

St. James PTA Minutes

Wednesday, January 11, 2012

8:15 a.m. – Cafeteria

Mary Jane Manners called the meeting to order.

Opening Prayer: Ann Mazza

Co-Presidents: Mary Jane Manners/Denise Burke. Denise reminded us that Catholic School's Week is coming up. It is the week of January 31st through February 3rd. We will need Board members to represent St. James during Open House. We will also need volunteers to bake for Teacher Appreciation Day, which is on Thursday, February 2nd.

Vice Presidents: Jackie Mazzucco/Stephanie Murray. Jackie discussed Dr. David Mercaldo, the author that spoke to our K through 4th grade students. She told us that the children enjoyed the program.

Recording Secretary: Linda Murphy. Derry Becker and Ann Mazza approved the minutes from the 11/9/11 meeting.

Treasurer: Denise Burke reported for Karen Cronk. There are many expenditures coming up. We will soon have to pay our portion of Mrs. Waters' salary, the copier fees, and the renewal for the Honeywell system. The spreadsheet is at the end of the minutes.

Executive Board:

Children's Programs: Denise Burke reported for Brooke Cassidy. Denise stated that we are looking for someone to assist with Children's Programs.

Development: Lynn Doherty reported that, to date, the Box Tops program has yielded close to \$1000.00. The Development committee is working to create a "Sponsor Our SJS Angels' Classroom program in which friends and family will be able to donate funds to update parts of SJS interiors. These donors will receive a plaque hung as a thank you in the appropriate classroom. They are also trying to build an alumni donation program. Development is providing funds to buy paint for the EDP and Preschool areas. The committee is selling SJS Spirit attire. We will be having two more fundraisers with Red Bank Chocolate for Valentine's Day and St. Patrick's Day. There will also be an Easter Dress Down fundraiser.

Royal's Club: Mary Jane Manners reported for Joe DeLeo. The Basketball Blowout was a success. The Royals raised \$764.00 between admissions, 50/50, and dress down pass sales. The Polar Plunge raised approximately \$10,000.00. A suggestion was made to Mr. Cardone that in the future, SJS basketball games should not be played on the day of the Polar Plunge. Mr. Cardone will speak to SJAA about this for next year. A request was made for \$200.00 for an ad in the AOH ad journal. Tina Catapano and Ann Mazza approved. Game Night is scheduled for January 27th. A request was made for \$200.00 for operating costs. Jackie Mazzucco and Sandy Thuel approved.

Adult Speaker Program: Denise Burke reported for Carly Deickman. There will be a speaker from the YMCA at the PTA meeting on February 8th. The topic will be sports, health, and exercise. A dress down pass will be given to those students whose parent attends.

Committee Chairs:

It's OK to be Different: Denise Burke reported for Kate Niesz. The program is underway and has been a success thus far. In November, the program began with various exercises that gave students a view of what it is like to be visually impaired. The next session will begin in February and focus on physical disabilities. If anyone knows of someone that may like to come in and speak to the children about a physical disability, please contact Kate Niesz or Jill Kozack.

Care Steps: Sandy Thuel stated that we will once again be running the "Souper Bowl of Caring" food drive during Catholic Schools Week. This year we will be donating the food to Lunch Break rather than the Food Bank. There will also be a poster contest with the theme "Faith, Academics, & Service." The posters will be displayed during Catholic Schools Week. The first and second place winners for K-2, 3-5, and 6-8 will receive three dress down passes. The first place winners will receive a gift card. Sandy requested \$75.00 for prizes. Lisa Cirillo and Maria Rimmele approved.

A suggestion was made by Rita Nahas regarding adopting a needy family. There was also discussion about having a dress down twice a month for charity. There would be 20 different themes for the year and in order to dress down, students would be required to donate items instead of bringing in a dollar. It would probably be a subcommittee of Care Steps.

Father Daughter Dinner Dance: Kathleen Robinson reported that things are moving along well for the March 4th dance. The dance will begin at 1:00 and will be the same price as last year. This year they will be using Dean's Florist and Bill Gray as a

photographer. Kathleen and Eileen will be stepping down as chairs next year and are looking for volunteers to run the event.

Ice Skating Event: Denise Burke reported for Lisa Swabsin. The ice skating event is being held on January 19th. The cost is \$10.00 per skater and includes skate rental.

Kindergarten Social: Denise Burke reported for Carly Deickman. The Kindergarten Social has been rescheduled to February 11th.

Mother/Son Outing: Denise Burke reported for Janine Benoit Vitale. The Outing will be held on Saturday, March 10th at Yestercades. It will take place between 12:00 and 2:00. The cost is \$18.00 per person and includes lunch. Denise requested a deposit of \$150.00. Lisa Goga and Tina Catapano approved.

Book Fair: Rita Nahas stated that that we sold approximately \$7500.00 at the Book Fair. We will receive a \$1750.00 credit towards library materials. Rita would like to make sure that the parents realize that the library depends on the Book Fair to purchase new materials.

Mother's Retreat: Ann Mazza reminded us that the Mother's Retreat will be held on March 24th at the Stella Maris Retreat house. The cost will be \$50.00 per person.

Closing/Other Business: Mr. Cardone informed us that the Gala, which was supposed to take place on February 3rd, has been canceled. There weren't enough people signed up to make it worthwhile. He feels that perhaps we should revisit the idea at another time. We will probably lose the \$500.00 deposit that was paid to the Shadowbrook. Stephanie Murray is going to check to see if we may be able to use the deposit money for another event in the future. We obviously lost the \$400.00 that was spent on invitations, but hope to be able to use the \$375.00 deposit for the cake towards another event. It was suggested that we may order cake pops for the Father Daughter Dinner Dance.