

**St James PTA Minutes**  
**Wednesday, April 13, 2016**  
**8:15 AM in the School Library**

Jeanne O'Connor called the meeting to order.

**Opening Prayer:** Christian Buckman

**Principal's Report:** Mrs. Giordano

Air conditioning was placed throughout the entire school over Easter Break. The units are located on the walls, and are dual purpose heat/cold. This project was made possible by past fundraising. The school was able to secure a reasonable quote, and with the appropriate electrical panel in place we had a tremendous cost savings.

The Library is in the process of being packed up and moved down to the lower level of the school. Teachers have been donating their time to pack the books. The current library will become a classroom.

The school is also being repainted. The Red Bank Rotary Club has been generously donating their time for this project at night, so the school is only paying for the paint and supplies. So far, the stairwells and the Preschool rooms are complete. The carpets in the Preschool have also been taken up, and the floors beneath them were in good shape, allowing for another cost savings.

Upcoming school purchases will include new math books for 7<sup>th</sup> grade and technology needs. Some laptops will be purchased using state funds.

Safety drills have been taking place for a number of different scenarios to ensure proper procedures are in place.

There are many school events coming up, so we will need parents to both attend and volunteer. The support of parents in all of these important events is very much appreciated. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade events planning is underway and a letter explaining these events will go home soon.

Open Classroom will take place on Wednesday, April 20 at 7pm. Parents and students should attend as the students are excited to explain their STREAM projects. Each grade has based their project off of a book, and all activities in the project are based off of themes from the book. The students have been very active in their classrooms and there will be some wonderful projects to see. Please arrive in the cafeteria promptly at 7pm to hear some important updates from Mrs. Giordano.

RBC will be having their Make-A-Wish Carnival on Saturday, May 9. They have spoken to the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade about participating and having a booth, so there will be more to come.

Knights of Columbus scholarship information for 8<sup>th</sup> graders attending Diocesan Catholic high schools has been eblasted. The Rose Rusch scholarship information will be sent out soon.

**President's Report:** Jeanne O'Connor

- 2016-17 Officer and Executive Board – Jeanne and Dana have been busy recruiting team members, and some potential candidates are present for this meeting. Please contact Jeanne or Dana if you have interest in becoming involved.
- Diocesan Spring Conference – Will take place on May 4, 2016, so all Board Members must be in place in order to submit it to the Diocese for approval. The Installation of Executive Officers will take place at Awards Night on May 17. In addition, the calendar of events for 2016-17 must be coordinated with RBC by the end of the school year to begin preparation for next school year.
- 8th Grade Events – Paula Pangilinan is the Chair, and all of the planning is moving along. June 2 is the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Fun Day at Count Basie Field. June 7 is the Graduation Dance at The Shadowbrook. \$4,000 is requested for the events (includes deposit on Shadowbrook for next year), and is approved by Christian Buckman and Maria Rimmele.

**Vice-President's Report:** Dana Franznick

- "A Little Taste of Broadway" Fundraiser – The event is up and running! Tickets are \$85 per person and can now be purchased through the Two River Theater Company website at [www.tworivertheater.org](http://www.tworivertheater.org). The ticket price includes the Broadway Dolls show (professional Broadway performers) as well as beer, wine, soda, and tastings provided by local restaurants. What an amazing deal! This event is open to the public; it is not strictly a Saint James School event. We are looking for sponsors, who will have the opportunity to advertise in the Playbill. Corporate Sponsors donating \$500 and above will be invited to a VIP Party. Individual ad sales are also available in the Playbill, beginning at \$100 for a ¼ page. There will also be a Silent Auction during the event with various baskets and items. Many thanks to Rob Lowe, Dana Franznick, Liz Coscia, Ali Farro, Kira Nelson and Molly Cimini for all of their help on the event. There will be a table in the foyer on Open Classroom Night with information on the event, sponsorships, and advertising, as well as video of the Broadway Dolls. Information has also been placed in the parish bulletin.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jeanne O'Connor (for Lisa Noonan)

The balance stands at approximately \$35,000.

**Recording Secretary's Report:** Laurie Williams

Attendance of Executive Officers:

Jeanne O'Connor – present  
Dana Franznick – present  
Robert Lowe – not present  
Lisa Noonan – present  
Laurie Williams - present  
Fay Eigenrauch – not present

March 9, 2016 Executive Meeting Minutes approved by Jeanne O'Connor and Liz Coscia.

**Corresponding Secretary's Report:**

Nothing to report at this time.

**Marketing/Legislative Affairs:** Liz Coscia

Liz has a list of the sponsors from the Run With the Royals 5K and will be working with Fay Eigenrauch and Michaela Ferrigine to send thank-yous out.

The Facebook event page for A Little Taste of Broadway is active. Please invite your friends to the event through the Facebook page, and also share the event on your own page. Social media is a fantastic way to generate buzz for this event.

Red Bank Green ran an article on A Little Taste of Broadway to promote the event. Liz continues to reach out to local outlets to get the word out.

**Hospitality:**

Nothing to report at this time.

