

St. James PTA Minutes
Wednesday, October 10, 2012
7:00 p.m. – Cafeteria

Paula Pangilinan called the meeting to order

Opening Prayer: Ann Mazza

Principal's Remarks: Mr. Cardone discussed the upcoming Eucharistic Congress being held at PNC Bank Arts Center. The 7th and 8th grade students will be attending the Eucharistic Congress this Friday. Seven thousand students in the 7th through 12th grades are expected to attend. The Eucharistic Congress is open to the general public on Saturday and Sunday. Mr. Cardone encouraged 3rd grade students to attend with their families on Sunday. They will be honored during mass since they received their First Holy Communion this year.

Presidents: Paula Pangilinan and Maria Rimmele. Paula informed us that they attended a Diocesan Fall Conference in early September. The Diocese is introducing an alumni program to help schools reach out to alumni for various fundraisers and events. The Diocese is also working on a grant to help provide Special Education in Catholic schools.

Maria reported that the Kid Stuff fundraiser earned \$1950.00. We sold 156 books. There are still some families that have not returned their books and she is working on getting either the money for them or to have the books returned.

Paula asked that if you send an email to her or Maria and don't hear back after a day or two, please reach out again.

Maria requested that all flyers be sent to the co-presidents first. After they take a look at it and approve it, they will send it to Mrs. Schimpf and Mr. Cardone for final approval.

Paula introduced the Partners for Excellence coordinator, Jeanne O'Connor. Jeanne told us that there are still openings for Kindergarten lunch monitors and printing aides.

Vice Presidents: Jackie Mazzucco and Christian Buckman said that they would be happy to help with any upcoming events.

Recording Secretary: Linda Murphy. Lisa Noonan and Christian Buckman approved the minutes from the 9/19/12 meeting.

Attendance for Officers: Paula Pangilinan: present
Maria Rimmele: present
Christian Buckman: present
Jackie Mazzucco: present
Linda Murphy: present
Tina Catapano: absent
Karen Cronk: absent

Corresponding Secretary: Tina Catapano. No report.

Treasurer: Karen Cronk. See attached spreadsheet.

Executive Board:

SJAA: Tony Flego. No report.

Royals: Kevin Milne requested \$700.00 for the Basketball Blowout. The money will be used for the referee, a donation to DARE, a trophy for the free throw contest, t-shirts, foam fingers, etc. Ann Mazza and Christian Buckman approved. The PTA decided to raise the price for the Basketball Blowout. Entry into the event will now cost \$2.00 per child, \$3.00 per adult and a \$10.00 maximum per family. There was also a request for \$1000.00 for more car magnets to sell at various events throughout the year. Jackie Mazzucco and Theresa Crespo approved.

Kevin updated us on the Polar Plunge. Jerry Doherty went to a meeting about the event and came up with some ideas to raise more money for our school. St. James is trying to improve participation this year. Kevin requested \$2000.00 to purchase incentive prizes for the event. Jeanne O'Connor and Jackie Mazzucco approved. The money raised does not go directly into the PTA, but rather goes into an Advancement and Technology Fund. After this year, \$2000.00

will be put back into the Fund to cover the next year's expenses. There will be an assembly on November 5th to raise awareness and excitement about the event. The Polar Plunge is being held on January 13, 2013.

Spiritual Development: Ann Mazza reminded us that the Advent wreath sale deadline is November 15th. This year's wreath is a traditional wreath and will cost \$20.00. Replacement candles will cost \$5.00.

The Mother's Retreat will be held on March 23, 2013 at Stella Maris. Ann requested \$100.00 for a deposit and Lisa Noonan and Kathleen Robinson approved.

Committee Chairs:

Kindergarten Social: Maria Rimmele for Fay Eigneraugh. The Kindergarten Social is set for this Saturday. There have been no responses yet so class parents are going to give a reminder call.

Harvest Social: Paula Pangilinan for Lisa Goga and Jennifer Hall. Pronto Pizza will be providing pizza, sandwich platters, plates, and napkins for the event. They also secured various store donations that will be use to buy beverages and supplies. There will be a poster contest and Yestercades generously donated \$100.00 in prizes for the contest. Kathleen Robinson offered to donate cups for the Harvest Social. There will be a drop box at the Harvest Social for the Dare 2 Care food drive.

Red Ribbon Week: Liz Walter and Nick DeFranco. Nick DeFranco informed us that Red Ribbon Week is the week of October 22nd. There will be various activities during the week such as speakers, worksheets, and a \$2.00 dress down day. There will be a schedule of events for the week posted on the website so parents can follow up and discuss activities with their children.

Care Steps: Lynda Gazzara and Sandy Thuel reminded us that donations for the food drive can either be sent into school or brought to the Harvest Social.

They are introducing a new program this year called Operation Christmas Child. We will order decorated cartons in boxes of 100 and our families can fill the shoebox with items for needy children. The boxes are distributed to children around the world. The company will send free promotional materials and a videotape that the students can watch. Any unused boxes can be saved and used next year. The donation period is November 12th through 19th. A request was made for \$120.00 to cover the cost of 300 boxes. Carol McGovern and Christian Buckman approved.

In November, Care Steps will also be organizing a service day at Lunch Break. There will be ten slots available.

Book Fair: Meghan Lupu told us that the Book Fair is set for the week of November 26th. The Book Fair will also be open during Grandparent's Tea. She questioned whether Virtus Training was necessary for volunteers during Book Fair. Jeanne O'Connor is checking into it.

Breakfast with Santa: Theresa Crespo requested \$500.00 for Breakfast with Santa. Lisa Noonan and Sandy Thuel approved. Kathleen Robinson is checking to see if we may be able to get some decorations from Holiday Express.

Secret Shop: Paula introduced the new chairperson, Carol McGovern.

Ice Skating Event: Lisa Swabsin informed us that the ice skating event is being held at the Red Bank Armory on Wednesday, January 23rd. It will take place from 1:45 – 3:00. It is a half hour shorter this year because the Armory was only available during those times. The cost has been dropped to \$9.00 per person. Lisa requested \$900.00 for a deposit. Kevin Milne and Kathleen Robinson approved.

Open Remarks: Kathleen Robinson suggested that we reach out to St. James families to see if anyone would be willing to donate unused points from American Express or other rewards programs. Families can request gift cards and donate them to St. James

Paula concluded the meeting.

Attendance

Nick DeFranco
Theresa Crespo
Maggie Guempel
Eric Harris
Carol McGovern
Meghan Lupu
Linda Murphy
Lisa Swabsin
Kathleen Robinson
Paula Pangilinan
Maria Rimmele
Lynda Gazzara
Ann Mazza
Jeanne O'Connor
Jackie Mazzucco
Kevin Milne
Christian Buckman
Supreet Kaur
Lisa Noonan
Sandy Thuel