

Sts. Martha and Mary School Council

Minutes of Meeting – Monday November 24, 2008

1. **Candle Lighting:** L. Arnett/S. Steer
2. **Opening Prayer:** Led by T. McKeon
3. **Approval of the Agenda**
Moved by: S. Jones-Clark **Seconded by:** T. McKeon *All in favour*
4. **Approval of September Minutes**
Moved by: L. Butler **Seconded by:** L. Arnett *All in favour*

5. Committee Reports (General Updates)

Pizza Committee:

- Pizza has been coming in overcooked
- Pizza has been coming in a little too late within the past two weeks, spoken to supplier, hoping to rectify the situation
- Still receiving good feedback from the students

Fundraising – Halloween Dance-a-thon:

- Final total of donations is \$11,295.00 (up from last year's total). Total expenses were \$1,226.00 (compared to last year's expenses of \$2,165.00)
- Had almost 100% return of envelopes, handed out 417 and received back 404
- Good feedback from students outweighed any negative feedback. One suggestion was to set up a request list for songs prior to event.
- An additional \$100.00 was spent on gift cards for top 11-20 donation amounts received (due to the fact that top 11 to 20 donation amounts were so close to the top 10)
- Need to make a metal note that we only require 5 large bags of ice in total (equals 25 small bags)
- Agreed to go with same DJ next year

Motion to approve \$500.00 amount for prizes again next year

Moved by: F. Costa **Seconded by:** L. Butler *All in favour*

6. **Treasurer's Report:** M. Savaro
 - General review of report (month ending Oct. 31, 2008) – opening balance, revenue sources, expenditures, standard outstanding commitments
 - Hush ups added to "Outstanding Commitments" for a total of \$2400.00
 - "Wish List" from Sue and teachers reviewed.

Motion to approve items from wish list are: Electronic Scoreboard for gymnasium, two (2) TV/DVD/VCR units, and Hush ups for a total of \$ 9000.00 (estimated cost)

Moved by: F. Costa **Seconded by:** J. Christopoulos *All in favour*

7. **Chair's Report:** T. Messersmith

Michael Reist Presentation

- Good feedback from all that attended, but smaller group participated from original date scheduled

Grants

- Brainstorming on ideas on how to get more parents involved in school (in general):
 - Pam Smith approached to start up another one of her parenting sessions
 - Having another speaker in to talk about "The Hurried Child"
 - Community mass, with refreshment after mass
 - Renting Burnhamthorpe community outdoor rink and gym (refreshments to be served, i.e. hot chocolate, coffee)
 - Movie night at Sts. Martha and Mary gymnasium
 - Bingo night (at the Knights of Columbus hall at Sts. Martha and Mary church), would have prizes instead of money
 - Roller-skating (Scooters)
 - Bowling (Planet Bowl or Bowlarama)
 - Mother/Daughter or Father/Son sports night
 - Marlies night (J. Christopoulos will move forward to get times and dates that work for school)

2008/2009 Wish List

- Bolded items are first priority for Sue and teachers
- Indoor games, need games that can be played within the 15 minute time period (i.e. Trouble, Jenga, etc.)
- TV/DVD/VCR unit is broken (desperately need). Suggested to put in newsletter to see if anyone or company they work for can donate and overhead projector
- Literacy rooms (just need to top up with new books/materials)
- See Treasure Report for items approved

8. Principal's Report: S. Steer

Catholicity

- School liturgies: Remembrance Day – school band played "O Canada" and choir sang. School Advent mass, if held at school, band will play again, if held at church band will not play. Grade 8 students will play for the students on December 18th
- Advent Christmas Story will be held on December 9th. Dress rehearsal will take place at 10:15am. Evening event will take place at 7:00pm. All are welcomed to attend.
- Teaching Mass/Mass Responses, having Father D'Souza explain what each part of the mass signifies
- Virtues imbedded into the announcements, having the grade 8 students creating virtue prayers for each virtue

Programs

- Professional Learning Communities, two days of offsite sessions and a ½ day of at school sessions for review of Cassie and EQAO data. This is to help students develop skills (i.e. learning to setup a brochure from scratch). To meet again on December 9th to review post-lesson assessment (taking place during school hours)
- Junior Volleyball: Girls are off to the Family of Tournament, boys still need to complete last round of games
- Intermediate Basketball: Girls practices are underway, boys will start soon
- Reporting: Final assessments – Report cards are complete, second term started
- Early Release Dates are scheduled for January 12th and April 2nd
- Christmas break to begin on December 19th, returning to school on January 5th

Finance

- Supply teacher budget is tight, but this is to be expected
- Allocations: Consumable texts – Math practice books and Family Life books.
Conferences – scheduled for two (2) teachers to receive in-service on “Anxiety”
- Photocopy budget is \$16,000.00
- Budget per student is \$112.00 (5% reduction from the past)

Safe School

- Community Officer: Constable Nelson (who is new to the school)
- Eco-Schools: Litter-less lunches – trying to become “greener” as a school, will aim for one day a week to be litter-less

Outstanding Wish List Items

- Replenishing of sound field systems
- Presentations: Mad Science
- Hush-ups ordered for 400 chairs (some will be stored for future use)
- Recess bins

- Mitten Tree and Gift Tree to be setup the first week of December
- Christmas food drive (for Salvation Army and St. Vincent de Paul) to begin first week of December until December 12

9. New Business

Parish Meeting

- Scheduled for Parish Liaison to attend on November 27th. T. McKeon will review at next meeting

10. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn.

Moved by: F. Costa **Seconded by:** L. Butler All in Favour

Council Members in Attendance: – Tara Messersmith, Maria Savaro, Sally Jones-Clark, Filo Costa, Laura Arnett, Teena McKeon, Jim Chirstopoulos, Lisa Butler, Aida de Silva, Cathy Cochrane

Regrets: Cindy Gonsalves, Jennifer Roselli, Teresa Holleran, Leslie Wrobel, Tina Marano, Eva DePede, C. Klein, M. Maxymiw

Parents in Attendance: D. Hansford

Administration in Attendance: Mrs. Steer

Teacher Representative in Attendance: Ms. Ford

NEXT MEETING IS Mon. January 19, 2009 - 7:00 P.M.