

September 12, 2017

PAC Minutes:

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Present: Mr. Sladek, Tonya Thorson, Wendy Wales, Julie Dahlseid, Brian Flemming, and Katy Olson present.

Proceedings:

- Meeting was called to order by Tonya Thorson, PAC President, who started with a prayer.
- *PAC Goals* were reviewed – see link under FastDirect
- *PAC Grade/Class Reps were discussed.* Each grade is responsible for only one annual activity plus one Sunday serving Coffee and Rolls. Being that grade's rep requires communication and coordination of event not necessarily being the sole person in charge or working at event:
  - Kindergarten – End of School Year Spring Picnic
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Grade – Adopt A Highway (October)
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – Fall Dance
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – Homecoming Float
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade – November Teacher Conference Meals
  - 5th Grade – February Teacher Conference Meals and Class Night
  - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade – Staff Appreciation Meals
  - The school is also assigned the first weekend of each month to host coffee and rolls after Masses. Each grade is assigned one month.
  - Wendy to send out an email per grade inquiring about interest in being PAC reps. Next step is to personally ask people.

**\*\*New this year VOLUNTEER to WIN!!!** Each time a family volunteers for a school event (e.g. Halloween dance, Fish Fry, Coffee and Rolls, cafeteria help) or attends a PAC meeting...their name will be entered into a drawing for \$100 family fun gift card. Family volunteers can just be one family member or the entire family. PAC members, office staff, and committee chairs will work together to make sure all volunteers are entered into the drawing. Drawings will be held every semester (3x/year). Winners will be announced via Principal's Passage. Names will be cleared after each drawing; start anew with each semester. Goal is to promote more participation in all school events – fun events that benefit the entire school. Classroom volunteers and field trip chaperones will not be entered into the drawing as that is classroom specific only.

- *Wendy Wales, PAC Volunteer Coordinator, updated PAC on securing people for annual volunteer jobs:*
  - Elden's Receipts – Wendy to communicate regarding need for volunteers (September 2017 – March 2018). Katy Olson collecting for September 2017. All receipts need to be turned in to Mr. Sladek by the end of March 2018. Bundle in piles of \$1000 with attached receipt/paper showing math. St. Mary's does very well with this program and uses the funds to purchase supplies.
  - Box Tops – Wendy to check with previous years' chair if she is interested in organizing this again. Each box top = 10 cents. School's goal > \$2500/year. Prizes are awarded monthly to kids with most # of turned in box tops.
  - Yearbook – Wendy to also reach out to previous years' chair to determine her interest for this year.
- *October – Marathon of Service Month*
  - Mr. Sladek spoke about the Marathon – working with the parish to help teach students to better understand and foster stewardship. Emphasis on Stewardship – Sharing of Time, Talent, Treasure. Representatives from the Parish's Stewardship Committee will visit each class (as a kick off for Marathon month) to talk about stewardship. A service sheet will go home with each kid to write about and/or attach picture of their service activity. Fundraising portion of Marathon eliminated a few years ago with success of Casino Night.

- *Homecoming Parade:*
  - Homecoming is early this year...this Saturday 9/16. Tonya Thorson lined up using Hilltop flat bed trailer for St. Mary's float – allowing kids to ride to alleviate long distance walking which was tiring for little ones. \*\*Parents still needed to walk on sides of float. Students or parents that want to hand out candy need to walk and safely hand it out; no throwing of candy from trailer. \*\*Students and interested parents to meet at RCC by 10:30 for 11:00 parade. Wear Mass shirts; new 10ft banners plus balloons along sides of trailer. Pick up kids at ATCC lot when completed.
- *Fall Dance –*
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade hosts dance
  - Date set for Friday 10/27; 6:30 – 8:00 pm.
  - Discussed keeping DJ as continues to be a very reasonable price
  - Committee plans again to serve snacks (chips, popcorn, cookies); fliers will note time and snack offering so parents can plan supper at home.
- *Principal's Report:*
  - WatchDogs – plans to offer program again this year. PAC discussed ways to promote sign up: pizza parties with WatchDogs and students (as in years past), Friday Folder fliers, classroom competitions, direct calls, etc. Watch for FD or flyers regarding details.
  - \*Lunch Helpers – still need many volunteers to fill slots for the school year. Contact Mrs. Flatten in the office if interested.
- *Upcoming Events:*
  - 9/15 Friday – 1<sup>st</sup> Mass
  - 9/16 Saturday – Alex homecoming; St. Mary's represented in parade
  - September MAP testing window starts (teachers determine exact dates)
  - 9/20 Wednesday – 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Fun Run at DMS
  - 9/21 Thursday - Picture Day
  - 9/25 Monday – Mandatory – Diocesan training for teachers; no school
  - 9/27 Wednesday - District-wide Late Start with St. Mary's starting at regular time of 8:10; NO AM Bus.
  - 9/28 Thursday – Kindergarten Meet and Greet for families
  - 10/5 Thursday - 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade to State Capital and MN History Center
  - 10/6 Friday – Pet Blessing on Courtyard
  - 10/13 Friday – Grandparents' Day (teacher committee to send out info)

\*Please consider becoming a PAC representative for your child's grade. It is a minimal commitment that includes monthly meetings and coordinating only one activity/school year. Binders with specific instructions for each grade's annual activity. It is a fun way to get to know other parents plus support St. Mary's students and staff. Please contact Mr. Sladek and/or any PAC member with questions. Thank you!