

St James PTA Minutes
Wednesday, January 13, 2016
7:00 PM in the School Cafeteria

Jeanne O'Connor called the meeting to order.

Opening Prayer: Christian Buckman

Principal's Report: Mrs. Giordano

Catholic Schools Week is coming up in a few weeks, so the faculty, staff and PTA have been busy preparing for it.

The Book Fair went very well. We were able to purchase some books with the Scholastic credit we earned, and some of the credit will be converted to cash to go towards technology. Some Surface tablets have also been purchased using State funds.

There will be a new school nurse, due to start next week.

The students enjoyed a good Christmas break, and are now excited to be back ready to work!

President's Report: Jeanne O'Connor

- Vendor of the Month Program Update – Tricia Wilson has volunteered to coordinate the program. Several businesses have already come forward to express their interest in participating. There will be more to update as the program kicks off in the near future.
- School Spirit Wear Update – Jackie Mazzucco and Julie Traynor have stepped up to coordinate, and they have already been busy selling items at the Basketball Blowout and Polar Plunge. All money made will go to support SJAA. They have started out with SJS sweatshirts, fleece blankets, and beach towels, and will be adding more items in the future, including team-specific gear.
- 50/50 Raffle Sales – They're back! The license has been filed with the State of New Jersey, so we are off and running. Maria Rimmele is coordinating. Tickets were sold at Basketball Blowout, with the winner awarded \$320. The next 50/50 is set for "A Little Taste of Broadway" in May.
- Saint James School Tent – Mrs. Giordano has given approval to purchase a personalized tent to be used for any school activities. Lisa Goga volunteered to research pricing and try to find a vendor who will provide one at a good price.
- Class Contest Parity – It has been decided that going forward, all class contests will be based on percentage of participation, so as to make the contests fair for large vs. small class sizes.

Vice-President's Report: Dana Franznick and Robert Lowe

• "A Little Taste of Broadway" Fundraiser – (Robert Lowe) - The date has been changed to Saturday, May 21, 2016 at Two River Theater in Red Bank. Since this is a first-time event, some logistics needed to be refined. Therefore, in order to have the time to market the event well, it was decided to push the date back. We will have full use of the lobby, VIP Room and theater. Tickets will be available for purchase directly from the Two River Theater website at a cost of \$75 per person, which will include the show and a cocktail hour with food. There will also be silent auctions during the cocktail hour.

Treasurer's Report: Lisa Noonan

The balance stands at approximately \$20,000, and does not include Basketball Blowout or Polar Plunge.

Recording Secretary's Report: Laurie Williams

Attendance of Executive Officers:

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

December 16, 2015 Executive Meeting Minutes approved by Dana Franznick and Lisa Noonan.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: Fay Eigenrauch

Fay and Liz Coscia are continuing to update the database of businesses who donate and thank you notes sent. Fay needs the letter which includes the Saint James School tax ID number to provide to businesses who donate.

Marketing/Legislative Affairs: Liz Coscia

Liz has created a form for the event chairs to fill out in order to properly thank all businesses that support our events. It will be provided to event chairs as they begin to coordinate their event, and it will also be put on the school website.

Hospitality: Ann Mazza

Ann requested \$500 for the Faculty Lunch during Catholic Schools Week, approved by Laurie Williams and Liz Coscia. Lunch will be purchased from Tavolo Restaurant and Ann will also purchase some decorations.

Spirituality: Christian Buckman

Christian requested \$500 for the Mother's Retreat, to be held on Saturday, March 19, 2016, approved by Liz Coscia and Jeanne O'Connor.

Technology: Maria Rimmele

The online directory is continuing to grow, with about 60 families outstanding. Dana reminded Maria Rimmele about posting a Saint James School communication information sheet on the website, which lists the many formats and links for how people can keep on top of school information and events.

PFE Commitments: Mary Asfendis

Mary is waiting for all of the Polar Plunge donations to come in, and then she will send out a mid-year report to families who agreed to fundraise their \$300 PFE Commitment Fee on where they stand. There are only a few outstanding families who agreed to pay their \$300 fee upfront and have not yet done so, and Mary will follow up with them as well, and note if they contributed to any fundraisers this year.

The new online sign-in software has been working well in providing attendance reports for those people volunteering in the school in lieu of the \$300 fee. There have been a few holes in the schedule where people have not been showing up for their assigned time. It is important that all volunteers show up for their volunteer slot as it is imperative for the safety of the students during the school day.

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

Basketball Blowout: It was a fun evening, and although it is not meant to be a fundraiser, it did raise approximately \$1400 with front door admissions, dress-down passes and spirit wear. The total does not include 50/50 Raffle sales.

Polar Plunge: Another great event for Saint James, especially with the 60 degree air temperature and 48 degree water temperature. We had over 70 plungers, and raised over \$13,000. The teachers alone brought in approximately \$6,000. We are still waiting for the last donations to come in, and at that point the winning teacher, student, and class can be determined.

Royals Movie Night – TBD before Easter Break.

Run With The Royals 5K – will be helping SJAA as needed.

