

St. Gabriel Consolidated School PTO Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Kris K, PTO President at 7:00 p.m. Attendance was good despite inclement weather.

Call to Order/Welcome – Kris K

- Opening Prayer was led by Mrs. Mary Lou S focusing on vocations.

Secretary's Report – Lori M

- Motions requested and received from Sue K, Laura E and Michelle D to waive the reading of the minutes from the Sept 2008 PTO meeting.
- PTO sends weekly emails to the group distribution list along with ad hoc updates and request emails. If you want to be on the email list to receive PTO emails or you want to change the email addresses on this list, please contact the Secretary at 513 771 0846.

Principal's Report – Mr. E

- Lots of activities for Vocations week and there will be a Career Day this year for upper grades.
- Tuition increasing only \$25 for next year. Registration packets will come home in the Jan 15 Thursday envelope.
- Enrollment is 394 students as of today – 1 down since beginning of school year.
- Word of mouth is the most effective way of getting new students to enroll. Talk about SGCS with friends, co-workers, etc. to encourage a visit to check out SGCS.

Active Committee Reports (20+ active committees)

- **Adult Social - Kris K**
 - Feedback from Cougars Night Out indicated a desire to continue to build upon the sense of community but without all the work of CNO.
 - Feb 21st is Adult R&R Social Night. This is a casual night out.
 - Tickets are \$10 a person. For \$20 a couple you can get a pasta dinner along with games and dancing! You can't even go to Bob Evans for dinner for two for \$20!
 - Ticket price includes non alcoholic beverages.
 - Evening includes door prizes, limbo contest etc.
 - There will be a few items for auction. One will be a \$300 pearl necklace. Others to be announced later.
 - Tickets – will come through Thursday envelope soon or can buy at the door.
 - Adelaide L announced that there will be a mini Taste of St Gabriel at the Social. Bring a dessert cut into bite-size pieces and people will vote for Best Dessert. If willing to share, the recipe will be published in upcoming Pawprints.
- **Catholic Schools Week – Celebrating Service – Kris K for Aimee D**

SERVICE THEME:

 - Theme is service. Goal to teach kids that as a family we can do things to promote service. It is just as important to spend time on service in addition to buying something or giving money.
 - **Chosen service project for school is the Ronald McDonald House.** Kids come from out of town, out of state and the House takes care of families so they don't have to worry about the details of daily living. It is a blessing to have a home away from home. The House also supports families who are not spending the night by being there for families waiting for surgery or test results.
 - Speaker from Ronald McDonald House was unable to attend due to bad weather so Kris K and Pat K volunteered personal experiences with the House to share the value of the House.
 - **We will volunteer to cover dinner for the the 2nd Tuesday of the month starting in April (except for May).**
 - Kathy C will organize volunteer families and people are welcome to shadow her at the House on the 3rd Thursday of March. Families can bring food to share or simply come down to help cook/staff the dinner hour.
 - Kids are especially welcome! Kids are there whose siblings are in the hospital and someone to play with is appreciated. This gives the kids staying at the home time to be a kid again and not worry about what is going on with their sibling.
 - More information coming home soon.

ALL SCHOOL MASS:

- **All School Mass at St John's West Chester this year on January 29th.** PTO funds buses for kids to go. Parents welcome. Permission slips for kids coming home soon.
- **Cougar Raffle – Katrina H for Charlie K**
 - We decided to take a break from the intense planning and effort needed for Cougars Night Out but still needed to raise significant funds for the school. The Cougar Raffle was born.
 - The goal is to sell 500 tickets @ \$50 per ticket. Each family encouraged to sell 1-2 tickets.
 - Individuals are encouraged to go in on a ticket together.
 - Feedback on CNO was parents wanted a break from CNO. CNO takes lots of investment of both time and money. Break from CNO - asking for donations, preparing donations,
 - Comparison of costs CNO/Raffle Comparison
 - Profit \$15,000
 - Cougar Raffle goal is \$10,000
 - CNO \$190 average expenditure versus \$70 (\$50 + \$20 per couple at social)
 - Classroom that sells most tickets will get a Mad Scientist party
 - Can buy tickets until Feb 21st – can buy at the R&R Night where the drawing for winners will be held
- **Catholic Identity – Maria L**
 - We will focus on Vocations. Every school day starts with prayer around vocations from Mr E
 - Students work on different activities throughout school day centered on vocations.
 - Thursday envelope this week will have guide for parents and how to nurture vocations within family
 - **School Vocation Cross program started last week. Families can sign up to host the Cross for a week. Contact Maria L to sign-up. We have 20 weeks to cover. We have ½ filled but we still need 10 more!!**
 - Sisters of Charity helped found Saints Gabriel's and one of these Sisters will meet with 6-8th graders during Career Week.

Budget Update: Mary R

- Budget Overview:
 - ◆ See Budget report on Website under PTO tab for details.
 - ◆ About ½ through the year and we are on track overall.
 - ◆ Completed Fundraisers:
 - M&Ms: profit ~\$12,200
 - School Suppliers profit \$1,053.24
 - Zone Books: \$232

Everybody Counts – Bryan R

- This program provides age-appropriate exercises for kids to better understand disabilities.
- Information coming in next week's Thursday envelope.
- Volunteers will receive packets with instructions soon. It is about a 1.5 hour commitment.

Recognition – Katrina H

- The Wall of Appreciation outside the cafeteria has been updated to recognize our school volunteers!
- Please checkout the Wall and visit the Kudos! page on our website to see all of our volunteers for the Fall/Winter.
- If your name is missing or misspelled, **PLEASE** contact Katrina H because everyone deserves to be thanked and recognized.

Cougar - The coveted Cougar goes to Mrs Hunt's 1st Grade for having the most parents in attendance.

Split the Pot – Winning ticket was held by Rebecca L. Total dollar amount for \$54.

Next Meeting: May 13, 2009 at 7pm in St Mary's Hall

Minutes submitted by: Lori M, PTO Secretary