

St. James PTA Minutes
Wednesday, October 12, 2011
8:15 a.m. Cafeteria

Mary Jane Manners called the meeting to order

Opening prayer: Mary Jane Manners

Co-Presidents: Mary Jane Manners/Denise Burke – Mary Jane gave an update on the efforts to compile a list of email addresses for St. James families. Class parents have been contacting their lists in order to get email addresses. This will enable various St. James committees and the office to send non-emergency information quickly and easily. Denise asked that all PTA Board members and committee chairs please check their mailboxes on a regular basis. She also encouraged committee chairs to read the treasury guidelines and to be aware of the check payment schedule.

Vice-Presidents: Stephanie Murray/Jackie Mazzucco. Stephanie reported that the invitations for the Gala are going to be sent out at the end of this month. The Gala is on February 3, 2012 and it will have a Mardi Gras theme. She requested \$200.00 for the invitations. Jackie Mazzucco and Yvonne Ciccone approved.

Recording Secretary: Linda Murphy. Tina Catapano and Christian Buckman approved the minutes from the 9/8/11 meeting.

Corresponding Secretary: Tina Catapano. No report.

Treasurer's Report: Karen Cronk. Mary Jane stated that the report will be sent via email later today. The balance at this time is \$22,343.83. Spreadsheet is at the end of the minutes.

Executive Board:

Development: Denise Burke reporting for Sandy Abadir & Lynn Doherty. Denise stated that the Progressive Raffle has just begun. The winning ticket will be drawn at Ladies Night Out which will be held at Buona Sera on October 26th. The tickets for Ladies Night Out are \$50.00 and it includes a sit down dinner and a 3 tiered auction raffle.

Children's Programs: Brooke Cassidy. Brooke is in the process of rebooking the various programs that have proven to be a success in the past. She is also looking into adding a computer safety program and a Magic Math program.

Primary Aides: Mary Jane reporting for Marisol Rooney. We are in need of a volunteer to work as a primary aide in Mrs. Kelly's class on Thursdays from 8:30 to 10:30.

Royals Club: Mary Jane reporting for Joe De Leo. The basketball blowout has been moved to January. It is the Friday before the Polar Plunge. They are requesting \$200.00 in order to pay the referee and for a donation to the Red Bank Police DARE program. Tina Catapano and Cathy Sherry approved.

Spiritual Development: Mary Jane Manners reporting for Ann Mazza. Advent wreaths are going to be available again this year. Mr. Cardone gave approval for a display advent wreath to be put in the lobby of the school. The Mother's Retreat has been booked for March 24, 2012. It will be held at Stella Maris Retreat Center.

Committee Chairs:

Breakfast with Santa: Adrienne Lamanno/Yvonne Ciccone. Adrienne stated that the flyer is being sent out next week. They are in need of any gently used decorations. They requested \$500.00 for decorations, balloons, raffles, and the DJ. Stephanie Murray and Christine Hanlon approved. An order from Oriental Trading will be given to the office and Barbara Schimpf will place the order.

Care Steps: Sandy Thuel reported that Christmas caroling has been set for December 11th at Chelsea Towers in Tinton Falls. They will be volunteering at Lunch Break on two separate days. There is a limit of 10 student volunteers for each of these days. They will also be running the Souper Bowl of Caring and the Care-a-thon once again this year. They are also trying to work with Ronald McDonald House during Lent. Sandy also discussed National Make a Difference Day which is October 22nd. St. James isn't going to formally participate but she wanted to mention it in case anyone is interested in participating on their own. Their website will list the activities scheduled for that day.

Entertainment Book Sales: Mary Jane Manners reported for Catherine Freibott. Entertainment books are on sale until November 30th.

Fall Fundraiser: Mary Jane Manners reported for Laurie Miller. The Fall Fundraiser is completed and did well. We will be having a magazine sale in the winter.

There was a suggestion put forth about extending the length of the fall sale to three weeks instead of two weeks.

Harvest Family Social: Denise Burke reported for Linda Dolan and Lisa Goga. Set up will be this Friday and the Social will be this Saturday evening. So far, there are 89 people signed up. We're expecting more as the week progresses.

Ice Skating Event: Lisa Swabsin reported. The ice skating event will be held on January 19, 2012. It will be held at the Red Bank Armory from 1:00 – 2:45. The cost is \$10.00 and this includes skates and use of the locker rooms. Lisa requested \$1000.00 for the deposit. Jackie Mazzucco and Kate Niesz approved.

New Family Social: Mary Jane Manners reporting for Deanna Ryan. The event was a success. This year it was held in the RBC meeting room instead of the BSA. We will probably try to have it in the same place next year because the meeting room seemed to be a better location for the event.

Red Ribbon Week: Christian Buckman reported that Red Ribbon Week is the last week in October. There are many activities planned for the week. Monday will be a "red" dress down for Red Ribbon Week and Friday will be "pink" \$1.00 dress down for Breast Cancer Awareness Week. There will be a daily theme and on Thursday, Dr. Patrick Cuzzo will speak to the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade classes.

Secret Santa Shop: Cathy Sherry reported that she is working on a flyer and is checking with RBC for tables. She is putting in an order at Oriental Trading Company and will coordinate with Yvonne Ciccone. The Secret Shop will be set up in the same area that it has been set up in the past.

Closing/Other Business: Christine Hanlon is starting a pre-theater club. They will be meeting on Fridays from 2:30 – 3:30 and the first meeting is this Friday. The club is for students in 2nd through 5th grade. They will be performing at the Christmas Show.

Mr. Cardone was asked about bullying. He stated that instead of focusing on bullying, he is trying to focus on teaching kindness. He doesn't want to sensationalize bullying. He hopes that since this is a Catholic school, parents will do their best to teach their children the Catholic Way.

Father Dasin discussed the importance of teaching our children about our religion at home. He stressed that it is wonderful that we send them to Catholic school, but we set the example at home. He encouraged all St. James parents to regularly take our children to Church and Confession. He also stressed the importance of praying with our children.

ATTENDANCE

Jackie Mazzucco

Mary Jane Manners

Denise Burke

Kate Niesz

Linda Murphy

Cathy Sherry

Tina Catapano

Stephanie Murray

Dana Franznick

Yvonne Ciccone

Adrienne Lamanno

Sandy Thuel

Christian Buckman

Carolyn Polo

Lisa Swabsin

Maria Rimmele

Brooke Cassidy