

Saint James Elementary School PTA Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2022

SJS Cafeteria

Opening Prayer & Welcome - Mrs. Giordano

Principal's Report - Mrs. Giordano & Mrs. Golden

Mrs. Giordano:

- Appreciation of all that the PTA does and emphasis on how important the fundraising is. Recap of where all of the fundraising and PTA money goes. Examples of but not limited to include: new gym blinds, new desks, books & educational programs and materials, expansion of pre school, new windows and window guards. Notation of the extreme high costs of educational programs and new books in which the shipping costs are also exorbitant.
- We are still using COVID relief fund money.
- Care Steps pair up with Saint Anthony has been very good, strong turnouts and very appreciated on all ends, looking forward to its continued support and growth.
- Student Council will continue with the cornhole event and they are excitedly working on a "wish list" of items & materials that they would like.
- The enthusiasm and energy of the students and parents coming back into the school year has been great and contagious, everyone excited to be here.

Mrs. Golden:

- Thankful for the parents and their efforts in contributing to the dismissal and car line pick up processes. It has been getting better and has been running more smoothly over the last few days.

President's Report - Samantha Fogliano & Tricia Sirico

- Self introductions. Welcome and sentiments of it being nice to see new faces.
- Calendar of events planned for the year announced and requests for volunteers noted, events can not run without volunteers.

- Near future upcoming events highlighted;
 1. Mini Golf to be held on Tuesday September 20th at Blue Grass Mini Golf in Oceanport, RSVP coming due, SJS family owned Frederico's on Main will be doing a buy back to the school.
 2. Parents Night Out to be held on September 29th at SJS family owned Jughandle Brewery in Tinton Falls, this will be a buy back event.
 3. Student Council run Cornhole Tournament will take place on Saturday October 1st
 4. Trunk or Treat will be held on Saturday October 29th. We will be looking for volunteers to help with admissions, concessions, and set up/break down the evening of Trunk or Treat.
 5. Halloween Dance for 6th-8th grades will be held on the evening of October 28th and the Halloween Parade for PreK-3rd will be on October 31st during school hours.
- November 5th will be Basketball Blowout run by the Royals Club.
- Autumn Fest at Salt Creek Grille will be on November 19th.
- One Hope Wine Fundraiser will take place from November 1st through November 30th. This fundraiser will be available during the Autumn Fest event, a One Hope representative will be present.
- Jingle Bell Jackpot kickoff will be November 2nd with "early birds" due by November 18th, the raffle sales will close on November 30th.
- Upcoming Greeting Card Fundraiser will give families the opportunity to purchase children's art work created into greeting cards.
- A Christmas Shopping Event will be held the week of December 5th, this will provide students the opportunity to purchase gifts at school.
- Breakfast with Santa will be held on December 3rd at which the Jingle Bell Jackpot drawings will take place.
- Golf Outing at Beacon Hill Country Club will be on May 22nd, 2023. If anyone is interested, or knows anyone interested, in sponsorship opportunities or registration please let the PTA know.

Vice President's Report - Michelle Maddock

- Mothers Club events will give back to the school; October will be at A Time to Kiln, (details to still be confirmed). November will be the Autumn Fest at Salt Creek Grille (this will not be limited to mothers), December will be a sip and shop event held at Bungalow Road. Looking ahead to 2023 to line up events with Yoga 6, Alpha Fit Club, a cooking class and more.

- SJS Buy Backs; Once Bitten Donuts was the first one and looks to have been successful. Yestercades and Tacoholics will be next on October 12th. Yestercades is very generous and donates 50% back to our school. Salad House will be the buy back location on November 10th and an upcoming buy back shopping event through Vineyard Vines is being planned.
- Thank you expressed to the New Families Committee; they reached over 80 new families and had great feedback.
- We are seeking businesses to partner with for financial support, donations and buy back opportunities.

Recording Secretary's Report - Suzanne Fixsen

- Nothing to report at this time.

Treasurer's Report - Anita Esser

- The Used Uniform Sale was very successful and raised \$2,000. The next one will be held in March 2023. The closet is pretty depleted on inventory at this time. Motion to raise the price from \$4 a piece to \$5 a piece.

Corresponding Secretary's Report - Jenna Liable

-Thank You was sent to Once Bitten Donuts and a Get Well Sentiment was sent to Mrs. Eibler.

Hospitality - Noelle Fitzpatrick (Samantha Fogliano on behalf of)

- There will be 8 bagel days this school year, most of them to be on half days. Bagels will be from Bagel Masters, order forms are available and were sent via eblast. We will need volunteers for bagel days, volunteering time will be about one hour on the day of.

Technology - Susan Marino

- This will be Susan's last year, introduction of replacement by Mrs. Starkey to be taking over this role.
- Please have all items for blasts submitted by Friday the latest, all items must have prior approval of Mrs. Giordano and Mrs. Golden before being sent to technology.

Spirituality/Care Steps - Dulce Arce

- Helping Hands with Saint Vincent De Paul in Long Branch has been running strong and provides a lot of opportunity for students to get involved within the community on a volunteer level. This serves as fulfillment for volunteer hours needed by grades 6th-8th. It is suggested the volunteers be of at least 4th grade.

Athletics SJAA - Adrienne Supino

- Fall sports are underway and off to a strong start.
- Cross Country's first meet of the season will be on Sunday September 18th.
- Working on a live calendar for sporting events.
- Girls Soccer has been opened to the 5th grade to help fill in the 2022 fall roster.
- Thank you to Mr. Joe Gangemi for helping coach Cross Country which now can be open to K-3rd grades.
- Mini Golf Event rsvp have been steadily coming in. Frederico's would like to encourage all who plan to order to please do so via their business app or online and they ask that orders are placed as ahead as possible.

Fundraising - Bogi Chamberlin

- Jingle Bell Jackpot and The Polar Plunge are the two PFE opportunities to fulfill requirement.
- Jingle Bell Jackpot will have 8 prizes, early birds will be due by 11/18/22 and will earn dress down passes, drawing will be held on 12/3/22 during Breakfast with Santa. Final prize list needs Mrs. Giordano's approval in order for Mrs. Chamberlin to begin paperwork process for raffle.
- Parent attendee asked if raffle prize donations were accepted. Answer received is; donations are welcome for raffles for any fundraising activities throughout the year.

Royals Club - Brian Suth and Brian Hanlon

- The Royals provides the opportunity for fathers, and other prominent male figures in our students' lives, to get together for meetings and to get involved within our school community and help out where needed. They meet once a month.

- The first Royals meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 15th at Brother's Pizzeria. All Royals meeting dates are posted on the school website calendar and will be in the weekly eblasts.

Open Discussion

- The idea of electronic or online payments for all school related events and so forth was discussed. Discussion on this topic also raised the idea of a pre purchased voucher concept in which families can purchase vouchers for things such as dress down days; ie: purchase dress down passes at the start of the school year, for all dress down days, to be redeemed as dress down days occur.

Attendance:

Mrs. Giordano
Mrs. Golden
Samantha Fogliano
Tricia Sirico
Michelle Maddock
Jenna Liable
Anita Esser
Suzanne Fixsen
Ms. Kira Nelsen
Dulce Acre
Susan Marino
Kelly Hershey

Mike & Melissa Caporale
Theresa Henderson
Janine Parkinson
Adrienne Supino
Tammy Solaz
Fayann Eigenrauch
Laura Lapitzki
Lori Reuter
Brian Suth
Amanda Ward