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St. Gabriel Consolidated School PTO Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Katrina H., PTO president at 7:05 pm. Attendance was very good.

Call to order/welcome – Katrina H.

- Opening prayer was led by Mrs. S. – where 2 or three gathered, God is there.

Principal's report – Mr. E.

- School year is going well so far with 4 weeks into the year.
- Teachers were called to stand and be recognized. The following teachers were in attendance and were recognized: Kerry S. (teacher/assistant principal), Mary Lou Bay-S.(Director of Religious Education), Rob B.(music teacher), Sandy O.(art teacher), Claudia B.(enrichment/reading tutor), Sheila G.(speech), Joanne G.(Computer), Andrew B. (Physical Education), Michelle S.(Kindergarten), Kathy H.(Kindergarten), Lynn H.(1st grade), Sue C.(1st grade), Pam K.(2nd grade), Carolyn M.(2nd grade), Yvette S.(3rd grade), Katie H.(3rd grade), Martha F.(4th grade), Rosalie H.(4th grade), Janet M.(5th grade), Terri R.(5th grade), Jason S.(6th grade), Christie K.(6th grade), Kristin W.(7th grade), Anne Z.(7th grade), Andru H.(8th grade), Mary Lou H.(8th grade).
- We have begun the process of self study for accreditation. Our school must go through an accreditation process every 6 years. Our accreditation is up in the spring of 2011. There will be a visit from an outside group of people in 2010-2011 to see if the work we've done is valid. There are 3 areas that are looked at:: school profile, mission and beliefs and organizational effectiveness. This is done among teachers. There is an opportunity for parents to participate through an on-line survey. There are 45 items to answer, some subjective, some yes/no. The survey will be available from Sept 24 through October 2. A letter about the survey will be in the Thursday envelope for September 17 with more details.
- The flu season is here, along with the H1N1 virus. SGCS is taking extra precautions and doing our best to keep things clean. Kids are encouraged to practice good hygiene, like coughing and sneezing in the elbow. Letters were sent home about hygiene and we hope that parents will encourage kids at home as well. There is a possibility that we will be asked as a school to provide information about inoculations. These inoculations won't be during school time. They will probably be set up at St. Rita's and will be voluntary and free. Mr. E. hasn't heard if it will be 2 inoculations or 1.
- The PTO has been very generous last year with it's monetary contributions to the school. Some of the things that the money went for were: desks for both 8th grade classrooms, blinds in the cafeteria, 2 new trophy cases that replace the one 1975 version we had, new table for clerks, and finished phase 2 and 3 of wiring project to increase band width for data processing(this was completed during the summer). We also sent 5 staff members to Washington D.C. to enhance teaching strategies. Our teachers are still teaching reading, writing and arithmetic, but in different

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ways and more. The goal for teachers is to stay current. PTO has really benefited the school in the past and we hope it will continue, through the fundraisers.

Treasurer's Report – Martha D.

- The budget was set up cognizant of economic conditions. The Board tried not to overestimate. We are trying to be conservative with the budget and plan to break even at the end.
- How did we do last year vs what was budgeted? Took a look at income page. Last year budget will be on website. Last year, we came in with 14,000. This year we will be at 5000.
- A question was asked about any cuts made to the budget? The Board didn't make significant changes in expenses. The changes were in the expected income.
- A question was asked as to how the candy sale affects our income? The board kept income level the same as for m& m's.
- A request was made for budget approval for 2009-2010 budget. Attendees responded with yes.

SECRETARY'S REPORT –

- Motion was made to waive the reading of the minutes from the last PTO meeting. The motion was made by Lori M. and seconded by Kara R.

CANDY SALE – Karen S.

- October 2 is the kickoff. Money is due back no later than October 16. Mars pulled out of fundraising, so we will be selling Worlds Finest Chocolate Bars for \$1.00 a bar.
- They come in a box of 40. You will be able to order a box with all milk chocolate or a box that has a variety including milk chocolate, dark chocolate, almond, crisp and caramel. The wrapper will say 'Thank you for supporting my school, St Gabriel School'. There is also a Pizza Hut coupon on the back of wrapper.
- There is a table at the meeting to sign up to sell candy after masses and at retail stores, like Kroger.
- Our goal is \$10,000. To meet this goal, we have to sell 500 boxes of chocolate bars as a school. If each family sells 3 boxes, we will meet our goal.
- We have some great prizes this year. For selling 1 box of candy, the student will receive a St. Gabriel Nylon Drawstring Sports Pack. Students who sell 2 boxes will be entered into a drawing for tickets to Children's Theater. Those selling 4 or more boxes will either get a pizza lunch (grades k-5) or a limo lunch (grades 6-8).

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- The money for the candy is collected after the candy is sold. If the student doesn't sell a whole box, the parents are responsible for whole box.

SCRIP – Katrina H.

