

Saint Mary PTU Meeting
March 10, 2005

Attendance: Carolyn Duffield, Mrs. Knuff, Colleen Elbert, Dan Humphrey, Rene Leighton, AnnMarie Smeraldi, Michele Flanagan, Jeanine Wascovich, Darlene Zidek, Cindy Finnegan, Mrs. Babb, Mr. Walker, Cathy Linkous

Meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Carolyn Duffield. Haydiee Perkins-Burkes is recuperating from surgery and was not able to be in attendance.

Opening prayer was said by Dan Humphrey. He had the eighth grade students write prayers and this particular one was written by Ashley Boyson.

Dan Humphrey – Principal

Dan announced we will host a summer camp called “Camp Invention”. It’s a science camp for grades 1-5. It will be the last week in June from 9-3:30. It is approximately \$200. It is very hands-on, there are different stations for the students to go to and Mrs. Knuff said it is fantastic. There must be a minimum of 30 to proceed.

Dan stated that cell phones for students are banned at school and school sponsored activities including field trips. Camera phones can pose problems. Students can use the office phone anytime it is required.

Teacher recognition in the Diocese is “Teacher of the Year”. The person is voted on by staff members. Mrs. Babb has earned this honor. There will be a dinner at DeLuca’s for all the area catholic schools on May 13th for their recognition.

Marketing is going well. The Chronicle has given us great exposure, the radio spots are going well and the billboards are great. Dan would like to put up 5 more billboards. He used \$1500 from his “principal account” to pay for the first five and he would like PTU to pay for the next five which will be up from April 15th until May 15th. Lamar is the company that he used and found them to be very helpful. A vote has been put on hold until Haydiee can be present. Also, political type signs for yards will be purchased. One hundred signs with two colors will cost \$500. They will be yellow with blue lettering. We would also like to print up new flyers for preschool and the elementary grades. These will be handed out during open houses, tours, and possibly put at local preschools. Discussion on where else to put flyers. Dan would like to put something in church bulletins who do not have a school.

Kindergarten screening will be Saturday April 30th from 8-3. And again in early August.

The school cafeteria is down to one microwave oven. Due to liability, there will not be any microwaves for student use beginning next school year.

Haydiee Perkins-Burkes – President

(As read by Carolyn Duffield) There has been little activity on the gift certificate program. Should we discontinue?

Discussion followed. We have earned \$469 this year. Each time the list is copied to distribute, it costs \$10. Only do it around the holidays, have a surplus to just hand out immediately instead of ordering the more popular cards such as grocery. Some feel it is undermarketed. Some schools use this program to subsidize their school. Don't want to make it mandatory. Ann Marie Smeraldi offered to put the form on the website. Cathy Linkous will get more information and discuss this further with Dan to possibly take over the program.

Open positions for PTU will be addressed by the nominating committee. Michele Flanagan will head this up again this year and Dan Humphrey will help her. She always tries to have at least two people for each open position for the executive board. The open positions for executive board next year are two vice president positions.

Carolyn Duffield – Vice president

We have earned \$8300 from the magazine sale. The candy sale has brought in \$5266. 63 families donated money, 100 families sold candy and 54 families still haven't returned their boxes or money. We received \$24 profit from each box this year. Last year we made \$6000 because we made a little more per box. Prizes were awarded.. Carolyn will purchase a small gift for Mary Poling and LeeAnn Hoover for all of the help they gave during the candy sale.

Cindy Finnegan – Treasurer

We still have a lot of expenses coming up. The golf outing is also coming up which is a good money maker, still have money coming in from candy. She has a hand-out detailing monies.

Hospitality

Jeanine Wascovich is having her fifth child in August and will be unable to continue doing Hospitality. She suggested having two people rather one head this committee. She will do one more teachers' luncheon and the Installation Dinner at the end of the year and then be finished.

New Business

Discussion on having a basketball hoop or tether ball put up for the playground. Dan stated that the future of the playground is uncertain at this point so we need to wait until fall when construction will be settled. For now, we will use chalk, jump ropes, balls when it is nice outside. Portable basketball hoops may be possible, week-ends pose a problem. It is necessary to put something out there for the children, will figure it out next fall.

Mrs. Babb is attending a "State Institute for Reading Instruction" (SIRI). Mrs. Knuff is also taking the class. Mrs. Babb would like part of the tuition reimbursed. She has not turned in receipts for classroom supplies and each teacher was allotted money for supplies or what have you and she would like her allotted amount to use for tuition. This was approved and she will turn in a pamphlet or letter rather than a receipt. She briefly explained the class was \$286, but she had a voucher for half so she only needs half

reimbursed. The class emphasizes five essential components: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency development, vocabulary, and comprehensive. She stated that you adjust teaching to accommodate the “No child left behind”. It tries to make reading fun for those who struggle.

Colleen Elbert asked if the eighth grade T-shirts could be given to the students at the beginning of the year rather than the end of the year so that the students could get more use out of them. They could be worn for SMS dress down days. Dan will see if that could be done for next year.

Carolyn Duffield asked if it's possible to get half of the money up front from the magazine sale so that our cash flow is easier to work with. This will be discussed with Joe Schneeburger (spelling???)

The math-a-thon helped St. Jude Hospital and we made a \$780 donation. This is open to grades K-8. Kristen Baker, in third grade, raised the most money and won a CD player. Allie Kaminski, also in third grade, came in second. Everyone received a certificate of participation and those raising over \$35 received a t-shirt.

Michele Flanagan asked about PTU taking a more active role in marketing. She had a few fund raising ideas: Bingo, but Dan stated that Fr. Ed is not willing to undertake that now. There is a lot of potential income, discussed the pros and cons. Texas Hold'em and Night at the Races also discussed. Lot of income potential.

There are grants available for heart defibrillators and our school is in the process of receiving one. Teachers and staff will be trained on how to use one just on case.

It was discussed why there are no SMS spelling bee contestants.

Programming

Jan O'Dell still has First Communion which is May 7th at 10:00a.m. and Eighth grade graduation which is June 8th at 7:30p.m.

Physical Education – Darlene Zidek

Feb. 14th was the American Heart Association jump rope and hoops for heart. We raised \$2215. She had four parent helpers come in to assist. The Chronicle put a nice picture in the paper. June 3rd will be Fun and Field Day – more details to follow.

WebMaster – Ann Marie Smeraldi

She registered 1400 hits in five weeks. She has added CougarWear and the team shop. Ann Marie has added the link to edline and will put the form for the gift certificates on there if that is decided upon. Dan Humphrey complimented the site.

Next meeting will be held April 7 at 6:30 in the Art Room.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07p.m. Minutes submitted by Colleen Elbert on March 13, 2005.

