

St. James PTA Minutes
Wednesday, September 19, 2012
7:00 p.m. – Cafeteria

Paula Pangilinan called the meeting to order

Opening Prayer: Ann Mazza

Principal's Remarks: Mr. Cardone welcomed everyone to the meeting. He expressed his thanks to all of the members of the PTA. He explained that a large amount of the PTA funds from last year were used to upgrade technology. He also reminded us that the PTA helps pay for a portion of Mrs. Waters salary. Mrs. Waters is invaluable to the school for many reasons. She has connections to the agencies necessary to maintain the health, safety, and welfare of our children.

Mr. Cardone explained that there is a shortfall between the grant money that we receive for the nurse and the amount of hours necessary to cover the entire school year. In the past, the school nurse was available between the hours of 9 and 3. We covered the first hour of school with volunteers. We also have Mr. Lifner and the RBC school nurse available if necessary. Mr. Cardone would like to have a nurse available from 8 to 3 daily. He is proposing that we use the grant money to pay for as much as possible and pay for the remaining five or six weeks from his budget and the PTA. St. James is also given a certain amount of money for supplies and he informed us that we have already made a list and ordered supplies for the year. The remaining money for supplies will also be used to pay for the cost of the school nurse.

Presidents: Paula Pangilinan and Maria Rimmele. Paula introduced herself and asked that everyone introduce themselves as well.

Maria told us that they are going to post the PTA agenda a week before the meeting. They are also including an "open remarks" section at the end of each PTA meeting. Paula and Maria will address items that can be taken care of immediately and they will set up a separate meeting time if the issue needs a more in depth discussion.

Paula reported for Jeanne O'Connor regarding the Partners for Excellence program. Paula explained that they have changed the PFE system to try to make it current. Basically, St. James families earn 1 point for each hour worked for a

total of 25 hours for the year. This is only an additional 1-point from previous years. As long as a family has earned at least 20 points, the remainder will be prorated. If a family is short they will be required to pay \$19.00 for each point they are under the 25-point requirement. Trimesters are also available for some of the larger in school commitments. If a family had committed to a full year it is expected that the commitment will be completed. Please don't just drop out because the total number of points has been reached. If there is a problem, please contact Jeanne O'Connor or the presidents of the PTA. Also, Paula reminded us that an online sign up for events is available on the St. James website.

Maria informed us that Lisa Swabsin is taking over operation of the St. James website. Anyone who wants to send out a flyer, please email it to Barbara Schimpf and she will forward to Mr. Cardone for his approval. Please also send a copy of all flyers to Paula & Maria. E-blasts are sent out every Friday. Please make sure you are signed up to receive E-blasts.

Paula told us that Mr. Cardone is creating an Advancement and Marketing Committee to replace the Development Committee. She also informed us that we are trying to limit the amount of fundraisers in the school. This year we are offering the Fall Fundraiser, a Dance-a-thon to replace the Walk-a-thon, the Polar Plunge and 3 Brothers Nights. The class with the highest participation for all three Brothers Nights will receive a free pizza party.

Maria told us about some new programs that will be offered this year. This year the PTA will have a Dance-a-thon and a Mother/Daughter Tea. The Secret Santa Shop will be offered not only at Breakfast with Santa and Grandparent's Tea, but also will be available for our students during the school day for a full week following Breakfast with Santa. Mr. Cardone has also decided to have a new and improved Field Day, hopefully at Count Basie. The PTA will not be in charge of the event but Mr. Cardone would like a PTA representative to assist in coordination.

Vice Presidents: Christian Buckman and Jackie Mazzucco. Christian had no report. Jackie discussed including the preschool families in more events. She wants to concentrate on keeping the preschool better informed about the various events available at St. James.

Recording Secretary: Linda Murphy. Ann Mazza and Jackie Mazzucco approved the minutes from the 5/9/12 meeting. Unapproved minutes from each PTA should be available to view on the website within approximately one week. Please note that all PTA meetings for this year will be held in the evening.

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

Corresponding Secretary: Tina Catapano requested that anyone who receives information about births, deaths, etc. please keep her informed.

Treasurer: Maria Rimmele for Karen Cronk. Maria informed us that all treasurer guidelines are on the website as well as any necessary forms. The balance is a little lower than usual because Karen paid some items in advance. Karen would like all chairs to please read the guidelines and make a copy of the payment voucher schedule. There is also an event summary sheet available to keep track of expenditures. Please make sure to use it. There are copies of most necessary forms in the treasurer's mailbox. Paula reminded everyone to promptly ask for any money needed for an event. She also reminded us that money is not to leave the school. If an event is in the evening, a deposit slip must be filled out and the money & deposit slip must be put in the mail slot at the rectory.