**Technology:** Maria Rimmele

Maria will be sending an eblast to promote the Day of Service on April 29. Saint James will be having a children's book drive for Bridge of Books. Books for K-12<sup>th</sup> grade will be collected and sorted. More information will come as to when donations can start being sent in.

**Spirituality:** Christian Buckman

The Mother's Retreat took place on March 19. Unfortunately only 5 women attended. Father Mark did a fantastic job on his first retreat.

**Partners For Excellence:** Jeanne O'Connor (for Mary Asfendis)

Mary has contacted the families who had agreed to pay their \$300 and have not yet done so. She has also contacted families who still have money to fundraise. Mary and Jeanne will be reaching out to people who have not been fulfilling their volunteer commitments.

**Royals:** Jeanne O'Connor (for Ken Keyes and Craig Seba)

The Royals have been working with the Rotary Club on painting the school. They will also be asked to help transport the boxes of library books downstairs for the Library move.

They ask for \$1000 in funds for a new school tent for events (researched by Lisa Goga and Kim Vowteras), which was approved by Liz Coscia and Christian Buckman.

**SJAA:** Dana Franznick and Laurie Williams (for Michaela Ferrigine)

The Run With the Royals 5K was a success, despite the snow and rain. The fundraising goal of \$15,000 was reached. The goal is to make this a featured run on the Jersey Shore Running Club calendar, taking place every year at the same location on the Long Branch Boardwalk in order to draw in the area runners. We also stress that this is a family-friendly event with something for everyone, whether you walk or run. There is a Kid's ½ Mile Fun Run for the younger kids. The main idea is to get out there as a school community to support SJAA. This fundraiser provides the money needed for league fees, facilities, officials, equipment and uniforms for ALL Saint James sports. Next year we would like to see all of our athletic teams out there together representing their sports at the race.

### **Presentations by Committees:**

Care Steps: Jeanne O'Connor (for Lisa Goga and Tina Catapano) – The Day of Service will be April 29, 2016 and we will be collecting children's books for K-12<sup>th</sup> grade for Bridge of Books. There will also be a Pajama Drive on May 19, collecting children's pajamas.

Vendor of the Month Program: Tricia Wilson – The next event will be Barnes & Noble Night on Wednesday, June 1 in Holmdel from 3:30-5:30pm and 6:30-7:30pm. It will coincide with the release of the summer reading list, and a percentage of sales will go back to Saint James School. During the event times, there will be poetry readings and a choral performance by Saint James students in order to bring in traffic. Gifts, toys, café items (including a Saint James-themed drink) will all be included in the percentage of sales. If you are unable to make it to the event on June 1, Barnes & Noble will honor the percentage of sales during the week to follow if you identify yourself with Saint James at checkout. In an effort to streamline the Vendor of the Month program moving forward for next year, we are going to highlight certain months/holidays rather than necessarily having a vendor each month. These timeframes will be determined and communicated early in order to maximize turnout.

Progressive Raffle: Maria Rimmel – Approximately \$11,000 was raised to go towards advancement.

After-School Clubs: - Lori Dougherty – The clubs were great, including some new clubs (thanks Mr. and Mrs. Lupu!!), and the students had fun. More volunteer help will be needed than what we had this year. Registrations and money will need to be processed in advance of the start of the clubs next year as well as it ran too close together.

Used Uniform Sale: Kim Vowteras – The sale on March 23 brought in approximately \$450. Carol Sama would like to coordinate an 8<sup>th</sup> Grade-only uniform drop off date prior to the end of the school year, possibly June 6.

Saint James Has Talent – Jeanne O'Connor (for Miss Nelson) – The students did a fantastic job with their talents. Attendance was down this year, so she may consider changing it to a lip sync contest next year and include the parents, or do it by grade/homeroom and include the teachers.

Book Fair: - Meghan Lupu – The Book Fair will take place April 18-22, 2016. The volunteer sign-ups have been posted on the school website, and there are already a number of volunteers in place, so the fair is in good shape.

Arcade Day – Jeanne O'Connor – It will take place on Friday, June 3 from 8:15-11:15am in the school parking lot (school gym if it rains). Carol Sama, Tiffany Havard, and Meagan Duke expressed interest in helping with the event and following up with the Grade Parents. It is a Grade Parent event coordinated with the teachers, so each grade comes up with a theme/game and provides the supplies for running the game. They will also ensure that parent volunteers are there to manage the games during the event. The suggested donation will be \$25. \$500 was requested for prizes and supplies, approved by Liz Coscia and Laurie Williams.

\*\*The next Open PTA Meeting will be on May 11, 2016 at 7:00 PM in the School Cafeteria.

**PTA Meeting April 13, 2016 Attendance**

Mrs. JoAnn Giordano  
Mrs. Catherine Golden  
Jeanne O'Connor  
Dana Franznick  
Laurie Williams  
Lisa Noonan  
Maria Rimmele  
Liz Coscia  
Christian Buckman  
Jackie Mazzucco – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Tricia Wilson – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Molly Cimini – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade  
Carol Sama – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Jennifer Hall – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Meghan Lupu – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade  
Kim Vowteras – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Tiffany Havard – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade  
Lori Dougherty – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade  
Meagan Duke – Preschool  
Alexandra Farro