

Tuesday, October 25, 2016

St. Luke Catholic School - PTO Meeting

Present: Mandy Heslin, Kelly Wessel, Heather Allen, Alyssa Wagner, Kim Moriarty, Kathleen Smith, EJ Whitaker, Kristin Beam, Tracy Miller, Beth Brown, Lori LeRoy, Jenn Rotz, Angela Agricola, Kathleen Art, Mary Petruzzi, Yovonne Grego, Jenn Baker, Heather Malarney, Molly Beckman, Rachel Gallagher, Kate Bruner, Elizabeth Hicks, Ashley Hileman

Not Present: Bis Feldman, Ashley Dirks, Anne Horton, Liz Held, Joyce Simpkins, Karin Held, Sharon Dillon, Amy Szentes, Kristin Crisp, Celeste Hinko, Amy Waninger, Kelly Rees, Tara Strohl

Meeting began at 7pm in the Parish Hall

September minutes were approved.

Summer and Fall birthdays were recognized.

Presidents Remarks:

Topic 1: New grant request received from Mrs. Borland. Grant requests \$1400 to be paid to retired teacher, Mrs. Chapman, to assist, train and transition the speech team over to current teacher, Mrs. Forsee. Group discussion followed.

Q: Does Mrs Forsee get paid extra for doing this?

Q: What is our grant balance for 16-17 year?

Q: Do we usually have leftover money from grants?

Q: If we say no, will they ask school commission?

Comment: "Worthwhile funding, but this (PTO) is not the proper "source".

Q: Did our speech team win or lose last year?

Q: What is the deadline? What would happen if we turn it down?

Q: What precedent does this set for PTO?

Discussion of past grants followed.

Discussion of PTO's purpose followed.

Vote taken, including votes from Treasurer and Vice-President, cast prior to meeting if needed for quorum, the grant was declined.

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Topic 2: Athletic Spirit wear now residing under PTO spirit clothes in order to ensure spirit clothes meet uniform rules (no hoodies, no shorts between Oct-Apr).

Athletic offerings for this year to include basketball, wrestling, volleyball, soccer, track, kick-ball.

St Luke Athletic Committee (SLAC) has decided they do not want PTO to receive profits, after athletic director has approved.

Q: Is SLAC willing to do errands, deliveries?

PTO agreed to stay with current arrangement thru the school year and then re-negotiate the relationship and responsibilities with the SLAC in the summer for '17-18 school year.

Topic 3: Trash bag prize parties. PTO recently informed that 6 adults with confirmed Safe & Sacred training and background checks must attend.

Topic 4: PTO "pet project", the library is coming along. RJE Interiors has returned with ideas to help transform current library. More information to come. On Friday, October 29th, PTO is welcome to take a field trip to see installed fixtures similar to the ones RJE is proposing.

Topic 5: Mrs Kelly, Heather Allen and Kate Bruner met to discuss in-school activities for November 16th. More information below under Arts & Enrichment.

Treasurers Report: None.

Faculty Report provided by Kate Bruner:

Mrs. Borland looking at mean versus national scores by grade from NWEA testing.

Teachers like the NWEA break downs to help them understand deficiencies. Also, tells them what they are ready for such as individualized needs and differentiation.

Buildings & Grounds: one bath will be updated over winter break to determine the average cost to remodel the existing bathrooms.

Mrs Bruner & Mrs Alexander (layout & editing) are assisting with school newspaper. 6th-8th grades will receive printed versions, a digital version will be available by end of the week. All ideas, stories, interviews, questions, pictures done by 7-8th students. 2nd semester, they plan to expand and offer to 6th grade students. Next year, the students will take over layout as well.

Committee Reports:

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Arts & Enrichment:

November 16th will be first STEM event.

7-8th grades will participate in STEM Scouts Mobile Lab (free); 4-6th grade will be working in the Wonder Lab (paid) exploring Science, Health and Technology, K-3rd will be off-site @ Marian University (free)...or possibly on site with teacher-led activities (to be determined). All costs covered under STEM budget.

Another STEM day being explored for the spring thru Purdue University.

Fundraising:

The prize events for the winning grades will be Thursday and Friday this week. Big shout out to Yo Grego for getting the prize charts filled in and keeping me sane thru organizing the 4 events.

We have lots of yellow and white trash bags available for sale. Unfortunately, we're not allowed to sell in the Narthex or put an ad in the bulletin. It would be great to sell the remaining boxes to clear up the PTO closet b/c its very full.

I'm going to post a picture of the bags on my neighborhood page to help sell our inventory. If you'd like to use the same picture for you sphere, I will email it to Mandy and she can share it with everyone.

I'm going to need someone to take over this position after next year. Ideally, that person will work closely with me starting next summer to learn the ropes for trash bag sales.

Spirit Wear/ Gym Clothes:

General spirit wear website will be reopening soon and items ordered will be delivered to classrooms the week of November 28th, unless they are secret Christmas gifts and those will be delivered directly to those making the purchases.

Our committee is also working with the Athletic Department to implement athletic spirit wear. The school has agreed that as long as the athletic spirit wear meets with our general spirit wear rules, it can be worn on spirit days. We're starting with basketball and hope to have that website open this week as well.

Extra PE Clothes available in all sizes. If anyone asks, have them contact Heather Malarney.

Communications & Membership:

Buzz Books went out!

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Ram Reminders (1 pg sheet of reminders) will continue to go out each month.

Still working on meeting with the parish staff re: the marquee!

Special Activities:

Oktoberfest was a hit! Kids loved the pretzels & apple juice. Next year more decorations.

Teacher snack cart this Thursday. Thanks to everyone who brought in snacks!

November: "Thankful for our education"- kids wear school (high, college, elementary) shirts on November 18th. Plus, each given a special treat.

May "Fun Day" replaces field day. We are looking for ideas for activity stations. So far, stations include tatoos, hot dog grill out, rock wall climbing. If you have ideas, please forward to Kristin Beam.

Next Steps: Next meeting: Tuesday, November, 15th. 6:30 Social, 7:00 Meeting.

Meeting concluded and was adjourned at approximately 8:00pm.