Executive Board:

Royals: Kevin Milne talked about the Polar Plunge. He is working with the office and SJAA to make sure there are no conflicting events on the school calendar. The entrance fee for the Polar Plunge is \$25.00. He will begin sending out information early. We get a dollar for dollar return on all money earned because the Hibernians take care of all insurance, advertising, etc. Kevin requested \$400.00 for various items to promote the event. Christian Buckman and Tina Catapano approved. Paula encouraged all event chairs to reach out to the Royals for assistance in setting up and breaking down for events.

SJAA: Jackie Mazzucco reported that the golf outing was a success. We had 94 golfers at Rumson Country Club and the weather was beautiful. On April 6th the SJAA will be hosting the Run for the Royals race. The St. James Athletic Association is self-funded by the two events that are held each year. There are many opportunities for those who would like to get involved.

Committee Chairs:

Care Steps: Sandy Thuel gave an overview of the many activities that Care Steps has been involved in throughout the years. She stressed the importance of instilling a spirit of volunteerism in our children. On December 9th volunteers will be Christmas caroling at a nursing home in Tinton Falls. This year they are trying to incorporate outreach into the religion classes. They are looking for assistance in facilitating this within the classrooms. We will be having Dare to Care monthly drives. Lisa Goga and Lynda Gazzara are going to be managing these drives. There will be \$2.00 dress downs for various causes throughout the year. The first food drive of the year is in October.

Mr. Cardone informed us that there is a Eucharistic Congress being held at the PNC Bank Arts Center on October 12th, 13th, and 14th. The 7th and 8th grade students will be attending. Permission slips will be sent home. On Friday, September 21st there will be \$2.00 dress down. The money will go to Burkina Faso, which is small country in west Africa.

Directory: Supreet Kaur said the Directory is moving along on schedule. They are going to send out one more reminder about the deadline, which is September 30th. The Directory should be delivered by the second week in October. As of now, the first page is empty so Supreet suggested using it for an ad for the Polar Plunge. She is going to see if that page is included in the price or if it would be an additional charge.

Fall Fundraiser: Laurie Miller discussed the fundraiser. This year the frozen foods have been reintroduced. The top 25 sellers are going to get to Silly String Mr. Cardone at the Basketball Blowout. The Pig Race won't be at the Basketball Blowout this year. It is going to be done during the school day so everyone can see it. The class with the highest participation will receive a pizza party. Laurie requested \$80.00 for tips, juice, etc. Kevin Milne and Sandy Thuel approved. The company gave the school a 52" television as a signing bonus. We will raffle it off at another event during the year. The Fall Fundraiser helps the PTA to fund the many events that are hosted during the year.

New Family Mentoring Social: Deanna Ryan reminded us that the Social is this Friday, September 21st, in the RBC meeting room. She passed around a donation sheet for those willing to send in a small appetizer or dessert.

Kindergarten Social: Fay Eigneraugh is running the Kindergarten Social, which will be held in the cafeteria on October 13th. Bagels, juice, and coffee will be served. There will be a craft, games, and music. Fay requested \$200.00 for the event. Lisa Noonan and Ann Mazza approved.

Harvest Social: Jennifer Hall informed us that the Harvest Social will be held in the cafeteria from 6:30 to 9:30 on Saturday, October 20th. A flyer should be going home next week. Flyers are also going to be given to the preschool students. Last year, many families didn't prepay and it made it difficult to determine how many people to prepare for. It was decided that the price will remain the same for those who prepay but the cost at the door will increase. Therefore, the cost for children will be \$6.00 for those who prepay and \$8.00 at the door. The cost for adults will be \$10.00 either way. Children 2 and under are free. They are considering changing the food this year. Instead of getting the food through the cafeteria, they may order pizza and sandwiches from an outside source. Jennifer requested \$2000.00 for the event. Ticket proceeds will cover most costs. Laurie Miller and Carolyn Polo approved.

Red Ribbon Week: Christian Buckman for Liz Walter. Plans are underway for Red Ribbon Week. Dr. Patrick Cuzzo will be coming in to speak to the 5th and 6th grade students. An officer will be coming in to speak to the lower grades. Christian requested \$500.00 to fund the event. Derry Becker and Lisa Noonan approved.

Other Remarks from Attendees: Eric Harris asked Sandy Thuel if we had ever participated in Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Sandy said that she had looked into it briefly several years ago but it didn't work out at the time. She will check into it again.

Paula thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

Attendance

Lisa Noonan
Linda Murphy
Carolyn Polo
Supreet Kaur
Theresa Crespo
Jennifer Hall
Ann Mazza
Lisa Swabsin
Laurie Williams
Christina D'Apolito
Helene Kenney
Jackie Mazzucco
Laurie Miller
Kara Casucci
Paula Pangilinan
Christian Buckman
Sandy Thuel

Eric Harris
Liz Rogers
Meghan Lupu
Kevin Milne
Derry Becker
Lindsay Horowitz
Sue Lemaiciz
Dana Franznick
Molly Cimini
Deanna Ryan
Magaly Rodriguez
Dulce Arce
Lynda Gazzara
Tina Catapano
Maria Rimmele
Jennifer Tedeschi
Carla Scarabino