

St. James PTA Minutes
Wednesday, January 19, 2011
Cafeteria
8:00pm: PTA meeting

Opening:

Opening Prayer: Ann Mazza

Principal's Remarks: Mrs. Dolan

Mary Jane spoke for Mrs. Dolan who was unable to attend.

- Crazy Dress down Day was changed to 2/9 instead of 4/11.
- Terra Nova tests will start a day or 2 earlier. The concern is that Ash Wednesday, which is a day off, falls in the middle of the planned test week and she still wants to allow for a make up day. The tests have to be packaged on the 16th for mailing
- Katie Niesz has planned several children's programs
 - 2/14 Franklin Institute "Energy" - Grades 3, 4, 5
 - 2/15 Seek 911 –Grade 1
 - 2/23 Fossils - Grade 2
 - 3/3 "Earth Matters" – All Grades
 - 3/21 Bike Safety – Grades 5,6,7,8
- Reminder, if you are running an event where a tear off reply is required, please repeats the name of the event on the tear off. Also, it would be helpful to put the tear off in an envelope with event name on it. When there are several things going on at the same time and the event name does not appear, we don't know where it goes.
- Winter Club pickups- Parents CAN NOT park on both sides of the street. It's dangerous with so many children being dismissed. Parents should park in the lot and walk to the front of the building. This notice must be on ALL club information signup sheets.
- Honeywell – went very well. Very few problems and those were followed up on

President's Remarks: Mary Jane Manners and Denise Burke

Vice President's Remarks: Elizabeth Mancuso, Peggy Mucerino and
Stephanie Murray

Recording Secretary's Report: Karen Cronk

- 11/10/10 minutes were approved by Ann Mazza and Karen Cronk

Corresponding Secretary: Jill Kozack

Treasurer's Report: Debbie Ryerson

- The balance is \$12,132.3. Approximately \$1,300 goes to the library because of the book fair.

Committee Chairs:

Kindergarten Social: Ellen Meehan

- Everyone had a lot of fun. About 25 kindergarteners and 35 parents attended.

Saint Patrick's Day Adult Social: Jeanne O'Connor

- 135 people turned out last year. Minimal cost since we received lots of food and alcohol donations. The biggest expense was the live band (Paul Cilinski) but the preference this year is for a DJ. Much lower cost. Cost is early bird \$15 and than \$20. Last year they made money but received no money upfront. The cost last

year to run event was \$500-700. Requesting \$250 upfront. Approved by Karen Cronk and Steph Murray. Need more volunteers for set up and clean up. Also requesting that the Royals help with the set up and clean up. We are asking the PTA to donate appetizers. Mary Jane said that when they send the flier out they should ask people to commit to bringing in some type of food.

Father Daughter Dinner Dance: Robinson/Toomey

- March 6th. The theme is Broadway. Need playbills for décor. Eileen contacts everyone on volunteer list. Space is limited!

Ice Skating: Lisa Swabsin

- \$950 was needed as a deposit. To cover this we needed 100 to attend. Originally only 91 signed up. 165 ended up attending. Big success and everyone had fun.
- There were 2 injuries, stitches on a chin first 5 minutes of event and injured knee at the very end. There were gloves left behind and girls' ice skates. These will be left at the front desk. Deposited \$880. There is \$87 left which will be brought in on Thursday.

Care Steps: Sandy Thuel

- **Caroling** - It was held at the Asbury Towers. It was a wonderful day. We had a ukulele. About 30 participants including parents showed up. We might change the location next year. Mary Jane suggested Bingo or something different for the seniors on other days than just the holidays.
- **Pajama Program** – The program was held the last week of December. About 40 pajamas and 10 new books were donated to the Poricy Park collection and distribution center. They were deeply appreciated by the coordinators
- **Care-a-Thon** - Not sure what to do about what we have done in the past. Usually K-1 filled out care journals showing “care”. Teachers like it but a lot of work is involved. Willing to do it again but would like feedback from Mrs. Dolan and PTA. For older kids, they would submit an essay on a topic. This year's theme is Catholic School A+ for America. Winners received a \$20 gift certificate last year which also encouraged participation. Paula suggested we have children write Valentine day cards to elderly from home as a Care-a-thon activity. Perhaps get names of the elderly so children can personalize the cards.
- **SOUPer Bowl of Caring** - Collect cans of soup during Catholic School week which will be donated to the Food bank of Monmouth Ocean County and recorded as part of the national drive effort.
- **Lunchbreak** - We will be preparing and serving lunch. The problem is only 10 volunteers are needed. 2/12 and 2/26 are the Saturdays we can do. Slots will be filled by responses received on a first come first serve basis. It's a 3 hour commitment. Attire is jeans, sneakers, no jewelry. Offered to grades 5-8

Progressive raffle

- Begins 1/31. Suggestions as prizes were IPAD, NOOK, free week lunch passes.

Royals: Joe Deleo

Game Night:

- Game Night will be Friday 1/28 at 7pm-8:45. Brian Hill is running it. He is looking for volunteers. Set up is at 5:30. Brian brings free pizza.

Basketball Blowout

- It was a great event. SJS dads won! We made \$642 before expenses. Everyone had a great time. Jeanne commented that it was disappointing there weren't

enough teachers volunteering. How do we encourage more teachers to participate next year?

Polar Plunge

- Big success. Largest turnout yet. We earned \$12,000. There are no expenses for this event. SJS gets 100% from Hibernians. We need to partner with Development and PTA and better coordinate our fundraising efforts.

Closing/Other Business: Mary Jane Manners and Denise Burke

- You have until 5/1/11 to submit fund raising and event ideas. It is not guaranteed that it will be accepted. This year the calendar will be put together by the Development, PTA and Royals. We are trying to avoid bunching events together
- Virtus training was cancelled Tuesday 1/18. The next one is in Marlboro. Check virtus.org (Dio of Trenton) for other dates and sites.
- Catholic School week begins 1/31. Teacher appreciation day is 2/3. Hospitality/lunch provided by PTA. Looking for donations.
- Parent visitation day is 2/4. There will be hospitality for parents.
- After school Winter Clubs start 3/22-4/7
- Woman's retreat 3/26
- Committer chairs need to put together a timeline for their position. This year is a turnover year. It is very helpful for new volunteers to know what is expected of them. It helps them out for next year
- Mother/Son outing will be held on Sunday 4/10/11. Lakewood BlueClaws ball game with private 3rd base seating and BBQ. The same as last year. Adults \$25 and boys 12 and under \$17

Attendance 1/19/2011

Mary Jane Manners
Denise Burke
Maria Rimmele
Karen Cronk
Jeanne O'Connor
Maura Attardi
Ann Mazza
Steph Murray
Michele Walter
Lisa Swabsin
Kirsten Rennard
Joe DeLeo
Paula Pangilinan