

SMA School Board Meeting - Minutes

September 20, 2023

7:00pm in Beyanka Hall

Board Members Present: Wayne Wenzel, Chris Cwynar, Jennifer Reykjalín, Erin Szymanski, Ruben Ontanon, Eva Kogut, Lena Suwalski, Deb Ingargiola, Michael Fernandez, Phillip Guzman, Nick Zayas

- 7:00 pm – Welcome & Prayer
- 7:05 pm - Approval of Minutes: Lena and Deb approved
- 7:10 pm – Pastor’s Report – Not present
- 7:20 pm – Principal’s Report
 - On Sept 10th the 4th grade teacher resigned. Mrs. Curtin subbed and helped a lot. Ms. Wilwers will be coming back to our school starting Monday. 4th and 5th grade classes may be switching twice to lean on teachers’ strengths.
 - Back to school night: Teachers had a lot of positive responses.
 - Grandparent’s Day: Next time will promote more of the fact that “special people ” are welcome as well, not just Grandparents. Received many compliments from visitors. Junior high was used to help, and they did a great job.
 - Iready open and students are working on this.
 - IXL: great math enrichment program. We got licensed and registered for K – 8th. Students will be starting to use it soon.
 - After school enrichments added: Drama for the fall for younger grades. 6th – 8th grade will have drama opportunities in the spring. Choir program starting. Newspaper beginning.
 - Mustangs of the month: (our version of student of the month). Teachers nominate one student a month. 4 winners a month: One preK-2nd, one 3rd-5th, one 6th-8th, one faculty & staff. Starting in September.

- 7:30 pm – Committee Updates

- Environmental Awareness:

- Deep cleaning of garden, Molly tree area, corner at Mont Clare. Weeded pavers. Tree guy from the city wants to replace 2 trees on our property.

- Legislative Action Policy Report: none

- Alumni: Reaching out and sharing everything that gets posted on the website to the Alumni page.

- Hospitality – Room parent meeting happened last Tuesday. Creating a room parent manual will be helpful. Open house food delivery went well. Will bring lunch for parent teacher conferences (November 21) for the teachers.

- Volunteers: CIA link was shared to get volunteers for different events throughout the year. Wayne will add the link for the upcoming newsletters.

- Fundraising: Current focus is the Gala. Sourced good donations and baskets for the Gala. Looking for volunteers to help with setting up that morning and during the event – sign up genius coming out soon. Will have sign ups at church.

- CIA – movie night went well

- Finance: No updates

- 7:35 pm – Old Business

- Summerfest – waiting on final numbers. Deposited just under \$15,000 so far. Positive feedback on 5K and having 3 different bands.

- Possibly next year: kick off to summer for Summerfest in June, then have a 5K and Carnival in August.

- Year at a Glance Calendar: posted on the school website and in Wayne's newsletter. Would like to share upcoming events with parishioners.

- Stan's Donuts: did not raise enough money. Location may have been a problem.

- Gala (10/14) – see above
 - Dine out days Shared by Meghan. We would like it shared in the bulletin. Wayne will send the dine out nights to Logan.
 - Coffee after Mass (Jan. 28, 2024 Catholic Schools Week) – hosted by the school board. After 9am mass.
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- 7:40 pm – New Business
 - Gala (10/14) Tickets on sale, need a signup genius to sell after masses. Each class donates one ticket for the teacher (so that the teachers can attend for free).
 - Marketing: Meeting was scheduled but had to be rescheduled.
-Can marketing start promoting sporting events?
 - Book Fair/Open house Catholic Schools week – teachers/room moms don't need to bring in food for open house
 - Football Mania (we made \$1837.50 can still buy tickets until 10/30)
 - World's Finest: 51 blue boxes and 2 green boxes left to sell. \$7300 profit if we sell all of the boxes. Will be selling after mass – looking for volunteers to help sell.
 - Movie Night (9/15) – went great. Thanks to Ruben for getting speakers – big improvement.
 - Parents night out (9/16)
-Promote more parents getting to know each other. Some parents had a hard time finding a babysitter & could not come.
 - babysitters from the school community?
 - In house parent mixer, so that children can come, too?
And parents wouldn't need a babysitter?
 - 8th grade fundraiser for dance possibilities: Concessions at Trunk or Treat. Or sell Affy Tapple Fundraiser at trunk or treat or during lunches.
 - Spirit wear store – we would like an active store online. Would like to stay local, but bigger companies are very transparent. Would be great to do it, as long as it is done correctly.

- Book Fair – help wanted for next year. May have a few interested people. Same with special lunches for next year.
 - Room Parent Questions & Concerns: parents were overwhelmed with what was included in being a room parent. Lena would like to open a virtual meeting to answer questions and issues for room parents.
 - There was confusion about what Hospitality and room parents do vs. fundraising committee.
 - Lena: one way to clear up confusion – We know we collect per class. It would be nice to put the room parents' money into FACTS as a Classroom fee: (around \$13 extra per student, depending on enrollment)
 - Wayne: maybe we should make an Org chart for Hospitality, CIA, Fundraising
- 7:55 pm - Visitor's Open Discussion:

Parent: Support collecting of fees in FACTS, however a check box to make it optional would be good to make education accessible for all.

Parent: Volunteer sign up is always up?

Lena: It will be in the newsletters.

Parent: Can we put the CIA sign up on the Volunteer page of the website?

Wayne: Yes

Parent: Support collecting funds in FACTS for room parent collection.

Parents will want this fee to be asked of up front. Can we add the option on FACTS to add more than the required amount for this fee?

Wayne: Yes

Parent: I am a room mom. Fundraising aspect is a living thing. Fee for hospitality would be great. Younger parents want to be involved. Parents

don't know where to get info from. Streamline info would be great. Moms of older kids were putting down suggestions at room mom meeting. This was very discouraging for parents of younger kids.

Board: This is the issue about lack of uniformity. This is why we want a manual. We need binders/manuals for different jobs/committees.

Wayne: A lot of times 80% of stuff gets done by 20% of the people. I think the people that have done things (dances, etc.) in the past get protective of the events they run. But that is not the message we want to send. We want/are happy that young families are excited.

Parent: I was also at the room parent meeting. Maybe a committee that plans different kinds of events for mother-son events would be a good idea. Some of the other moms of older boys possibly wanted something besides a dance.

Also, being able to differentiate between CIA events and fundraising events would be helpful. Some parents did not know if the Firewater Parent's Night Out was a fundraiser or not.

Parent: What is the best way to volunteer? CIA?

Board: Yes

Parent: Would be nice to have a Room Parent table at Family Pick Up Day.

Board: Agree. We would like to do this.

Parent: Will there be an option for summer camp next summer?

Wayne: That is the goal – some sort of summer events. We don't know if we can do the whole summer.

- 8:52 pm - Meeting Adjourned

Future meeting date: Wednesday, October 18th @ 7:00 pm