

St. Michael the Archangel Catholic School
PTO Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 1, 2008

The St. Michael School PTO board met on Tuesday, April 1st, 2008 at 8:15am in the school conference room. School Principal Dr. Sarah Wannemuehler, PTO President Marylynn Fitzgerald, President-elect Peggy Thompson, VP of Fundraising Colleen Ueland, VP-elect of Fundraising MaryBeth Brejnik, VP of Volunteers Maureen Beeler, VP-elect of Volunteers Robin Evans, VP of Social Sheila Schlageter, VP of Education Cheryl Reid, and Secretary Laura Usher were all present.

Fundraising Update by Colleen Ueland and MaryBeth Brejnik:

The preliminary numbers for the auction indicate that an amount of over \$100,000 was generated. This is phenomenal considering 100 less people attended this year. There were several silent auction items that did not receive bids and will be placed in a post auction sale or will be kept for the next auction. An Evening to Build On was such a great night, and many thanks go out to all those who helped make it such a successful event. For future planning and organizing of the school auction, boundaries will be placed on the overall format and current chairs will establish a framework for each committee.

Next year's adult Spring Social will take place on March 28th, which coincides with the NCAA Basketball Tournament, and will have a March Madness theme. This event will have food, drinks, large screen televisions for watching the elite eight, a free throw contest and more. Because this event will be considered a fundraiser, school items such as the all-grade lock-in and reserved parking spaces will be auctioned off during the night.

The Spring Bazaar and Fashion Show will be another new fundraising event and will take place in early May of 2009.

Social Update by Sheila Schlageter:

Mrs. Schlageter has asked Donna Kocur and Karen Andrews to consider co-chairing next year's Family Bingo Night for the third time. They have requested an additional two chairs to help divide the duties.

Teacher Appreciation Week will take place April 7th through April 11th. Teachers will be permitted to "dress down" and will be excused from lunch/recess duty all week. Each day the staff will be treated to different types of foods from a fabulous breakfast on Monday to healthy snacks and cold drinks, to a homemade luncheon on Friday. They will enjoy a vase full of flowers and a candy bar bouquet from the students. Car detailing and chair massages will be available to those who wish to participate. Throughout the week drawings will be held for the teachers to come to the office and select a gift card of their choice.

Volunteer Update by Maureen Beeler and Robin Evans:

The volunteer check list will be placed in the Wednesday folder for parents to complete and return to school or bring to the Volunteer Fair on April 3rd from 2:30-3:30pm or April 4th from 7:30-8:30am. This event will be held in the Pastoral Gallery and will allow parents a chance to talk to current or past chair-people and board members about particular volunteer opportunities.

The Monday and Friday office volunteer position will no longer be needed, because the office assistant will now be a five day paid position.

Mrs. Evans highlighted some of the capabilities of the new PTO software. This on-line system will allow the VP of Volunteers and committee chairs to send out email blasts, track volunteer hours, and survey parent interests. Once all the parent volunteer check lists have been completed, Mrs. Evans can implement this system which should be a good resource of information for the StMS parents. At this time, the PTO will not mandate a minimum of volunteer events or hours per family. The board hopes that with some encouragement more people will become involved and the entire school community will benefit from their time and talents.

Education Update by Cheryl Reid:

Guest speaker Mary Ronan will revisit our school on April 14th and 15th. She will address the parents on Monday evening at 7pm in the Blue and Gold Room. An informational flyer will be sent home in the Wednesday folder and one will be placed in the church bulletin inviting interested parishioners to attend. On May 6th, Mr. Jason Curtis, Principal of Cardinal Gibbons High School, will speak at the general PTO meeting on the subject of ways to insure your child has a positive High School experience. There will be a question and answer session following Mr. Curtis' talk.

School Update by Dr. Sarah Wannemuehler:

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools or S.A.C.S. visit is scheduled for April 28th and 29th. This accrediting body will scrutinize the teachers and will observe and interview students and a random population of parents. The preparation for the S.A.C.S. visit dovetails in with the Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Application. The Third Quarter Lunch will be held on Thursday, April 17th, and a variety of Papa Johns Pizza will be served.

The Building Committee met as Spring Break began and are in the process of moving forward with the Capital Campaign to raise the funds required to build Phase 2 and 3. They will most probably contract with the company from New York that handles most of the capital campaigns in our Diocese.

Several "Light the World" Projects are also taking place this month. On Wednesday, April 23rd, the StMS Mini Relay for Life will be held on the black top. In conjunction with this event, the fourth grade is sponsoring a lollipop sale the week of April 7th to benefit cancer patients. The students in grades K-5 are participating in the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Math-a-thon beginning April 16th through April 30th.

Secretary Update by Laura Usher:

The New Parent Social will be held in The Gallery on Monday, August 18th. A “Save the Date” card will be sent to the new families before the end of this school year in order to give them advance notice of this event. Veteran StMS families will be paired with the new families as soon as possible in order to pass along valuable information well before the start of the new school year.

With the nominations for new PTO Board Members set to close on Wednesday, April 9th, all current members were encouraged to seek out more candidates.

The final general PTO meeting will be held on May 6th at 7pm in the Parish Center. The agenda will consist of guest speaker Jason Curtis, introduction of Student Council Members and newly elected PTO Board Members, and a building update.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30am.