

St. Joseph Home and School Association
General Membership Meeting
September 17, 2009
Minutes

Opening Prayer – Father Vogan Pledge of Allegiance – Barb Arena

Minutes – Provided on Website

Treasurer's Report – Lisa Patterson – as of July 31, 2009 - \$4,881.56

Opening Comments – Father Vogan

*Thank you for entrusting your children to us. Catholic school teaches the children Christian values & to understand what Jesus did. Why he was willing to sacrifice himself on the cross. Reinforce religious values at home. School depends on parents for faith, habits & practices. Important to attend Church.

*Introduced Father Lange. It is the priests' vocation to bring us closer to the Lord.

*Financial – Capital Campaign ends Sunday. \$1.2 million goal. 35% to parish, 65% to Archdiocese. We are committed to Catholic school. Will use half the money raised for a tuition assistance program. The other half will go towards parish debt which is around \$800,000 right now. We have never refused anyone for lack of tuition payment. Come to Father if payments cannot be met. Tell him ahead of time so he can help. Don't wait until you're in dire distress. We're here for you, we love your children. We want to help educate them & instill Christian values.

*Script & Certificate Program – buy at rectory. It is underused by school families but 45% of the program supports the school!

*Grateful to the faculty. Have a good year.

Opening Comments – Ms. Cook

*Welcome to returning and new families. We realize the sacrifice that is made to send children to Catholic school. Excellent academics in addition to faith which is the main component of our system. We strive to teach children to be good citizens & Christians.

*Middle States Evaluation

Self Improvement process/self study of how we serve you. Are we on that path? Are we who we say we are? They will visit the school. It's intense but the outcome is to set us up for future. 10 years since their last visit. Met goals...i.e. a specific recommendation was a lunchroom which is now Degan Hall. We are able to meet goals thanks to parish support and wonderful work of the H&SA. We know we need improvement in content areas...i.e. science, social studies and academic & instructional technique direction. 4 visitors- objective view of us by observing and speaking to us, faculty, classes. Sunday, November 8, 2009 is Presentation Night. We hope you'll attend.

*Budget Cuts – no books or textbooks (come from the State of PA). Everything was on hold. We expect them to be here. Be heard! We will send emails to guide you to contact your political leaders. Please take the time to send an email. We're slated to be cut next year by 12%!

*Swine Flu – H1N1 – Taking necessary precautions...talking to children, using hand sanitizers, wiping everything down. We registered to be an inoculation center.

Information is forthcoming. Please keep sick children home...fever free for a day!

*Technology – Spent \$12,000 for 1st & 2nd grade SmartBoards, a new server & software throughout entire school.

*Fundraisers – In addition to financial support, please volunteer your time. Brings the community together. Script Program – parish supports us with this program.

*No volunteers for 6th grade homeroom mom.

*Introduced staff.

*Thanked H&SA for their time and effort.

Old/Ongoing Business

Hot Dog Day – May 22, 2009 – Thanks to Debbie Whitaker & all volunteers

Graduation Reception – June 10, 2009 – Thanks to Lisa McGonigal

Review of 2008-2009 dedicated fundraiser – Purchased Smart Boards for 1st & 2nd grades and a new server for the school.

Painless Fundraisers – boxtops – Acme – cartridges/cell phones (2 bins located outside of school) – Tyson. Cartridges raised \$8000 in 8 years, value cards \$3000 last year, Joe Corbi's \$1800, Walk-A-Thon \$7000, Market Day \$6000.

Market Day – Next pick up is October 6, 2009 5-7pm Degnan Hall

Please support Parish SCRIP/Certificate Program

New/Upcoming Business

Hot Lunch Program to begin September 28, 2009 – Thanks to Barb Arena and Mary Testa.

Welcome to new H&SA Board Members – Clara Marano (Ways & Means) & Paula Gaspara (Membership)

Wish List Program - \$100/classroom for materials and equipment

Start Up Program - \$50/classroom/trimester for “day brighteners”

Classroom Fund - \$5/student for parties, crafts & treats

Annual Fundraiser – Market Day Catalog – Begins September 23, 2009

-For Technology, desks, chairs, textbooks & ongoing expenses

Thank you for your support!

Annual Membership Dues - \$10/family – may be paid through October 16, 2009

Important Dates

Family Bingo Night – September 25, 2009, 7pm, Degnan Hall. FAMILY Bingo. Please do NOT drop off children. A responsible adult MUST accompany the children. Spiritwear will be available for purchase.

Hot Dog Day – October 23, 2009

K-2 Halloween Party – October 23, 2009, 6:30 – 8pm Degnan Hall

Halloween Classroom Parties K-4 – October 29, 2009

Parish Christmas Bazaar – November 21 and 22, 2009 (drop off items on Friday)

Santa Secret Workshop – December 11, 2009

Christmas Classroom Parties K-8 – December 22, 2009

Next General Membership meeting – February 25, 2010 – Wellness Night.

Questions

None

50/50 Drawing – \$111 to Donna Czaplicki **Tuition Drawing** - \$100 to Barb Kennedy

Raffle – necklace to the Mumley Family

-cardholder to Maria Kane

Closing Prayer – Father Lange