- Melinda Y. is in charge of SCRIP. She was not able to be here, so Katrina talked about scrip.
- Scrip is a gift certificate. PTO pockets \$3500.00 or more a year from this fundraiser. It is a big bottom line for school. There are all kinds of retailers on there. Comes home in Thursday envelope.
- The Reloadable Kroger card – gives back 4%.
- There are 2 order forms, one which is local. Orders are taken once a month.

SCHOOL ENRICHMENT ASSEMBLIES – Lori M.

- Enrichment assemblies bring in outside speakers.
- On September 15, Basketball Jones came and talked about not quitting and respecting themselves.
- Some upcoming assemblies will include Frederick Douglas in January, Madcap Puppets(for grades 1-4) in October and Mathathon in March. Frederick Davis is an anti-slavery activist in the 1800's. He will be talking about things going on in his time. Mathathon will bring math to the kids in a new and fun way
- If anyone has ideas for other assemblies, let Lori M. know.

COUGARS NIGHT OUT – Linda G.and Joan V.

- The date for Cougars Night Out (CNO) has been moved from March 27 to March 13th. There were a lot of other things happening on March 27: Palm Sunday, NCAA Tournament and other fundraisers.
- CNO will be held at Glendale Lyceum this year, instead of St. Maximilian Kolbe Church as in the past. It was moved for people to get excited about and want to get dressed up for.
- CNO is mainly a fundraiser. It is the biggest fundraiser for the school. Our tuition pays for the teachers and building upkeep, but a lot of other student enrichments are paid by the PTO. PTO pays for field trips, assemblies, smart boards, etc. Everybody needs to support CNO because it's for our kids.
- We are still trying to fill 2 committee chairs. Entertainment and Special Events. The Special Events committee includes the class baskets, raffles and live auction. We also need to look at what kind of raffle we need to have and make a decision on that. We could split some of these

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out. The Entertainment committee would be looking into ideas for entertainment such as a DJ. Maybe even come up with ideas to raise money like patrons paying money to request a song. There will be no gambling because some people camp out at the tables and don't go to the silent auction.

- Stacy F., chair of the Marketing/Invitations committee mentioned that if anyone there had contacts for reduced cost or free printing, paper products, decorative items, etc. to please let her know.
- Kim B. and Tara M. are chairs for the Silent Auction. They could use some help on this committee. The silent auction is what drives the whole CNO. We make a lot of money on the silent and live auctions. They are also looking for businesses to contact. A lot of items are donated through personal contacts. If you know of someone and don't feel comfortable asking them personally, you can give the contact information to Kim or Tara and they will contact them for you.
- Stacy is putting together a website for CNO that will be linked to the SGCS website.
- There was appeal to fathers to get involved.
- Katrina mentioned another committee for CNO that will need help is the Checkout Committee, run by Annette B. and Joe A. They will need manpower that night to checkout items won. If you have any computer skills, please contact them.

SMALL FUNDRAISERS – Adelaide L.

- Most of the fundraisers are described in detail in the PTO Announcements, so Adelaide went over briefly.
- Zone book – Melony F. is in charge of this. If you ordered one, she has them available for pickup. She also has extras for purchase.
- Market day- buy frozen food online or through a paper order form. It is delivered once a month. Cindy L. is in charge of this.
- We also collect things that you might already have in your house: Boxtops for Education, Tyson project a+, and Campbells labels.
- School supplies – A lot of parents use this fundraiser.
- Birthday book program - Lots of books have been donated to the library through this program. When it is a student's birthday, they can donate money and pick out a book to add to the library. Their name will go on the inside cover and they will be the first to take the book home to read.

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THANK YOU'S – Katrina H.

- To the candy sales team: Jenn D., Karen S., and Tori A. There was a huge amount of work involved to switch over from M&M's.
- Joan V. and Linda G. – are doing a fabulous job on Cougars Night Out.
- Jenny C., Erin F.(Membership Committee) for all their hard work
- Ann E. – for all her hard work getting the PTO Directory together
- Laura L. – Hospitality Committee
- Kris K., Laura L. – have been helpful with various things going on
- Monica T. and 8th grade girls and Mr. T. for babysitting tonight during the PTO meeting

NEW BUSINESS – Katrina H.

- Katrina thanked the board members for helping out during New Family Orientation when she was not available due to her son being in the hospital. She also thanked them for their help at Meet the Teacher. A token of thanks was handed out to the Board members.
- Catholic schools week – will be the week of Feb 1st. John and Monica T. are chairing this committee and will be having a meeting on October 14 at 7:00 to start the planning process.
- There was a survey that went out from the long term planning committee. The survey was how you feel about the school and facilities: how our surroundings are fulfilling our needs. This survey needs to be completed by Friday, September 17. Please contact Ann E. if you didn't receive the email with the link to the survey. She can get your email and shoot you that survey. A question was asked as to how the information is used? Mr. E. answered that it would be used by strategic planning advisory commission.

Split the pot - Won by Joe A.

Classroom with most parents in attendance was Mrs H. so she will get the Cougar.