. The room moms put together baskets for the Chinese Raffle – they are wonderful! She still has five more to collect. The tickets will be \$1.00 or six for \$5.00. The teachers will receive complimentary tickets. So far, Mrs. Aliff is in first place as far as attendance. Mrs. Buss is in second and Mrs. Quinn and Mrs. Knuff are tied for third. The class with the highest attendance will receive \$100 cash, second place, \$50.00 and third place, \$25.00. Jan will send home another reminder soon. There will be two drawings a week for those who purchased tickets in advance. There will be a collection of food for the St. Vincent DePaul Society the night of the 21st. Cougarwear, label coordinator, art area, pictures taken by a professional photographer will all be available on the 21st also. The pictures will be donated by the photographer so any money we charge will be profit. Teri Moyer will be in charge of getting people to donate desserts. Lisa Love is in charge of the kitchen. Jennifer

Ehlke is in charge of the art area. There is still a need for volunteers. Anyone interested, please call Jan.

Donations include a Cavs pin, visor, shirt, and key ring. Gift cards will be used as gifts.

Jan is still looking for a lasso and some plastic horseshoes.

Tickets will be sent home next week. Someone suggested not using tickets in an effort to cut costs, but Jan says they are a good reminder.

Jan will ask Darlene Zidek to review line dancing in gym class to refresh the kids' memories!

Ann Marie Smeraldi – Webmaster

No report

Kelly Copa – Library

Catholic Schools Week will include a book fair put on by the Wellspring. They will bring video, audio, jewelry, and books to sell. It will be in the library and available during the Open House also.

Jan Howell – Art

No report

Music

No report.

It was stated that the Christmas program was wonderful! Dan stated that the St. Joseph teachers did a great job preparing the students! Everyone agreed that Dan's elf costume was great as well.

New Business

Roy Jones has been a parishioner since 1958. He asked Fr. Weigand to ask Haydiee if he could talk to PTU. He taught Physics for over 30 years before retiring. He discussed the importance of math, algebra, and science in schools and how our country is the only one that does not use the metric system. He has written four books.

Motion to close at 8:05p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting is February 3, 2005 in the gym at 6:30.

Minutes submitted by Colleen Elbert on January 8, 2005.