

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

## St. Luke Catholic School - PTO Meeting

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Present: Mandy Heslin, Bis Feldmann, Ashley Dirks, Kelly Wessel, EJ Whitaker, Kristin Beam, Karin Held, Heather Allen, Derek Hileman, Lynel Duffy, Kim Moriarty, Molly Beckman, Lori LeRoy, Rachel Gallagher, Kate Bruner, Tara Strohl, Whitney Robinson, Heather Malarny, Liz Held, Amy Szentes, Mary Petruzzi, Joyce Simpkins, Kristen Crisp, Angela Agricola, Celeste Hinko, Yo Grego,

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Not Present: Anne Horton, Alyssa Wagner, Kathleen Smith, Tracy Miller, Beth Brown, Jenn Rotz, Kathleen Art, Sharon Dillon, Jenn Baker, Amy Waninger, Kelly Rees,

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**Meeting began at 7pm in the Parish library (our pet project for this year)**

### **Presidents Remarks:**

Mandy has met with Mrs. Burns to discuss her needs and vision for the parish library/resource room. On Thursday, the two will meet with RJE Business Interiors for information on how they may be able to help. She will follow-up with PTO, but the meeting's purpose is purely informational at this time.

Wednesday, 9/21 is the first spirit day of the year. Mandy will meet with the teachers and discuss their available funds and how PTO grants work.

Grant request: Submitted by Mrs. Laux for \$497.50 was passed by the PTO board. Mrs. Laux will use money for 8th grade art display that in part, will be used year after year.

This year's focus of STEM has been asked by Mrs Borland to include Religion and Art and will have a STREAM focus. More to come on school activities to incorporate.

PTO has been asked to participate in funding of the new playground. No dollar amount has been requested, so more to come in the future. Angela Agricola gave information regarding the playground committee and where it sits. Funds from last year and this year's Fall Fest will be directed to the new playground. It is unclear if there will be amounts available for a safer ground floor. PTO members recommended various ways to raise any additional money to complete the project including sponsorships and paddle auctions at Trivia night.

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**Treasurers Report:**

PTO dues are up compared to total dues paid last year. 250 families have paid this year.

Ashley is working to increase certain committee budgets that need more money allocated and adding a STREAM line item. Ashley has also been working closely with fundraising this last month regarding trash bags.

**Faculty Report provided by Kate Bruner:**

Update regarding 8th grades record garage sale: \$640 of each student's Washington, DC trip will be subtracted from their total based on sale. Wow!

The Technology and Tech Strategy Plan is being redeveloped to include: WIFI update, budgeting for Tech replacement funds each year and expansion of IPADs for all incoming 8th graders in 2017-18 year and also allowing for additional IPADs for new students or transfers within the 5th-8th grade years.

Currently NWEA test being conducted in grades K-8. NWEA replaces previous AIMS test. NWEA is similar to AIMS in that it looks for growth, but different because tests are taken online, and more in-depth testing allows for teachers to get better understanding of what each student understands and knows. The data is almost immediately available to the teacher and students will have specific goals created for them that can be shared as the student changes grades each year, ultimately helping teachers and students. NWEA testing will be done in the fall, January and spring to measure student's progress throughout the year.

Singapore Math informational parent session occurring 9/21 at 6:30pm. Singapore Math was adopted this year but the School Board for grades K-3.

Regarding STREAM focus this year, a Family Math Night is being planned for next January.

**Committee Reports:**

**Arts & Enrichment:**

Classes began this past Monday, 9/19 with over 300 kids enrolled in After School Enrichment (ASE). Next semester of ASE will begin in January.

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STREAM meeting next week with Heather Allen. Mrs Kelly will meet and report teachers ideas and needs from PTO. Treasurer will also meet with Heather to discuss budget.

**Fundraising:**

Trash bag sales were up \$2600 over last year. If we sell all the extras purchased, PTO to make \$40,000 this year.

Yovonne Grego updated class thermometers last week announcing class contest winners. Class contests did not include late orders and donations. Class contest party dates will be planned this week and communicated to students. Dates will be set and not subject to change based on any individual's ability or not to participate on that date. Waivers will be required for some and will be distributed thru the classrooms.

Trash bag delivery is Wednesday, Sept 21 from 1:00 - 5:30 and Thursday, Sept 22 from 7:30 - 9:30 and 2:30 - 6:00. If you have wagons available to load, please drop them off with your name on it. Volunteers are still needed.

**Spirit Wear/ Gym Clothes:**

All of the spirit wear ordered on line was delivered to the class rooms before our first Fab Friday last week. The spirit wear website will open again prior to the holidays.

All Gym clothes orders have been delivered to students. Extras available for additional needs as they arise.

**Communications & Membership:**

Buzz book is at printer and it will go out next week. Will send out email if you would like to volunteer for label/distribution.

Currently working with Katrina on more text messages throughout the year.

Q: Has anyone communicated to parents regarding the issues with Sprint text messaging and how to ensure receipt of test messages with that particular carrier?

All new families have been put in contact with PTO members for mentors

Suggestion was made to make more invites to Facebook St Luke Moms page for information and question sharing.

**Special Activities:**

Completed in September- Fall Fest Fab Friday was a success. Kids wore spirit shirts and got the opportunity to play some of the fall fest games at recess. Everyone got a

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treat/snack after recess plus there was one game with the grand prize. If they won the game they got a drink ticket for fall fest. Also, Teachers coffee cart was a big hit Monday! Another one is scheduled for April. Will look at providing this every month next year, if possible.

Planned for October- Oktoberfest is scheduled for the 14th. We are planning pretzels & apple cider. German music(?) Teacher's snack cart will be provided during conferences. Donations can still be made at the October PTO meeting. Look for a list of needed items for the snack cart prior to the meeting.

February- Motivational Speaker is set for the 24th- Debbie Sullivan Olympian Speed Walker.

**Next Steps:**

Help needed THIS Wed & Thurs with trash bag pick-up. Show up if you have any free time!

Bring Donations on 10/25 for Teachers Cart.

Next meeting 10/25 -Parish Hall -6:30 Social, Meeting @7pm.

Meeting concluded at 7:40pm.