The Royals next meeting will be either February 1, 2016 or February 22, 2016 at Brothers Pizza. They will confirm and let everyone know as soon as possible. The Royals are still looking for members is anyone is interested in attending.

SJAA: Michaela Ferrigine

• Run With the Royals 5K – will be held on Saturday, April 9, 2016 at Thompson Park in Lincroft. **This year it is the week AFTER Spring Break, so everyone will be back home from their vacations.** It is a shore-wide race, listed on the Jersey Shore Running Club website. SJAA would really like to bolster this run and increase participation, both within the Saint James School community as well as the community at-large. The bulk of the funds for SJAA used to come from the golf outing, but the attendance has declined over the past few years. If attendance for this race could be greatly increased, it would fill the gap. The only overhead cost for the event is the race t—shirt. The race includes both a 400-meter Kids Race and a 5K Run/Walk, so all ages and abilities are able and welcome to participate. There is entertainment (i.e. games, face-painting) at the event, and there will also be an After-Party (place TBD). The host restaurant will donate some food and 1 drink per participant. There is also live music and basket raffles. It is truly a fun event and generates a lot of school spirit. The information and registration page should be up and running soon at www.jsrc.org. JSRC is very motivated to see our event do well as they promote it at the Spring Lake 5-Mile Race and they also donated \$250 to the Saint James School track program because of time spent by SJAA members volunteering at other events.

• Pee-Wee Track Program – Mrs. Giordano has approved including grades K-2 for participation in the Spring Track program, making the Pee-Wee age group grades K-3. This will give the younger kids the opportunity to participate in a sport and feel as part of the school. The Pee-Wee age group will only participate in meets to start, which take place on Sunday mornings, and some Tues. or Thursday afternoons. The events include 50m, 100m, 300m, 800m, and relays. The Spring Sport registration page should open and be posted on the website with more information soon. A current, signed physical, notarized Medical Authorization form, and \$50 registration fee is required for all participants.

• Other Discussion – Fay Eigenrauch asked how to go about updating the cheer uniforms. Michaela stated that once all uniforms are turned in, SJAA looks at them to gauge the condition. They will address those uniforms most in need first. Fay asked about fundraising or collecting donations specifically for cheer uniforms, but Michaela explained that there cannot be any team-specific donations as it becomes a booster situation with one benefitting more over the other teams. Instead, donations are made to SJAA as a group, and all funds go towards league fees, officials, uniforms and equipment. This is another reason to encourage teams to get together and participate in the 5K as a group (wearing their uniform) in order to help raise more funds.

SJAA plans to hold an Open Meeting and will communicate time and place when it has been determined.

Presentations by Committees:

Care Steps: Lisa Goga – There was a great response for all of the Community Outreach done in December (Red Cross Food Drive, Caroling at Chelsea Assisted Living Community, and Operation Christmas Child). Souper Bowl will take place during Catholic Schools Week in February. There has been a request for other items in addition to soup for the Ronald McDonald House, so that information will be posted on the website.

Ice Skating Party – Jeanne O'Connor (for Tina Catapano) - The event will take place on Wednesday, January 20, 2016 from 12:30-3pm (1/2 day at school), at Middletown Ice World. Tickets cost \$6 each, and RSVPs have been coming in. Don't forget your helmet!

Progressive Raffle: Maria Rimmele is coordinating – It will begin Monday, February 1, 2016 (the first day of Catholic Schools Week) and end Friday, March 11, 2016 at noon, when Mrs. Giordano will pick the winner.

After-School Clubs: - Jeanne O'Connor – They are scheduled to kick off on February 23, 2016. There is still no chair to coordinate, and unfortunately it will have to be cancelled if no one steps up. We have many businesses interested in offering clubs. The chair will need to coordinate with the businesses on club offerings as well as manage the parent and student volunteers to help on the club days.

Father-Daughter Dance: Jeanne O'Connor (for Tiffany Havard and Jamie Monaghan) – The theme is “Hollywood”, and it will take place on Sunday, March 6, 2016 at Beacon Hill Country Club. The invitations have gone out, and plans are moving along. Please note that the invitation states that checks are to be made out to “Saint James PTA,” but rather should be made out to “Saint James School” instead. Please try to return RSVPs as soon as possible as the event will sell out.

Open Discussion

None

The next PTA Executive Meeting will be Wednesday, February 17, 2016 at 8:15am. The next Open PTA Meeting will be in March, and we will have a guest speaker from the Sheriff's Office.

PTA Meeting January 13, 2015 Attendance

JoAnn Giordano
Jeanne O'Connor
Dana Franznick
Robert Lowe
Laurie Williams
Lisa Noonan
Liz Coscia
Maria Rimmele
Fay Eigenrauch
Ann Mazza
Christian Buckman
Mary Asfendis
Molly Cimini – 3rd Grade
Jackie Mazzuco – 7th Grade
Lisa Goga – 8th Grade
Deanna Ryan – 4th Grade
Patricia Devaney – 1st Grade
Kim Walsh-Phillips – Preschool
Kim Vowteras – 5th Grade
Lori Dougherty – 2nd Grade
Sandy Hayes
Michaela Ferrigine
Terry Bolan