

St. Francis Xavier
Home & School Association Minutes
Thursday, September 22, 2011
7:00 p.m.

Opening of Meeting

Call to order: Michelle Studnicka

Prayer: Father David Hennen

Secretary Report: Andrea Krinke

Reading of minutes from May 12, 2011 meeting

Motion to accept by Deb L, second by Alison S

Treasurer Report: Anne Tiernan

\$2354.64 in income from Target Red Card donations

Add that to dues paid to date for a current balance of: \$3789.64

Motion to accept by Alison S, second by Renee K

New Business

Principal's Update: Kim Zumbusch

- Theme for school year: Building the Kingdom of God
- Introduction of teachers/new staff: Peggy Bobick, Sue Nelson
- Looking for additional staff for day care. Interested parties should contact Mrs. Zumbusch.
- Current K-8 enrollment is 223, down 3.5%; 77 in preschool (an increase)
 - district has also added all-day/every-day kindergarten
 - low birth year... this was a lower group in preschool, as well
- MAP assessment starts Oct. 5, and 8th graders do SAT 10s by Pearson (mandated by diocese)

Development Administrator Update: Joy Swearingen

- Marathon: Oct. 1, 2011; committee developing incentives for children
- For every \$10,000 raised, a day of no uniforms, up to 6 days; school goal is \$60,000
- \$20,000 for chocolate milk on Friday prize
- \$50,000 is the big prize marker
- challenge pending between Mrs. Zumbusch and Father Hennen
- A few grants going right now: one for Saints on Stage for \$25,000+, other grant pending through Target
- Calendar fundraiser: We have partnered with Knights of Columbus, who are sponsoring it. It will be printed in color. Calendars will be \$20, on sale before Christmas. It's a raffle, with your name submitted for every calendar you buy, and money awarded on each calendar day (\$9,000 total.) If we sell them all, the income will be \$12,000.
- If anyone hears about potential grants, please alert Mrs. S.
- Our other big fundraiser is Spring Fever. For 2012, it is scheduled two weeks after Easter. The first Spring Fever Committee meeting will be in October, and a theme will be decided at that meeting. Mrs. S. welcomes all parents and staff to join the committee.

Lunch Program: Denise Ryan, head cook; Amy Strommen is assistant

- Mrs. Ryan is very aware and cautious about students with allergies.
- **Mrs. Ryan is asking parents to NOT PACK ANY CANDY in kids' cold lunches, for the safety of all students.
- There is a Peanut- Free table. No kids with cold lunch sit there. Mrs. Ryan monitors it closely.

- She will be gradually eliminating breaded items (chicken nuggets, chicken patties, etc.), in line with state standard changes.
- Mrs. Ryan is stressing eating more colorful meals, with more variety.
- School Wellness Committee will be sponsoring recognition of National School Lunch Week Oct. 10-14—lots of exciting activities planned.

Sports Committee: Sherry Dahmen

- Basketball—Last year’s issue with reserving gym have been resolved.
- 4-6 graders eligible right now, but would consider adding 7-8 graders as “buddy coaches”
- 8 girls, 5 boys registered so far—would like 10 for each team
- Randy Latzig will coach boys team, as long as we get 10 players.
- Bob Meeker will coach girls again.
- Tuesday & Thursday practices until 6 p.m.
- There are no try-outs. This is a competitive but faith-enriched experience.
- Practices start the second week in Oct., games begin second week in Nov..

Bully-Free School: Michelle Feldman, Technology Teacher/school parent, part of a new committee called The Peacemakers. Other staff members are:

- Abramowski, Wilke, Erger, Walker, Lenczewski, McGrath
- This year’s school theme is “Building the Kingdom of God”—staff used decorated blocks to demonstrate how to build up the kingdom through positive actions.
- Bullying policy and discipline procedure currently being revised and will be sent home for parents.
- Positive recognition procedure for students and staff also being developed.
- On Oct. 3, “Critters and Company” will be doing presentation for students on character building and positive relationships.
- Staff is attending Sept. 26, seminar called “The Bully, The Bullied, and The Bystander” by Barbara Coloroso. Parents encouraged to attend as well.
- Discussion was held regarding no-tolerance policy, making sure students really understand what bullying is, appropriate investigation of potential bullying.
- Our school has purchased educational books and videos on bullying behavior, for classroom use.
- Mrs. Z. stated bullying is different these days due to text messaging, Facebook, etc.
- Suggestion was made to consider having parent volunteers and also students on the Peacemakers committee.
- Would like a follow-up from the Peacemakers after the bullying seminar.
- Parent comment: referral for book “Have You Filled the Bucket Today?” by Carol McCloud—writing down positive things about each kid and putting them in the bucket

Virtus Training: Bryan Berg here for Kathy Berg

- Two sessions here at STFX:
 - Mon., Oct. 3, 6:30-9 p.m. & Sat., Oct. 15, 9-11:30 a.m.
- www.virtusonline.org-- You can sign up online.
- If you attend another session elsewhere, you need to tell Mrs. Greenhagen so she can verify through archdiocese.
- Every parent volunteer must attend training before working with children.

Education Advisory Council: Sandy Cich

- Who we are and what we do:
 - meets 3rd Mon. of every month here at school
 - 9 members who are parents, educators and parishioners

- looking for two new members: one from school, one from parish large
- Committee gets reports from Mrs. Zumbusch on what's going on at school; Brantly Millegan updates on Faith Formation. Parents of school 2nd graders reminded of preparation for Reconciliation and Communion and that they need to come to Faith Formation; also parents of 7th & 8th graders need to take note of service requirement changes, with theme of Corporal Works of Mercy.
- Most important thing committee needs is INPUT. Please use comment form found on school website. It is preferred that you print off the form, write it out and submit it; there is an online submission option, but it doesn't always work.

Volunteer Coordinator: Jackie Prigge

- THANK YOU to those who have helped so far.
- NEEDS: Reception Wed. late shift (1:30 – 3:30 p.m.) is temporarily open.
- Class captains have somewhat new duties this year: parent liaison between teacher and the other classroom parents
 - boxtop/label clipping and collection
 - assistance with HSA events and Track and Field recruiting
 - organize/assemble Spring Fever silent auction basket for classroom
- Teachers should please pass along information to their captains. These teachers still need class captains:
 - Wilke, Vossen

Update: Mary B will be Mrs. Bobick's class captain, with assistance from Deb L and Andrea K

- Recess/playground supervisors-- encourage all to volunteer, especially men.
- Class captains will be assigned to find volunteers for each HSA event.
- Boxtop collection goal will be school-wide, versus classroom.
- Parent volunteered to go to Coborn's, etc. to ask about having a collection site/way to get labels that would otherwise be thrown away.

Announcements:

- Saints on Stage: Andrea Krinke
- Math Fun Night: Friday, October 14, 2011, 6-8 p.m.
- All school families are members of the HSA. Parents should pay \$20 dues to Michelle Studnicka, if they have not yet done so.

Open Forum

- Love INC fundraiser: Saturday, October 1, 2011, at STFX Education Center (Jackie Prigge is secretary.) Donations run this program—this is one of the biggest fundraisers. www.loveincbigwoods.org; 6 churches take part—non-denominational, through fellowship

65 people in attendance (67 with Mrs. Zumbusch and Father Hennen)

Door Prize Winner: Sandy Merz

Classroom Attendance Winner: Mrs. Bettenberg had 10 parents in attendance; but 11 attended from 7th grade. 7th grade wins.

Meeting Adjourned.