

St. James PTA Minutes
Thursday, September 8, 2011
7:00 p.m. Cafeteria

Mary Jane Manners called the meeting to order

Opening Prayer: Ann Mazza

Co-Presidents: Mary Jane Manners/Denise Burke – Mary Jane welcomed our new principal, Mr. Cardone and our new vice-principal, Mrs. Giordano. Denise requested that all event chairs please fill out the proper paperwork at least one month prior to their event and to check with the treasurer for any money or cash boxes needed for the event. Positions are still open in the nurse's office, for playground duty, and for lunchroom monitors. She also asked that anyone who needs to be fingerprinted or attend Virtus training please do so because there is a backlog due to the hurricane.

Vice-Presidents: Stephanie Murray/Jackie Mazzucco. Nothing to report.

Recording Secretary: Linda Murphy. Jackie Mazzucco and Tina Catapano approved the minutes from the 5/11/11 meeting.

Corresponding Secretary: Tina Catapano. She requested that anyone who has information on births, deaths, etc. please contact her.

Treasurers Report: Karen Cronk handed out Treasurer Guidelines and check payment schedules. She stated that cash advances are available but not recommended. The school prefers to be billed directly if at all possible. Tax exempt forms are available in the business office. Mary Jane Manners discussed the use of the extra PTA funds from last year. The PTA purchased three I-pads for use by the pre-school and kindergarten classes. The PTA also purchased new software and a new eye exam machine for the nurse's office. Richard Guido, a St. James parent, is going to be working on technology issues for the school.

Executive Board:

Development: Sandy Abadir reported. Sandy stated that the Progressive Raffle will begin on September 27th. The early bird will be the first week in October and the drawing will be on October 26th, during the Ladies Night Out event. On September 20th Rita's Ice will be donating a portion of their proceeds back to St. James. The Development committee will be organizing teacher volunteers to scoop. Sandy questioned the decision to "go green" this year. She feels it is hurting participation in various events and fundraisers. A discussion ensued about various ways in which we can address this problem. Sandy also informed the PTA about other Development fundraisers including Box Tops, Oliver's Labels, and Foodtown gift cards.

Class Parents: Mary Jane Manners reported for Joan Hallman. The class parent volunteers for this school year are finalized and she is in the process of organizing a meeting to

outline class parent responsibilities. Class parents are no longer going to make phone calls for snow closings because St. James will now be using the Honeywell system for snow closing communication. She suggested that all St. James parents should check to make sure that they are registered.

Royal Reporter: Mary Jane Manner reporting for Patti Leister. There will be three publications this year. They will be a late fall, winter, and spring publication. The Royal Reporter will no longer be distributed, but will be available on the website. Mary Jane requested that everyone please write their articles in a timely manner.

Adult Speaker Programs: Mary Jane Manners reporting for Carly Deickmann. There are two speakers already lined up. The speakers are targeting the parents of older students. A dress down will be given for students who have a parent attend the speaker programs.

Committee Chairs:

50/50 Raffles: Mary Jane Manners reporting for Marci Perri. All applications have been completed for this school year.

AM Monitors: Carol Guido stated that the schedule is almost full. We could use two more volunteers but can still run the program if we aren't able to fill those two spots.

Directory: Supreet Kaur. The directory is almost complete. They are waiting for the final class lists and staff lists. The cutoff date to be included in the directory is September 30th.

Entertainment Book Sales: Tina Catapano reporting for Catherine Freibott. Entertainment books will be on sale from October 4th through 17th. The cost of the book is \$30.00 and St. James receives ½. There will be prizes and raffles to encourage participation.

Fall Fundraiser: Laurie Miller. The Fall Fundraiser kickoff is this Monday. We are using a new company called Kastle Kreations because the previous company went out of business. We will still have the pigs which will be used in a race during the Basketball Blowout. There are also teacher incentives this year. Laurie will be looking for volunteers to assist in checking in orders.

Harvest Social: Lisa Goga. The plans for the Harvest Social are moving along on schedule. The co-chairs have confirmed the menu with Roseanne from the cafeteria. They are in the process taking care of building access and typing up a letter for donations. They have reached out to the Royals in regard to the popcorn machine and spoken to Casola Farms about the order for the flowers, pumpkins, corn stalks, etc.

Lunchroom Monitors: Mary Jane reporting for Kim Olsen. All lunchroom monitor positions are full. We have five volunteers per day.

New Family Social: Deanna Ryan. The date for the New Family Social is Friday, September 23rd. Many mentors have been placed with new families, but we are still in need of more mentors. Deanna requested that people sign up to provide an appetizer for the Social. She is also going to be putting together gift baskets this week.

Primary Aides: Linda Murphy reporting for Marisol Rooney. The schedule is almost complete. Marisol will be holding a meeting at 9:00 on Friday at Manhattan Bagel.

Red Ribbon Week: Mary Jane Manners reporting for Christian Buckman. Mary Jane requested approval for \$500 to fund the event. Ann Mazza and Tina Catapano approved.

Father/Daughter Dinner Dance: Kathleen Robinson. A request for a \$500 deposit for the reservation of the Pier House was made. Jackie Mazzucco and Laurie Miller approved.

Closing/Other Business: Derry Becker discussed the possibility of opening an all girl's high school called Monmouth Girl's Academy. The goal would be to provide girls with a choice for high school equivalent to CBA for boys. She asked that parents go to Monmouthgirlsacademy.org and fill out the feasibility study.

Jackie Mazzucco reminded everyone that the St. James Golf Outing is on Monday, September 19th. Golfers are needed and tee ads would be greatly appreciated. She reminded everyone that this fundraiser is the main source of funding for all SJS sports programs. All proceeds are used for uniforms, fields, referees, etc.

Jeanne O'Connor, the St. Patrick's Party chairperson, questioned why the event had been canceled. Mary Jane Manners said that the PTA is hosting the Gala Social around the same time. The decision was made to cancel the St. Patrick's Party due to the fact that the St. Patrick's Day Party may detract sales from the Gala event. Jeanne inquired who the decision maker was as she had several suggestions as to how to address this concern. The decision was made to discuss it further after the meeting.

Mr. Cardone said that he is considering having the teachers provide a direct email address to help improve interaction with parents and students. He is also going to check into our system for dismissal during an emergency early closing.

ATTENDANCE

Tina Catapano

Stephanie Murray

Jackie Mazzucco

Karen Cronk

Linda Murphy

Mary Jane Manners

Denise Burke

Ann Mazza

Lisa Sarulle

Lisa Nounan

Theresa Crespo

Laure Miller

Sandy Abadir

Lisa Goga

Diane Cugliari

Kim Cottell

Deanna Ryan

Kisa Pugliese

Maryanne Riegelman

Carol Guido

Maria Rimmele

Derry Becker

Carolyn Polo

Jeanne O'Connor

Supreet Kaur

Michele Walter

Lynn Doherty

Elaine Goumas

